

# VANCOUVER MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL REPORT 2026



## President *Levi Higgs*

### VMHA 2025–2026 Season Summary Report

A sincere thank you to all players, parents, coaches, volunteers, staff, and fellow Board members for your dedication and commitment throughout this past year... and what an incredible season it was for VMHA!

Our house teams captured numerous banners, while our rep teams achieved outstanding success with two Provincial gold medals, one regional gold, and a Provincial silver. We also reached a new benchmark for player participation and volunteer involvement, reflecting the strength and engagement in our growing community. Off the ice, our teams continued to demonstrate leadership through meaningful charity work and outreach, including another highly successful Christmas charity tournament at Scotia Barn. The level of community involvement and support is something VMHA takes great pride in and will continue to build upon.

While there is much to celebrate, we also faced challenges, including larger roster sizes than desired and the ongoing shortage of ice availability in the City of Vancouver. Despite these pressures, VMHA volunteers, staff, and the Board worked tirelessly to provide a positive experience for all members—a true testament to the dedication across our organization.

That collective effort was recognized in a very meaningful way, with VMHA being named Minor Hockey Association of the Year by PCAHA and awarded the prestigious Fred Page Memorial Trophy. This honour reflects the culmination of years of hard work by past and present members and is a strong indication that we are headed in the right direction.

For this next season and beyond, VMHA will continue to remain focused on enhancing player and family experience, expanding development opportunities, supporting our coaches and referees, strengthening community connections, and maintaining strong governance and financial stability. With a capable Board and staff in place, passionate and committed volunteers stepping forward, and a continued commitment to building the strongest possible VMHA community we can, I am confident in our future.

Thank you to everyone who makes VMHA such an exceptional organization, and for your efforts both on and off the ice. I look forward to another great season ahead!

Sincerely,  
Levi Higgs  
President, Vancouver Minor Hockey Association

## About *VMHA*

The Vancouver Minor Hockey Association (VMHA) began its roots in the East Vancouver community in 1939 and was one of the three founding member associations of the Pacific Coast Amateur Hockey Association. Based out of the PNE Forum arena in the early years, our association has been a part of promoting minor hockey in the community for over 80 years. The association grew since its inception, joining with other minor hockey associations in East Vancouver, and now includes diverse neighbourhoods from Downtown Vancouver to Commercial Drive and Boundary Rd, and Hastings to Killarney and South Vancouver.

## Our *Mission and Vision*

VMHA's mission is to support the development of hockey players to their highest potential in a safe, fun and fair environment for all. With a vision of being the "best little minor hockey association" in Canada, VMHA strives to promote healthy competition, the development of positive life skills, equal participation opportunities for players, and optimized skill development to support success for all.

## 2025/26 *Board Members*

- President - Levi Higgs
- VP1 - Chris Bedyk
- VP2 - John Lavery
- VP3 - Todd Chisholm
- Director of Initiation - Tim Matthews
- Coaching Coordinator - Kavie Toor
- Referee Allocator - Sharlene Steele
- Equipment - Shanna Marchuk
- Tournament - Cora Burnette
- Secretary - Michelle Cranston
- Treasurer - Philip Aguirre
- Fundraising - Kristy Streefkerk
- Past President - Nick Santorelli

## 2026 *AGM Elections* | 2 Year Term

- VP1
- VP3
- Director of Initiation
- Fundraising Director
- Treasurer



## VMHA 2025 *Teams in Review*

From our oldest division U21 to our youngest players in U7, VMHA had a total of 656 registered players and 38 total teams (7 rep teams) representing the association. Big congratulations to all teams as well as our banner winners!

