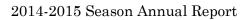




# Markham Minor Hockey Association Markham Waxers Hockey Club

# 2014-2015 Annual Report

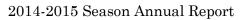






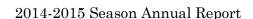
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#### President's Address

Submitted by George Schnarr

Welcome to the 2015 Markham Minor Hockey Association and Markham Waxers Hockey Club AGM.

I begin as always with a heartfelt thank you to our volunteer group who dedicate their time and effort towards running this organization for the benefit of our membership. We have a cohesive and interested group who continue to do their best for our hockey community!

#### 2014-2015 Season Highlights

We are very excited to report the integration of the Waxers "brand" and logo into our House League program starting this fall. This will create a unified look throughout our organization and strengthen the Waxers brand in the York Simcoe Minor Hockey League and the Ontario Minor Hockey Association.

This season was our first having all the rep hockey players tested under the "Konkussion" program. Over 80% had positive responses to our year end survey and we are pleased to announce we are making this a permanent part of the Waxers program going forward.

We are just about to launch a new website with many new features that will benefit all users. We continued our traditions of celebrating the players and recognizing their efforts through our annual Waxers, MMHA House League, and Rostered Select banquets. The annual MMHA Equipment Swap was held at the Cornell Community Centre and again was a success with many "new to hockey" parents and their kids getting help with selecting the right used equipment.

We were hosts of Minor Bantam OMHA AAA championships where our Waxers team won a bronze medal. Thank you to the entire team and parent group for putting on the event.

The Saturday clinics for House League and Rep players continued to be popular for those players looking to advance their skills during the season. The pre-tryout clinics for both players and goalies were another great success and we are looking to expand those for next season.

The coach mentorship program continues to provide support for both first year coaches as well as those with previous experience looking to improve their skill set.

We launched our first ever home and away series with Whitchurch Stouffville Minor Hockey for the Novice through Bantam House League divisions. This was well received by both organizations and we will be running it again this season. Thanks to Deb Larsen and Darren Mori for coordinating this new initiative.

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#### **Board of Directors 2013-2014**

#### **Markham Minor Hockey Association**

Position	Term	Current Occupant	Elected (E) / Appointed (A)	Term Expires
Past President	Immediate	Neil Bullock	N/A	N/A
President	One two-year term	George Schnarr	6/27/2013 (E)	2015
Vice President General Manager of House League	One two-year term	Darren Mori	7/3/2014 (E)	2016
Vice President General Manager of AA/A/AE Rep Program	One two-year term	Mike Matthews	7/3/2014 (E)	2016
Secretary / Treasurer	One two-year term	Gary Ashford	6/27/2013 (E)	2015

#### Markham Waxers AAA Zone Inc.

Position	Term	Current Occupant	Elected (E) / Appointed (A)	Term Expires
Past President	Immediate	Neil Bullock	N/A	N/A
President	One two-year term	George Schnarr	7/3/2014 (E)	2016
Vice President	One two-year term	Stephen Gaunce	6/27/2013 (E)	2015
Secretary / Treasurer	One two-year term	Gary Ashford	6/27/2013 (E)	2015

# Treasurer's Report

Submitted by Gary Ashford

Many thanks go to Deb Larsen, our administrator, for her diligent work keeping all of our books in excellent shape. We have once again engaged the services of Lott & Company Chartered Accountants to provide financial statements for the organization.

#### MMHA House League

As of March 31, 2015 the MMHA House League fund balance was \$205,714, an increase of \$2,657 over the previous year.

Revenues were flat in comparison with the previous season. The increase in registration revenue was offset by the decrease in other income due to select teams purchasing their own ice contracts instead of being provided City of Markham ice from our ice allocation.

Overall expenses decreased. While ice rental costs increased \$12,877 this was offset by decreases in expenses in almost every expense category. We paid the administrator, ice scheduler, chief referee, and timekeeper scheduler fees of \$25,159, which are included in Administrators Fees.

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#### Markham Waxers Rep

As of March 31, 2013, the Markham Waxers fund balance is \$210,212 down \$15,678 from the previous year.

Revenue increased year over year due to the increase in assessment fees to teams to cover the cost of the Konkussion program. Registration fees increased due to 21 additional registered players in 2014. Clinic revenue increased as more players took advantage of our player and goalie development clinics, as well as our pre-tryout clinics.

