



# AHA MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



## FROSTY SLAPSHOTS

### December's Snowy Quest For Hockey Glory

As the winter chill descended upon the hockey rinks, December unveiled a frosty spectacle on the ice, where the clash of skates and the echo of pucks against the boards narrated the thrilling tale of the 2023 portion of this hockey season. Many will remember December as the month that Anchorage had record setting snow fall, but we would like to remember it as the month that AHA set a record for smiles recorded when the players hit the ice many times leading into the holiday break. AHA teams hit the ice 214 times in the month of December to develop their skills, compete, and have fun! Over the course of the season so far it has been apparent that our young athletes are making great strides in their development not only on the ice, but off the ice as well! Thank you to all of the families, coaches, officials, program directors, board members, and other AHA staff who help provide this great experience for our players to play the greatest game on ice!

### GAME OF THE MONTH - 18U COMETS VS 18AA OILERS

During the Winterfest tournament the 18U Comets faced off against the 18AA Oilers comp team in the final game of round robin play. The game was a back and forth battle with both teams going goal for goal. Between periods, players worked together to clear the ice of snow and then returned to battle under the stadium lighting at Mulcahy. That extra shovel work must've pumped energy into the muscles of the 18A Comets as they turned on the jets and closed out the game beating their AA competition 6-4! Great job guys!



### WINTERFEST SUCCESS

The tournament that brings our players back to the roots of the sport of hockey was a huge success! Snow fell from the sky and a steam cloud formed around the players bodies as they competed in the chilly winter air in hopes to be crowned the Winterfest Champions. 36 teams from all over the state participated and 3 different outdoor hockey rinks in the Anchorage area were used to host the event. AHA teams dominated the tournament play winning 5 of the 7 division championships!

Congratulations to our Winterfest Champions!

- 10A Comets
- 10B AHA Martians
- 12A Gastrock
- 14A Comets
- 18A Comets





# AHA SKATE-A-THON

AHA's Rec program fundraiser last month was a huge success! Our little athletes skated an hour straight! Laps were skated forward, backward, and sometimes under and over obstacles. With each lap players were able to help raise money for their teams to help pay for this seasons tournament fees. With the hard work and sweat of traveling around the ice the Skate-A-Thon event successfully raised a total of \$25,029! Thank you to everyone who helped put on a great event and a tip of the cap to all 15 Rec teams who participated!



# NORTH STARS HIT THE ROAD

Three of our North Star teams traveled out of state in December. Early in the month our 14U North Star Girls team traveled down to Chicago, IL for the CCM Windy City Girls Elite Tournament. They played hard and performed well despite coming up short losing to their in state rival HCF 2-1 in the cross overs. Our 12U Majors traveled across the boarder to Burnaby, BC for the Pat Quinn Classic after the Christmas holiday. They played against some really talented teams from all over Canada and the US and had some really good battles. Highlight of the tournament was their 5-0 win over the Kerry Park Islanders U13 team! Our 10U Majors finished off the monthly travel plans with a trip down to Seattle, WA for the Krakens Shipwrecked 3v3 cross ice tournament that worked in conjunction with the NHL Winter Classic. The tournament was an excellent experience and built memories that our 10U Major players and families will remember forever!



## Girls Selects

Congratulations to Amaya Ayojiak, Bailee Mcmanamin, Bella Beal, and Sophia Bullock on being selected to move on to the Pacific District Regional Selects Camp in Las Vegas, NV! They all will now be competing against the best girls in the Pacific District in their age group for an opportunity to be selected to move on to the USA Hockey National Selects Camp!



Bailee Mcmanamin

Amaya Ayojiak

Bella Beal

Sophia Bullock

# AHA BOARD ELECTIONS

Want to run for a spot on the AHA board and help have an impact on our association for the future? AHA is now accepting nominations for the elections to the AHA board of directors. Email the AHA office manager at [anchoragehockeyoffice@gmail.com](mailto:anchoragehockeyoffice@gmail.com) if you or someone you know would like to run for the AHA board. Elections are scheduled for March of 2024.

## UPCOMING EVENTS IN JANUARY



### NORTH STARS

1. 16U Girls CCM MLK Boston 1/12-1/15
2. 2024 Polar Bear Classic 1/12 - 1/15
3. 18U vs 16U Team AK 1/21 5:15pm @ Dempsey



### AHA COMETS REC A

1. 12A Gastrock Fort Collins, CO Slapshot Tournament 1/11 - 1/15
2. 2024 Polar Bear Classic 1/12 - 1/15
3. 12U Comet Girls Kenai Winter Games Tournament 1/12 - 1/15



### AHA REC B

1. 2024 Kenai Winter Games Tournament 1/12 - 1/15
2. AHA Astroids vs NS 16U Girls 1/20 4:45pm @ UAA



### LITTLE DIPPERS

1. LD Red vs SAHA/MHA 1/14 3:00pm @ Omalley
2. LD White 3 & 4 vs SAHA 1/20 12:45pm @ DA1
3. LD White 1 & 2 vs SAHA 2:00pm @ Omalley



### SEAPUPS

1. Seapups South LTS & LTP Starts back up on 1/8
  2. Seapups East LTS/LTP starts back up 1/11
  3. Spots are still available for Seapups.
- Contact: Kirk Kullberg



### GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL

1. Mat-Su vs Service/East 6:00pm @ UAA 1/12
2. Chugiak/Eagle River vs Dimond/West 4:30pm @ DA1 1/17
3. South/Bartlett vs Mat-Su 6:45pm @ DA1 1/19
4. Dimond/West vs Service/East 5:45pm @ DA1 1/26