Key Stats	2025/26	2024/25	2023/24	2022/23
		656 Players 217 Bench Staff 38 Team Managers	605 Players 216 Bench Staff 38 Team Managers	563 Players 224 Bench Staff 36 Team Managers

  

Division	# Teams	#Players	Fees - 2024/25	Rep Fees
U7	5	73	\$ 820	
U9	7	116	\$ 950	
U11 Rep	2	33	\$ 1,190	\$ 1,450
U11 House	5	84	\$ 1,190	
U13 Rep	2	34	\$ 1,245	\$1,603
U13 House	5	94	\$ 1,245	
U15 Rep	2	34	\$ 1,305	\$1,601
U15 House	3	58	\$ 1,305	
U18 Rep	1	20	\$ 1,305	\$ 1,812
U18 House	5	91	\$ 1,305	
U21 House	1	19	\$ 665	
	<b>38</b>	<b>656</b>		

## Development Skills/Clinics

Development Clinics have proven to be an area of strength. The clinics have allowed for increased ice time and specialized training for players throughout the season. The involvement of alumni and skilled instructors has been an important aspect of the program, providing valuable knowledge and experience to the players. Going forward, the association plans to continue networking and building upon the successful program to ensure ongoing development and growth for their players.

Key Stats	2025/26	2024/25	2023/24	2022/23
		63 Skills/Clinics 21 Goalie Skills/Clinics 936 Registrations	55 Skills/Clinics 15 Goalie Skills/Clinics 851 Registrations	64 Skills/Clinics 13 Goalie Skills/Clinics 795 Registrations

## Director of Hockey Operations *Matt Brown*

Matt brings strong on-ice expertise, leadership experience, and a deep commitment to long-term player development.

A graduate of Simon Fraser University, Matt has worked with players of all ages and skill levels—from U6 to professionals in the NHL and PWHL. His coaching philosophy is rooted in skating fundamentals, skill-specific development, and mentorship, with a focus on fostering both athletes and well-rounded individuals.

As a player, Matt built a successful junior career in the BCHL with the Surrey Eagles before joining the Richmond Sockeyes, where he played a pivotal role in capturing the Cyclone Taylor Cup and later served as team captain. He continued his career at SFU, helping lead the team to a BCIHL Championship. These experiences shaped his athlete-centered approach and his drive to create a positive, competitive, and inclusive hockey culture.

Matt has coached with several organizations, including the Richmond Sockeyes, Prince of Wales Hockey Program, Thunderbirds Minor Hockey, Kodiaks Spring Program, and Van Minor. He has also successfully operated a hockey development business, further expanding his knowledge and expertise.

Throughout his coaching career, Matt has developed and executed structured programs that prioritize player progression, skill acquisition, and long-term athlete development. His high-performance training models are designed to support players at their current stage while challenging them to reach their full potential. These programs emphasize strong technical foundations and a positive, growth-oriented environment.

In addition to player development, Matt is committed to coach education and mentorship. He promotes consistency, accountability, and a shared development approach across all teams and age groups. His leadership style emphasizes clear communication, collaboration, and continuous improvement for both players and coaches.



## **VP1** *Chris Bedyk*

### Discipline and Conflict Resolution

The Discipline Committee continued its commitment to a safe, fair, respectful, and well-governed hockey environment. The committee's role is to help ensure concerns involving conduct, discipline, conflict, and escalation are handled consistently and in alignment with VMHA policies and applicable hockey governance processes.

During the season, many concerns were addressed through communication, guidance, and support before escalating to formal discipline. This included working with coaches, team managers, division managers, families, committee members, and Board representatives to clarify expectations, resolve concerns early, and ensure the appropriate process was followed when matters required further review.

A key focus this season was improving clarity around the difference between team-level concerns, division-level concerns, association-level complaints, rep process concerns, and matters that may need to be directed to external or independent channels. Clear process helps protect fairness for all parties and supports the volunteers who are often managing difficult situations in real time.

Looking ahead, VMHA should continue strengthening prevention and parent education through communication, team meetings, code of conduct reminders, and clearer guidance for coaches, managers, and division managers. The incoming Board may also wish to review whether a formal parent education requirement should be considered for future seasons, with appropriate timelines, communication, and policy approval.

The goal is prevention, education, fairness, and consistency – reducing avoidable conflict while maintaining a safe and respectful environment for players, coaches, officials, volunteers, families, and the association.

Thank you to the Conflict Resolution Committee, division managers, coaches, team managers, Board members, and volunteers who worked constructively throughout the season to support VMHA's players and families.

## **VP3** *Todd Chisholm*

### Risk Management

Thanks to all of our HCSPs working behind the scenes at all of our games and practices! It's a critical job that keeps our players, coaches, and officials safe on the ice and at other VMHA events. There's a lot that goes into that job that members may not realize, in addition to taking care of any injuries.