Ice rental costs increased due to a 1% increase in the cost of the City of Markham ice and the need to purchase additional ice from Canlan Ice Sports (\$12,834) and The Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville (\$26,724) in order to run our program. Tournaments and events increased due to hosting the OHF Midget AAA Championship (\$4,000). However, the OMHA has reimbursed the association these fees, which will be reflected in next year's account. The Waxers Early Bird Tournament fees increased \$3,343. The majority of the increase in Clinics, Seminars, and Mentoring is attributed to the cost of the seminars held at Angus Glen (\$2,566) and sending Mike Gouglas and Ilir Mehmeti through the High Performance Coaching Clinic (\$2,004) in accordance with the changes in the coaching requirements. Uniform costs increased \$6,155 due to additional number of players and players new to the association. Uniform refunds were also higher than 2014 (\$3,765). The cost of the mandatory Konkussion program was \$26,386 and was offset by the increase in team assessment fees. We paid the administrator, ice scheduler, chief referee, and timekeeper scheduler fees of \$26,518, which are included in Administrators Fees.

		2013-2014		2014-2015
Waxers	Income	\$1,180,673	Income	\$1,272,424
(Rep)	Expense	\$1,181,215	Expense	\$1,288,102
		(\$542)		(\$15,678)
MMHA	Income	\$425,645	Income	\$427,579
(HL)	Expense	\$464,480	Expense	\$424,923
		(\$38,835)		\$2,657

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### **House League Report**

Submitted by Darren Mori

Due to the dedication of our team of remarkable volunteers, the Markham Minor Hockey Association had a very successful 2014-2015 season.

#### **Registration Summary**

Division	Teams	Players	Volunteers
Mite	10	133	47
Tyke	4	58	15
Novice	6	74	21
Atom	8	128	31
Peewee	6	97	17
Bantam	8	111	24
Midget/Juvenile	5	84	20
Total	47	685	175

The Midget and Juvenile divisions were run as a combined division as this year the program was run separately from the Unionville Minor Hockey Association.

#### Volunteers

The countless hours our volunteers contribute annually are what allow the MMHA to offer the programs that we do.

Thank you to Steve Creaser who served as our Equipment Manager this year.

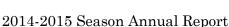
A special thanks to our wonderful group of conveners. They work countless hours both at the rink and behind the scenes to ensure that our children have a positive hockey experience.

Division	Convener
Mite	Joanna Potts
Tyke	Tami Paterson
Novice	Ann Marie Lovatsis
Atom	Jennifer Siemens
Peewee	Anna Tsiampouris
Bantam	Vivien Page and Jen Walker
Midget/Juvenile	Michele Brindle and Anuja Sheth

Thank you to the men and women who volunteered as coaches, trainers, and on-ice volunteers. We are very fortunate to have so many dedicated people take on these very

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important roles. Your dedication and devotion to creating a fun and safe environment for our children is appreciated.

#### Highlights of the Year

- One hundred percent of our teams from Mite through Bantam were run by fully certified coaches and trainers. MMHA is the only minor hockey association in the City of Markham to provide a certified trainer on every bench.
- MMHA ran a ten-week session of player development clinics—from October through January—at a cost of \$125 per session. We accommodated over 50 house league players.
- MMHA hosted a Volunteer and Sponsor Appreciation Night where we honoured Jennifer Siemens as Volunteer of the Year.
- We recognize our long-standing coaches and trainers. This year we recognized Kent Anderson, Tom Beechener, Bruce Casbourn, Michael Elliott, George McClean, Mike Page, Blake Reilly, and Joe Simms as long-standing coaches. We had no long-standing trainers this season.

#### Coach of the year

2014-2015 was the inauguration year for our annual Coach of the Year award to honour one coach in each house league division that exemplifies our goals of developing hockey skills, physical fitness, cooperative sportsmanship, social interaction, and enjoyment of the game of hockey.

Division	Recipient
Mite	Dave Weatherhead
Tyke	Dave Paterson
Novice	Blake Reilly
Atom	Tony Rossi
Peewee	Errol Misquitta
Bantam	Richard Clark
Midget/Juvenile	Tom Beechener & Bruce Casbourn

#### Annual Equipment Swap

In August we held our fifth annual equipment swap benefitting our Yes, You Can Play! program. The equipment swap provides an opportunity for families to purchase gently-used equipment at reduced prices and in time for the upcoming season. We were able to outfit many families with full equipment for less than \$70.

