



The 2024-25 season was another great one on the community front!

The year started off with the annual gear exchange weekend in early September, with dozens of families contributing outgrown equipment, or selecting what they needed get their player set up for the season.

Applications to the Player Assistance Fund and New to Hockey Fund were up this year, but as an organization we were able to help 20 families with either complimentary or discounted registration fees.

The monthly 50/50 draws through Rafflebox got underway in November, and while the first draw generated over \$5,000 in sales, the subsequent jackpots were significantly lower. The board will reevaluate the future of the monthly raffles.

In early-December the Hawks hosted their annual “give back” weekend, with food collection taking place for the Fairview Food Pantry in the warm room at Centennial Arena. The quantity of food received was down significantly from 2023, although we still managed to send 13 boxes of non-perishables to the pantry. It was suggested sending the notification directly to the Hawks email distribution list, rather than through the team coaches, might help reach more families and drive more engagement.

Rawk the Rink took place in early January, and was once again a huge success. The U11AA, U13AA and U15C teams played in front of a full house. Popcorn and pizza sales were successful, and the players were excited to get autographs from members of the Halifax Mooseheads. Donations were down slightly at the door, but the evening still raised over \$1,000 for the Player Assistance Fund.

The season closed out with the Hawks’ annual volunteer appreciation night at Freeman’s Little New York in Fairview in early April. Coaches, managers, treasurers and board members came together to celebrate the season and recognize this year’s Hawks Award recipients. As always, it was the perfect way to close out another successful year at the rink.

Lastly, we are getting ready for the Hawks “Play so they can Play” golf tournament taking place on July 8<sup>th</sup> at the Links at Penn Hills. The goal of the day is to raise funds to allow for 25 ‘little Hawks’ to play next season. Should be a great day on the links.