Checking that neck guards (and maybe keeping an extra handy) are on and skate guards are off before the players step on the ice, fixing broken skate laces, finding lost gear, checking for gear left behind in the change rooms, and making sure no one is alone while waiting for pickup after the game or practice. It's a great way to help out on a team and get to know the players better.

We've been working with PCAHA to improve the training and support for our parents who help out with the score- and time-keeping duties. While helping with score- and time-keeping is a lot of fun (with the best seats in the house!), it can be a little stressful the first time, and errors on the scoresheet can cause significant problems for the teams. The support from PCAHA will help parents smoothly and accurately perform these important tasks. Part of this will be having a mentor on each team, who has experience and training with Spordle and running the clocks. Stay tuned for more details.

Thanks also to our VMHA officials and the parents who drive them to do their job. I've been very pleased with the direction of our officiating program, led by our Referee in Chief Rupert and our Ref Assignor Sharlene. Our officials are well-trained, with great attendance in our training sessions and through the excellent feedback from our in-game supervisions. This makes a huge difference in the quality of VMHA officiating, and our officials know that they have a positive, supportive environment to get their questions answered and concerns addressed. It's a challenging job that affords great opportunities for young players to improve their understanding of the game, get more time on skates, and build confidence.

<i>Key Stats</i>	2025/26	2024/25	2023/24	2022/23
	101 HCSP	111 HCSP	81 HCSP	67 HCSP

## Training Centre & VP2 *John Lavery*

The 2025/26 season marked another important step forward for VMHA's Training Centre, which continues to play a central role in player and coach development across the association. With strong utilization from our rep teams, goaltenders, and development programs, the TC has become an integral part of our hockey pathway, providing valuable training opportunities beyond scheduled ice time.

This year saw continued growth in spring and summer programming, expanded skills development opportunities, and increased integration with VMHA's overall player development model under Director of Hockey Matt Brown. The facility also welcomed external users and partner organizations, helping maximize usage while generating additional revenue to support future programming and improvements.

Recreational hockey remained a cornerstone of VMHA, with strong participation across all age divisions and another positive season for our players and families. Ongoing refinements to the balancing process have helped create a more competitive and enjoyable experience for all participants, while Board advocacy continues to support the development of enhanced recreational pathways for players seeking higher levels of competition.

Looking ahead, VMHA remains committed to maximizing the value of the Training Centre, expanding development opportunities, and delivering a positive, inclusive hockey experience for all members. We are excited to continue building on this momentum in the seasons ahead.

	2025/26	2024/25	2023/24	2022/23
<b>Key Stats</b>	<b># C Sessions</b> <b>120 Rep Sessions</b> <b>105 Goalie Sessions</b> <b>19 External</b>	<b>51 C Sessions</b> <b>120 Rep Sessions</b> <b>110 Goalie Sessions</b> <b>11 External</b>	<b>25 C Sessions</b> <b>70 Rep Sessions</b> <b>5 External</b>	<b>59 C Sessions</b> <b>60 Rep Sessions</b>

## Coach Coordinator *Kavie Toor*

### Evaluations

- Year 2 of mid season evals
- Year 1 of player evals complete
- Evaluations form an important part of coach development and assist in selection of coaches for the following year

### Rep Committee

- Continue focus on hiring / engaging the best possible coaches for our association while balancing a reasonable financial proposition
- Hockey Director and Coach Coordinator connected regularly with rep coaches to support teams, players and coach development
- Incredibly successful year with 2 provincial titles and one silver medal

### Hockey Operations Committee

- Hockey Operations met monthly to meet on all things with a focus on the following
- Guide Director of Hockey operations priorities support and accountability
- Ice allocation and strategic usage
- Seasonal program oversight



## Director of Initiation *Tim Matthews*

It was another strong season for the Initiation Program at VMHA. As was the case in 2024–2025, we had 5 U7 teams and 7 U9 teams this season. We completely maxed out our enrollment in U9 and had strong team numbers in U7. It's great to see so many kids Aged 5 to 8 interested in playing hockey!