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#### Ninth Line Series

MMHA participated in a home and away series against the Whitchurch Stouffville Minor Hockey Association (up Ninth Line) allowing MMHA players to play against another team outside our association. The program was very well received in both associations and we will continue it in the 2015-2016 season.

#### **Rostered Select Program**

Three years ago our rostered select program consisted of three teams. Last year we iced nine teams. The Minor Bantam team won gold at the Oshawa Rostered Select Tournament in January and the Bantam team won gold at the Ajax Christmas Tournament.

Rostered Select Team	Head Coach
Initiation (formerly Tyke C)	Mark Potts
Tyke (formerly Tyke B)	Matt McWatters
Novice	Al Simpson
Minor Atom	James Ryan
Atom	Ryan Krkachovski
Peewee	Michael Coombs
Minor Bantam	George Mombourquette
Bantam	Alan Thompson
Minor Midget	Doug Smith
Select Convener	Paul Bullock

## VP/GM AA/A/AE Report

Submitted by Mike Matthews

During the 2014-2015 season 22 of a possible 27 teams were iced. We continue to face challenges in the Minor Bantam to Midget age groups where only seven of twelve teams were iced. From Novice to Peewee, a full complement of teams was iced. We are expecting improvements in team enrolment next season with the addition of extra teams at the Atom and Minor Atom age groups. Across the York Simcoe Minor Hockey League (YSMHL) participation at the Midget age group continues to be a challenge with only six teams playing in the Midget AE category, four of which were from the Lakeshore League.

Once again we had good success at the AA category this season with the Atom AA and Minor Midget AA teams reaching the OMHA semi-finals. Congratulations to the Minor Peewee AA, Minor Atom AE, and Novice AA teams on winning York-Simcoe Championships.

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Special thanks to the conveners for all their help and support during the season;

Jeannie Daniels Pat O'Callaghan

Allison Thompson Debbie Williams

#### Coaches of the Year

Coaches of the Year were announced at the Volunteer Appreciation Dinner in May. This year teams were asked to nominate their coaches for the awards based on the following criteria:

- 1. The coach is a good teacher and hockey coach.
- 2. The coach creates a positive, fun and respectful environment.
- 3. The team has had some form of success, either in the league, a tournament, playoffs, or has improved as a team over last year.

The winners were:

AA Kim Rasmussen, Peewee AA

A Jason Clement, Minor Peewee A

AE John Manousaridis, Peewee AE

#### **Markham Resident Players**

We continue to reinforce the importance of building teams with Markham residents. This is in keeping with the OMHA Community Hockey philosophy and also impacts ice allocation from the City of Markham, which is based upon registered Markham residents. In the 2014-2015 season, greater than 90% of registered players at AA/A/AE were Markham residents. Six percent were Richmond Hill residents.

# VP/GM AAA Zone Report

Submitted by Stephen Gaunce

Our AAA Zone is proud to use the name Waxers and to be considered a part of the "family" but just a reminder that our home boundaries are different than those of the AA/A/AE and House League organizations. We are recognized and treated as a separate organization in the eyes of the Ontario Minor Hockey Association (OMHA) and Ontario Hockey Federation (OHF).

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#### A Season Synopsis;

- 9 AAA teams from Novice through Midget
- 157 players registered to the teams
- 54 coaching staff members registered
- Approximately 650 games played between exhibition, league, tournaments and playoffs
- The 9 teams combined for a 127-124-45 league record
- Our Minor Bantam team hosted the OMHA Championship weekend in late March.
   Thanks to the parent group for a very well run event. The team won the bronze medal.
- Our Novice team made it to their OMHA Championship weekend and came away with the silver medal.
- Our Minor Atom team won their Eastern AAA Hockey League (ETA) Playoff Championship
- Chris Bahen, head coach of our Minor Atom team, was our AAA Coach of the Year. This
  was our first year accepting nominations from players and parents in this process and it
  worked well.
- We had one player selected from our Minor Midget team in the recent Ontario Hockey League (OHL) draft Zachary Roberts.

