



Halifax Hawks Minor Hockey Association 2024/2025 President Summary

Financial Overview

The Halifax Hawks ended the 2024/2025 fiscal year with a **\$5K surplus**, achieving **\$768K in revenue** and **\$763K in expenses** (including depreciation). While registration revenue increased, fundraising declined, prompting the board to reevaluate the viability of monthly raffles.

Key financial highlights:

- **Total revenue: \$768K** (*up \$47K*)
- **Season registration revenue: \$671K** (*largest source*)
- **Operational expenses: \$135K** (*slightly lower than last year*)
- **Divisional expenses: \$521K** (*ice rental remains the highest cost*)
- **CEBA Loan Repayment: \$40K fully repaid**
- **Reserve Fund: \$174K**, sustaining financial flexibility
- **2025/2026 Budget Preparation: Finance Committee** targeting approval by **Sept. 2025**.
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Ice Management & Optimization

- **Unused Ice Costs: 72 sheets of ice** (totaling **83 hours**) went unused, costing **\$18,260.00**.
- **Strategies to reduce unused ice:**
 - Address ice contracts early to return ice unlikely to be sold.
 - Improve scheduling efficiency within **CMHL/MMHL master schedule**.
 - Expand **PD day technical camps** to optimize ice usage.
 - Launch a **Tournament Committee** to better utilize available ice.

Competitive Program Highlights

- **U15AA** secured both the **CMHL Championship** and **Hockey Nova Scotia Provincial Championship banners**.
- **U18AA** named **Most Improved Team** of the organization.
- **U13AAA** traveled to **Quebec for the International Pee-Wee B.S.R. Tournament**.
- **U13AA** competed in **New Hampshire's President's Day Tournament**.
- **Policy Updates:**

- **Non-parent coach travel** policy revised.
- **Tryout appeals** process updated.
- **Discipline management:** Recommendations align future decisions with **Hockey Nova Scotia policies**.

Recreation Program Highlights

- **New players and coaches** joined across all levels, growing community participation.
- **Member feedback & suggested improvements:**
 - **Earlier team selection** to allow fall tournament participation.
 - **Half-point scoring system (1-5)** for more precise evaluations.
 - **Stronger enforcement of safety rules** for excessive contact.
 - **Consistent penalties** for behavior violations, including **dressing room attire, phone policy, gear fitting issues**.
 - **Limit friend requests** to prioritize balanced teams; AP rules require clearer communication.
 - **Third-party report handling** requires standardization to reduce frustration among parents and volunteers.
 - **Greater integration of call-up practices with competitive teams** for stronger skill development.
- **Team-specific updates:**
 - **U15C Blackhawks** captured three titles, **Birthplace of Hockey Tournament, Gold Division Championship & the City Championship**.
 - **U18 Rec:** Patriots finished **14-6**, and the Titan won the **Bronze Division Championship**.
- **Future program enhancements:**
- **Tiered registration option** for U18C players to include additional practice/tournament ice.
- **Expanded community engagement:** Team presence in parades, dryland training demo days.
- **Hockey 101 & Coaching 101 workshops** for new families.
- **Centralized resource pool** for association-wide development tools.

U9 & U7 Program Highlights

- **U9 (115 skaters)** focused on structured skill development, expanded goalie training, and structured practice sessions.
- **U7 (121 skaters)** improved skating fundamentals, participated in multiple jamborees, and benefited from structured evaluations.

- **Recommendations for next season:**
- Expand **Sunday practice ice for U9** (3 hours to 4 hours).
- Increase **U7 session availability** for better scheduling balance.
- Implement **monthly goalie clinics** for **U7/U9**.
- Enhance coach onboarding with a "**Welcome to Coaching**" workshop.

Community & Fundraising Initiatives

- **Player Assistance Fund:** Helped **20 families** access discounted or complimentary registration.
- **50/50 Raffles:** November's draw raised **\$5K**, but subsequent jackpots declined—future plans under review.
- **Gear Exchange Weekend (Sept.):** Assisted **dozens of families** with equipment.
- **Give Back Weekend (Dec.):** **13 boxes of food** collected for Fairview Food Pantry—engagement methods under review.
- **Rawk the Rink (Jan.):** Featured **U11AA, U13AA, U15C**, with Mooseheads autographs as a highlight.
- **Volunteer Appreciation Night (Apr.):** Honored coaches, managers, board members, and Hawks Award recipients.
- **U13AA Toy Drive & U13A Bottle Drive:** Raised funds to support a **local family over the holidays**.

Upcoming Initiatives & Challenges

- **Hawks Golf Tournament (July 8):** Fundraiser to **support 25 young players** for next season.
- **Registration Fee Adjustment (2025/2026):** Proposed **3% increase** to offset rising expenses while maintaining financial aid.
- **Jersey Depreciation:** Replacements or management strategies required for the upcoming season.

The Halifax Hawks remain committed to **financial sustainability, player development, and strong community engagement**, ensuring a thriving hockey program.

I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to our board members, managers, coaches, and volunteers for their dedication and countless hours in making this past season a success. A special thank you to Tim and Beth, our full-time staff, as well as the skilled technical support team whose contributions were invaluable.

Serving the Halifax Hawks Minor Hockey Association is both an honour and a privilege. I am proud to be part of an organization that is highly regarded within the broader hockey community, consistently fostering the development of young athletes—not only in their skills on the ice but also in their growth as individuals.