The U9 full ice pilot program that started in the 2024–2025 season was extended for the 2025–2026 season. This season in U9, full-ice games and scrimmages started right after the formation of initial teams; last season, teams played half-ice games until December. VMHA is involved in discussions at the league level during the offseason to hopefully finalize the U9 full-ice approach for subsequent seasons.

One of the focuses in U7 and U9 for the 2025–2026 season was player skill development. VMHA offered both multi-week skills sessions and one-off popup clinics; these sessions were in high demand and well received. U7 and U9 goalie clinics were also offered and filled up quickly. Seeing the high level of interest in the goalie position is very encouraging.

Another focus for the 2025–2026 season was coach support. U7 and U9 coaches were provided with weekly practice plan templates that they could draw from. VMHA Director of Hockey Matt Brown also held monthly Coach the Coach sessions. Next season, the plan is to build on the coach support already in place to provide our coaches with even more tools to help them succeed.

In closing, it's important to recognize all the excellent work that was put in by the U7 and U9 coaches, team managers, HCSPs and division managers. The enthusiasm and energy of these volunteers was infectious, and was likely the most important factor in the Initiation program being a positive and enjoyable environment for our players. Kudos to you all.

## Secretary and Events Chair *Michelle Cranston*

The Events Committee kicked off the season with a 25th Anniversary VMHA BBQ at Trout Lake. A significant number of VMHA players and families enjoyed burgers, smokies, cupcakes, music and games. It was an opportunity for some fun in the sun before all the fun on the ice, for some new families to meet tenured families & coaches and for players to reconnect after the summer off! It was supported by donations from Superstore and we got some non-profit goodwill when North Shore BMX lent us their bbq to use. Fun was definitely had by all!

The Events team used every square inch of the Agrodome during Photo Day to create an experience for all players, teams, families and coaches. 17 teams participated in skills competitions on the ice with the on ice time ending in a fun coaches game to wrap the day. The concourse was full of games like Top Shot, basketball, football, soccer, with VMHA colouring tables for the littles. There was Agrodome/East Van Hockey trivia, teams fundraising with food tables and an incredibly successful Gear Swap. We donated 2 bags of remaining gear to a shipping container going to Mongolia to support their youth hockey program and 2 bags to a Vancouver based charity, Source for Sports, who provide sports gear for Vancouver youth. FIN couldn't miss out and joined for a meet and greet with the kids!

# Fundraising *Kristy Streefkerk*

VMHA had a strong year of fundraising and community engagement. The third annual Shoot-a-Thon was a success, raising \$39,959 with participation from every division. We also hosted the Holiday Skate, bringing the community together while offering fundraising opportunities for teams. We have expanded our sponsorship program significantly this year, securing: our first Platinum sponsor & league sponsors for the 2026/2027 season, also launching a 25th anniversary sponsorship initiative. In total, over \$15,000 in sponsorships has been secured. We also launched a partnership with Benevity, which allows employers to donate to causes their employees care about by logging volunteer hours. This partnership has brought in over \$5,000 this season. We look forward to optimizing our sponsorship program and other fundraising initiatives in the coming year.

## Fundraising & Sponsorships

- Shoot-a-thon 2025/2026 - \$39,959
- Vertical Rise Digital Discount Books - \$962.50
- 25th anniversary sponsors - \$3,000
- Platinum sponsor for the 2026/2027 season - \$5,000
- League sponsors for the 2026/2027 season - \$7,500
- Benevity (employee engagement) - \$5,275

Key Stats	2025/26	2024/25	2023/24
Shoot-A-Thon	\$39,959	\$27,325	\$25,655

# Equipment Manager *Shanna Marchuk*

Over the past hockey season, the Equipment Manager focused on improving player experience, modernizing equipment processes, and strengthening vendor partnerships across the association.

The season began with the ordering and purchase of reversible tryout jerseys for all divisions from U11-U18. Each division now has a complete numbered jersey set (#0-99), creating a more organized and professional tryout process across the association. Minor updates were also made to the equipment and apparel policy to improve consistency, clarify procedures, and better support players, teams, and volunteers.