#### Issues / Ongoing Matters / Works in Progress

- Striving to keep more Markham and Stouffville residents playing AAA hockey in our organization
- Working with coaches to improve/promote communication levels with players and
  families; coach surveys completed by parents show we are improving some but still work
  to be done. A large component of this is managing the expectation level of parents. We
  are attempting to meet face to face with more teams/parents to discuss any issues.
- The two-year OHF mandated pilot project of Freedom of Movement at the Midget AAA level has just finished and will continue for at least one more year.
- Respect in Sport for Parents OMHA made it mandatory for all at least one parent of all players to take the online course. This had to be completed before the player could be placed on a roster.
- Coach Development: the mentor system and clinics are helping to improve the knowledge level and provide a valuable sounding board.

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- A new High Performance—HP1 program is mandatory for all head coaches in Minor Bantam and above beginning in 2015-2016 season. We will be able to meet this requirement.
- Being a member of the LOR (Lake Ontario Region) and dealing with the ever changing rules/system does not get any easier. The OMHA and GTHL have now appointed a mediator to conduct some sessions to review the existing agreement.
- The costs of minor hockey for all members: an ongoing issue that must be considered in all decision making.
- The Hockey Development group are doing a good job with player and goalie clinics. These are helping with the player numbers at the younger age groups.
- The ETA has expanded the longer "period time" trials from Midget and Minor Midget to Bantam for the upcoming season.

#### **Special Events Report**

Submitted by Deb Larsen

#### Players' Banquet

On Wednesday, April 1, 2015, at the Crystal Fountain Banquet Hall, all Markham Waxers players, coaches, trainers, staff, convenors, and volunteers were invited to attend the sixth annual Markham Waxers Players' Banquet. All invited guests were treated to the night by the Markham Waxers Hockey Club. The evening showcased the hard work and dedication of all Markham Waxers teams throughout the 2014-2015 season.

The evening began at 6:00 pm and dinner was served at 7:00 pm. Trevor Weir served as emcee and welcomed everyone to the banquet.

The evening's festivities included a welcome video highlighting our teams and their seasons; a photo slideshow with photos from every team; The Neil Bullock Scholarship Award—presented to Michael Pellegrini; team award presentations for the Most Improved Player and Character Awards; player loyalty recognition for players who have been Markham Waxers for five or more years; player loyalty recognition for players who are in their Midget year and have been a member of the Markham Waxers for eight years or more; long-loyalty coaches who have been head coaches for five or more years; and referee and timekeeper recognition.

Thirty-two Markham Waxers teams attended. Approximately 716 players, coaches, staff, and volunteers attended.

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A very special thank you to the banquet committee, who worked tirelessly to put this successful evening together: Sasha Braganza, Linda Ferrari, Maria Giorgio, Deb Larsen, Lari Nakamichi, Dale O'Callaghan, George Schnarr, Sandy Smith, and Helen Soehner. In addition, JC Le Pichouron kindly volunteered his photographic services to capture many memories of the night.

#### **Volunteer Appreciation Dinner**

The Markham Waxers Volunteer Appreciation Dinner was held on Monday, May 11, 2015 at the Meadowbrook Golf & Country Club. Up to five staff members per team were invited to attend the event as guests of the Waxers. Additional tickets could be purchased for \$20 each. Approximately 133 guests attended the dinner. They were treated to a buffet dinner, catered by Carr & Company, plus refreshments and door prizes.

Coach of the Year awards were presented in each division. The winners this year are:

- AAA Chris Bahen (Minor Atom AAA)
- AA Kim Rasmussen (Peewee AA)
- A Jason Clement (Minor Peewee A)
- AE John Manousaridis (Peewee AE)

Illusionist Danny Hamill entertained us with his sleight of hand and comedy. Not only did he mystify us, but he also brought joy and laughter to the evening.

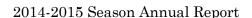
# **Hockey Development Report**

Submitted by Michael Gouglas

The Hockey Development Program (HDP) operates and encompasses the Coach Mentorship Program and the Player Development Program. The mission of the HDP is to provide the support and resources necessary to aid in the successful development and continued learning of all of our coaches and players as members of the Markham Minor Hockey Association. The HDP runs under the direction of the HDP director, Michael Gouglas, appointed by the Markham Waxers Executive. The director oversees all aspects related to the program and communicates these operations to the Executive. The HDP consists of coach mentors, instructors, and volunteers.

