



Richmond Jets Minor Hockey Association  
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## **AGM 2022 - Directors Report Hockey Program Committee**

### **Primary Goals of the Hockey Program Committee:**

- \*Identify the main areas to target for improvement in Jets Skill program - skating, battle & compete
- \*Have association wide plan between skills providers and coaches to improve on identified areas
- \*Paid skills providers having more direct communication with coaches and sharing suitable practice plans for coaches, particularly C coaches
- \*Preparing our younger U6 through U9 players better for the jump to full ice hockey
- \*Ensuring the Skills Program is providing bang for the buck
- \*Ensure value of our investment in goalie skills is properly explained and recognized
- \*Ensure Jets Skills program and coaches are focused on “modern hockey” based on elite speed and skill and develop programming focusing clearly on that.
- \*Re-start Opt-In programs at Jets with a heavy focus on skating, edgework and shooting

### **Key Responsibilities:**

- Liaising with Hockey Director Tim Preston to ensure our skills providers are focused of identified areas of weakness
- Ensuring skills providers are providing quality sessions and are “Jets First” as much as possible
- Manage Skills budget to ensure maximum value is obtained for our financial investment
- Push new policy of tying Skills Hours with coaching Rep teams



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## **2021/2022 Season Summary:**

Given the significant challenges of operating a large skills and development program in the midst of a pandemic the 2021-22 can be viewed a success

The Jets maintained a core roster of Linden Saip, Mats Lindgren and Tim Preston (Impact Hockey) as primary skill developers. Michelle Popoff was brought on to focus on skating and edgework with our youngest players as it was felt Jets has been falling behind in recent seasons in skating compared to pre-merger. Positive results were seen as well as good feedback from parents.

Our goal is simply to provide the best quality Skills program of any minor hockey association in the Lower Mainland. Our group of coaches is accomplished. It is now a matter of maximizing the return on our investment in this program

It was decided by the committee that a lineal integration of Skills with Coaching was needed in order to take Jets to a higher level of skills, skating and competitiveness going forward

We thus have worked with the coaching committee and Hockey Director to start to tie our Skills Programing contracts with coaching positions in Rep "A" hockey

This coming season three of our A1 coaches will also be providing Skills. Linden Saip in U11, Milton Chan in U13 and Glenn Wheeler in U18, will all be providing skills as well as coaching. The Committee feels this is an important step in not only having a coordinated program but also a positive change in culture for the association and the Jets skills providers build relationships with players and parents in the RJMHA.

Mats Lindgren, a highly accomplished skills coach, will also return as Rep "A" skills provider.

## **Recommendations:**

- \*Ensure our team coaches know they have more access to our skills providers and are communicating with the skills providers to create a stronger link between team practices and skill development
- \* Ensure parents understand the real value Jets provides with the Skill program included in fees for skaters and goalies. Normally these sessions are opt in at many associations and cost extra
- \* Start of the year meeting with all skill providers to lay out the objectives for our Skill Development Program. Have concrete goals in mind.