Practice jerseys were also introduced for all players, with costs covered directly by the players. Due to the short implementation timeline, sizing challenges occurred in several divisions. To improve this process for the 2026/27 season, players were given the opportunity to select their jersey size during registration, ensuring more accurate sizing and a smoother distribution process moving forward. Significant updates were made to initiation goalie equipment to enhance both safety and player comfort. New sticks, pads, chest protectors, and gloves were purchased to ensure equipment meets

current safety standards while also providing young goaltenders with properly fitting, modern equipment.

The Equipment Committee also completed a comprehensive Request for Quotation (RFQ) process for a new equipment and apparel vendor for VMHA. Following a review of seven apparel quotations and five equipment quotations, Max Performance Sports and More was selected as the association’s new equipment and apparel provider. This partnership provides VMHA players with a 10% discount on all in-store hockey equipment and will include the launch of an online VMHA apparel store. The vendor will work closely with the Equipment Manager to fulfill association equipment needs and support team managers and families with custom apparel orders.

In collaboration with the Fundraising Committee, a new sponsorship initiative was also developed for the 2026/27 season. Sponsor logos will be added to all practice jerseys to help generate additional revenue for the association while supporting ongoing equipment and program improvements.

Looking ahead to next season, the Equipment Manager plans to complete a full inventory review of all equipment supplies to improve tracking and ensure future orders align with current inventory levels, reducing unnecessary purchases and improving overall efficiency.

## Social Media *Maya Toews*

It’s been great to post 228 times about our successes; 2025–26 was a great year from VMHA! From posting about VMHA winning association of the year, teams giving back to the community, winning PCAHA Banners and BC Hockey Championships, Official Appreciation week and everything in between, there was so much to be proud of! I’ve tried to build community and show appreciation for our volunteers (they keep us going!) by making it fun and with engaging posts. Going into the next season –we invite players and families to continue sending in photos and write ups of any tournaments/team highlights to [socialmedia@vmha.com](mailto:socialmedia@vmha.com).

Key Stats	2025/26	2024/25	2023/24	2022/23
Instagram	1691	1323	1190	1026
Facebook	544	460	430	356
Twitter	-	329	356	300

# Christmas Tournament *Cora Burnette*



The 18th Annual Vancouver Minor Charity Hockey Tournament was a great success! We welcomed 65 teams and 1,040 players, raising over \$25,308 for our Association through entry fees and sponsorships—funds that support our general operations.

Our raffle and 50/50 draw brought in \$18,000 for Canuck Place Children’s Hospice. Thank you to everyone who donated raffle baskets and prizes—your generosity plays a key role in supporting both VMHA and our chosen charities.

It was great to see strong participation from our own VMHA teams, and even better—we brought home some hardware! While participation isn’t mandatory, as hosts, we do expect our teams to take part, and we’re aiming for full involvement next year.

Sponsorship support was also strong, and we’re planning an even bigger push for 2025 through our website and social media.

A huge thank you to our Tournament Committee for managing the enormous task of running this event. If you’re interested in joining the team, we’d love the help—many hands make light work! We’re proud of what we accomplished in 2025 and excited to build on that success in 2026!

	2025/26	2024/25	2023/24	2022/23
<b>Key Stats</b>	<b>65 Teams</b> <b>1,040 players</b>	<b>65 Teams</b> <b>1,035 players</b>	<b>67 Teams</b> <b>1,072 Players</b>	<b>42 Teams</b> <b>630 Players</b>
	Raised <b>\$18,000</b> Canucks Place	Raised <b>\$18,000</b> Canucks Place	Raised <b>\$12,000</b> Canucks Place	Raised <b>\$9,000</b> Canucks Place
	Revenue <b>\$25,308</b> VMHA	Revenue <b>\$25,900</b> VMHA	Revenue <b>\$22,198</b> VMHA	Revenue <b>\$9,000</b> VMHA

# Referee-In-Chief *Rupert Xu*

## Officials Development and Supervision

The 2025–26 season marked a significant period of growth and development for VMHA’s officiating program, highlighted by a continued increase in supervision activity. A total of 77 supervisions and 16 shadow assignments were conducted, resulting in more than 31% of regular season and playoff games being supervised. This level of oversight enabled ongoing development opportunities and ensured consistent, high-quality feedback for officials.