The HDP works in partnership with the Ontario Minor Hockey Association and Hockey Canada. Whenever possible, the HDP uses resources and programs available through these governing bodies executing them at the local level.

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#### Highlights of the 2014-2015 Season

- Over 362 players registered for the player and goaltending clinics.
- 38 goalies registered for our new Goalie Development Program lead by Jamie Bruno and Scott Della Vedova. This program was offered in a 16-week fall block and an 8-week winter block.
- Feedback on the coaching seminars, Coach Mentorship Program, and Player Skill Development programs was very positive once again.

#### **Coach Mentorship Program**

#### **Coach Seminars**

The Hockey Development program presented three coach seminars.

- In October, Ted Brown (University of Western Ontario), Terry Brown (Trenton), Paul Legault and Jeff Flanaghan presented a seminar for all of our House League and Rep coaches. This included an on-ice and off-ice session. It was well attended and each coach received a drill package to take home.
- In September James Boyd and Jason Nobili spoke to our House League and Rep coaches.
- In October Dave Smith and Chris DiPeiro spoke to our House League and Rep coaches.

#### **Coach Mentors**

All coaches within Markham Waxers hockey had access to a designated coach mentor who was able to provide the skills, knowledge, and support required to help them improve their coaching performance. The goal of the Coach Mentorship Program is to strengthen our coaching body and foster an improved level of camaraderie between all the coaches within the Waxers organization.

#### 2014-2015 Coach Mentors

Ted Baker • Dan Daoust

• Kim Rasmussen

Phil Kestin

• Rob Binetti

#### Player Development Program

The Player Development Program continues to expand. This year we successfully combined both the Rep and House League skill clinics to take advantage of our talented team of onice instructors. Moving forward this program will continue to improve and provide our players and parents an opportunity for additional skill instruction unmatched by many other associations.

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#### 2014-2015 Player Development Team

Chris Bahen

• Matt Bahen

Scott Badali

Eric Daoust

• Paul Giallonardo

• Michael Gouglas

• Darren Mori

Al Nixon

• David Titanic

#### Plans for 2015-2016

- Consider offering a March Break Hockey Camp
- Work closely with Hockey Canada in preparation for new programs and accreditations being rolled out in the near future.
- Schedule coach seminars throughout the season.
- Create a new Jr. Instructor Training Program.

#### 2015-2016 Coach Mentor Team

Ted Baker

Dan Daoust

• Kim Rasmussen

• Phil Kestin

• Rob Binetti

#### **Long-Term Hockey Development Program Goals**

- Continue to recruit high-calibre individuals who are committed to contributing to the success of minor hockey in Markham.
- Realize better player and coach retention throughout the association.
- Continue to promote Markham Waxers hockey as one of the premier destinations for young, talented players and coaches.

## Referee Report

Submitted by Jerry Brens

#### 2014-2015 Highlights

- Markham scheduled officials for 1,269 games.
- 425 House Leagues games with teams from Tyke to Juvenile.
- 844 Rep and Select games including exhibition, regular season, and playoff games.
- During the playoffs, 49 of our home games were covered by "Out of Town" officials.
- Markham officials covered 69 games at other centres during playoffs.
- Markham supplied officials for 123 tournament games.

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#### Referee Development

- Markham and the Whitchurch Stouffville Minor Hockey Association hosted an OMHA
  entry level referee clinic in October 2014. Thirty new officials attended. From this clinic
  Markham received six young officials. They all worked in our House League division.
- We will be hosting another entry level clinic for new officials this fall.
- Three officials attended and successfully completed a Level 3 OMHA clinic.
- Our area supervisors completed more supervisions this past season and were able to move two of our junior officials to a higher level.

#### Timekeeper Scheduler's Report

Submitted by Debbie Williams

During the 2014-2015 hockey season, timekeepers were provided for over 1,200 games ranging from exhibition, tournament, and regular season games to playoffs. Games covered included house league (Peewee to Juvenile), and all select and rep home games.

This season's roster was comprised of over 25 timekeepers, five of which were new hires. All new timekeepers are trained properly prior to being assigned their own games, starting at the house league level for the first season.