The impact of this investment in development was evident throughout the season. Feedback from adult officials across the Lower Mainland, as well as local Referees-in-Chief (RICs), highlighted noticeable improvements in performance. Our officials also expressed strong appreciation for the level of support, mentorship, and development opportunities provided.

To prepare for the season, three returning officials’ clinics were held in September, each with more than 25 participants. These sessions helped officials refresh their knowledge, review procedures, and regain confidence following the off-season. Each clinic included both on-ice and classroom components, providing valuable opportunities for discussion and rule clarification. An additional development-focused clinic was also offered, generating strong interest and giving officials insight into the steps required for further advancement.

Overall, the season was highly successful, with many officials receiving multiple supervised evaluations to ensure standards were consistently met.

## Recognition and Achievements

We are pleased to recognize Thomas Chisholm and Jaden Steele (VMHA youth officials), along with Ty Sivak and Zack Yuen (VMHA adult officials), who were selected by BC Hockey to officiate at the U13 A1 Tier 2 and U15 A1 Tier 2 levels. All four officials were subsequently chosen to officiate Gold Medal games—an outstanding achievement that reflects the strength of VMHA’s officiating development program.

	2025/26	2024/25	2023/24
Key Stats	77 Supervisions 4 On Ice Sessions 16 Shadows	93 Supervisions 5 On Ice Sessions 20 Shadows	56 Supervisions 3 On Ice Sessions 23 Shadows

# Referee Allocator *Sharlene Steele*

## Officials Program Report

Thank you to the VMHA officials and leadership team for another successful season!

In my role as Referee Assignor, I coordinated officiating coverage for U9–U13 house and rep games.

Under the leadership of Referee-in-Chief Rupert Xu, officials began the season with both on-ice and classroom clinics to establish a strong foundation. Rupert, together with a group of senior officials, also delivered a mid-season development session focused on high-performance skill development.

Throughout the season, a core supervisory team completed 77 evaluations, providing valuable feedback and supporting ongoing development.

A key highlight this year was the successful certification of 27 new officials through a combination of classroom instruction, on-ice training, and shadowing opportunities.

These officials were further supported by Level 2 mentors over the course of 16 games, ensuring a structured and supportive transition into officiating. We currently have a growing waitlist for our new officials' clinic, which highlights the continued success and strong demand for our officiating program.

We observed consistent growth in the performance and confidence of our officials throughout the season. Recognition initiatives, including the Spotlight of the Month and monthly rulebook quizzes, helped reinforce engagement and learning. Notably, two VMHA youth officials were selected to officiate at the Provincial level—an outstanding achievement that reflects both individual dedication and the strength of our development program. We also extend our appreciation to all VMHA teams for their support during Officials Recognition Week.

This season, a total of 551 assignments were completed, including tryouts and balancing games, regular season games, exhibition games, playoff games, and our Annual Charity Tournament. VMHA maintained a roster of 78 active officials, including 17 first-year officials and 25 adult officials who contributed regularly. Retention of second- and third-year officials continues to be a positive trend and a key indicator of program success. With 6 officials graduating this year, we are optimistic that many will continue their involvement as adult officials. Looking ahead, we remain committed to expanding training opportunities and clinics to further build confidence and experience across all levels.

The VMHA Annual Charity Tournament was again highly successful, engaging 90 officials from 17 associations, including 54 from VMHA. Officials worked a record 162 games, ranging from U11C to U18A. The tournament provided valuable development opportunities, including the use of a four-official system for the U15A bronze and gold medal games, which included participation from youth officials. The continued growth and strong reputation of this event reflect the association's commitment to excellence and our ongoing support for official development.

As an association, we will continue to work collaboratively with players, coaches, and families to

foster a respectful and supportive environment for our officials. Their role is essential to the game, and their well-being and retention remain a top priority across all minor hockey associations.

Individuals interested in becoming an official are encouraged to join our waitlist. Those who will turn 12 by December 31, 2026 (birth year 2014 or earlier) are to contact the VMHA Referee Assignor at [refassignor@vmha.com](mailto:refassignor@vmha.com) or visit the VMHA website for more information.

	2025/26	2024/25	2023/24	2022/23
<i>Key Stats</i>	<b>78 Officials</b> <b>27 New Officials</b> <b>551 Games Assigned</b>	<b>83 Officials</b> <b>19 New Officials</b> <b>522 Games Assigned</b>	<b>86 Officials</b> <b>25 New Officials</b> <b>456 Games Assigned</b>	<b>80 Officials</b> <b>30 New Officials</b> <b>499 Games Assigned</b>

## Volunteer Appreciation and Awards Night

VMHA’s programs, events, and management are only made possible because of the dedicated and hard work of our volunteers. Without the coaches, managers, health and safety personnel, board members and committee members, which numbered a total of 332 this year, the hockey season wouldn’t be possible. To recognize their efforts, VMHA held its annual appreciation dinner on April 10th at the Italian Cultural Centre. There was a great turnout for the event with over 100 people in attendance.

	2025/26	2024/25	2023/24	2022/23
<i>Key Stats</i>	<b>332 Volunteers</b> <b>103 Attendees</b>	<b>320 Volunteers</b> <b>98 Attendees</b>	<b>282 Volunteers</b> <b>96 Attendees</b>	<b>242 Volunteers</b> <b>90 Attendee</b>

## Internal Award Recipients *Congratulations!*

As part of the annual volunteer appreciation dinner, VMHA was very pleased to recognize standout members, teams, and volunteers through special awards for a variety of categories

**U13C3** House Team of the Year

**U15A1** Rep Team of the Year

**Levi Swanson** Johnny Mahovlich Award - Hardest Working Athlete

**Ty Sivak** Referee of the Year

**Andrew Bulmer** U7/U9 Volunteer Coach of the Year

**Justin Turnbull** U11/U13 Volunteer Coach of the Year

**Mark Labonte** U15/U18 Volunteer Coach of the Year

**Jason Mann** Rep Coach of the Year

**Jen Liu** Team Manager of the Year

**Cora Burnette** Volunteer of the Year

## Congratulations *VMHA*

### Fred Page Memorial Trophy – PCAHA Minor Hockey Association of the Year Award 2025–26!

The award was presented to our VMHA President, Levi Higgs at the PCAHA AGM on Sunday May 31st and is given annually to the Minor Hockey Association judged to have made an outstanding contribution to its community by providing a sound minor hockey program.

The Fred Page Memorial Award is named in honour of the late Fred Page of North Vancouver, who served amateur hockey at the local, district, branch, national, and international levels and was President of Hockey Canada from 1966–1968.

“This association delivers truly community-based hockey that keeps the focus on what matters most to their players and parents: fun, development and inclusivity. The volunteers for this association work tirelessly to keep hockey as affordable as possible and have a strong volunteer base and top notch coaching.

The true measure of a minor hockey association is its impact beyond the rink. They have hosted a charity tournament and have actively participated in outreach in Vancouver’s downtown eastside. This association had teams donate food along with interacting with them to brighten their day.

This year was a “stand-out” year as it was one of the most successful in their history. Their development model and coaching excellence translated into strong performances by their players over every age group and tier.

They brought home two gold and one silver from the provincials in a single season which is a landmark achievement and a testament to the strength of their player development pathway and coaching leadership. Not only having success in the “A” category, their “C” teams performed strongly this year with outstanding results. This reinforces that this association delivers a positive, competitive and development focused experience throughout their entire organization.”

A big thank you @pcahamain for recognizing VMHA for this award!



## External Team Accomplishments

VMHA's mission is to support the development of hockey players to their highest potential in a safe, fun and fair environment for all. With a vision of being the "best little minor hockey association" in Canada, VMHA strives to promote healthy competition, the development of positive life skills, equal participation opportunities for players, and optimized skill development to support success for all.

**U11A1** Playoff Champs Flight 2

**U15A1** Provincials Silver

**U11A2** Presidents Series Flight 4

**U18A1** Provincial Champions

**U13A1** Provincial Champions

## Looking Ahead **2027**

### Life Membership

#### Purpose

Life Membership is the highest volunteer honour bestowed by VMHA. It recognizes individuals whose exceptional dedication, leadership, and long-term service have made a lasting impact on the Association and contributed significantly to the growth and advancement of minor hockey within our community.

#### 2024–25 Life Membership Recipients

- Nick Santorelli
- Cora Burnette