Each year we lose a few experienced timekeepers to university and next year will be no different, but we do not expect to have any difficulties replacing them prior to the beginning of next season. A number of students have already expressed interest. Timekeepers must be a minimum of 14 years old or entering grade nine and must show a strong work ethic.

# Ice Scheduler's Report

Submitted by Joe Quercia

During the 2014-2015 Hockey season, the Waxers and MMHA used a total of 154 hours of ice per week for the following:

- · House league practices and games
- Rep practices and games
- Development clinics

Additional ice at CanLan was purchased and used as ice allocation to teams. The Town of Whitchurch Stouffville allocated Saturday evening ice for Waxers AAA home games.

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The team ice allocation was balanced prior to the season to address all team requests and to allow the participation of AP players with their affiliated teams. During the year ice was made available to teams for extra practice or to replace a lost practice due to playoffs.

Tryout ice booked for 2014-2015 season was a success. Tryouts were held at Centennial, Angus Glen, Clippers, and Stouffville arenas.

#### **Playoff Format**

New playoff flowcharts used in the York Simcoe Minor Hockey League (YSMHL)/Ontario Minor Hockey Association (OMHA) were well received by all associations. We will continue with the new format and adjust any issues that may arise with the approval of the YSMHL and OMHA. Thanks to all ice schedulers for their time and effort in adhering to the new format. Ongoing meetings will be held with ice schedulers to review and provide recommendations to adjust the playoff format as required.

Thank you to all the teams for another great season and looking forward in assisting all the coaches, managers, and new staff members next season.

#### 2014-2015 Season Ice Recap

- 1150+ practices
- 520+ regular season games
- 200+ playoff games
- 140+ player development clinics
- 150+ playoff contracts

#### **New Team Website**

The Waxers are launching a new association website for the 2015-2016 season that will host each team's individual site (similar to what teams are currently using). The team site will be linked with another ice scheduling tool called OneDB. As ice scheduler for the Waxers, the major benefit of the new OneDB website is the linkage between other associations. Ice Schedulers can see each other's schedule and assist each other when rescheduling home and away games.

Here are a few of the most important features of the new website.

Fully integrated team websites

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- Web-based site maintenance that can be shared amongst authorized people in our association
- Fully integrated scheduling by our ice scheduler
- Automatic email and/or text message notification with schedule changes, game results, and more
- Social network integration such as auto-tweeting news articles to Twitter<sup>TM</sup>
- Password-protection of pages managed by the team webmasters
- Automatic archiving of previous seasons

### **Head Trainer Report**

Submitted by Andrea Winarski

The Markham Waxers organization mandated that all rep athletes participate in the Konkussion program. The cost for the program, \$50.00/player, was included in the team assessment fees. In support of the program, the organization sent out an educational newsletter covering the topics of concussion, baseline testing, and Return to Play protocol.

Ninety-eight percent of Waxers athletes participated in the program. There were two reasons given for opting out of the program: the athletes had already been baseline tested by their school (St. Andrew's College) and the parents did not think the organization should dictate where players should have their baseline testing completed.

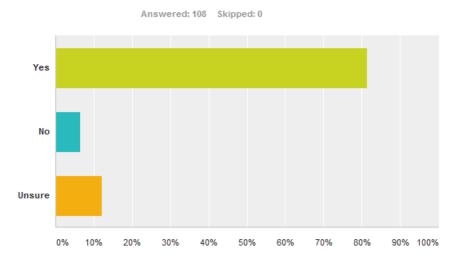
The feedback regarding the program was very good. In general, parents commented that they were able to make more informed decisions regarding Return to Play after injury. Below are the results from a follow up survey conducted at the end of the season.

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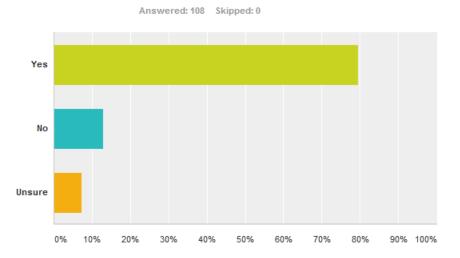




# Were you pleased with the Konkussion program offered in the 2014-2015 season?



# Did you feel you were adequately educated as to the resources available from Konkussion?



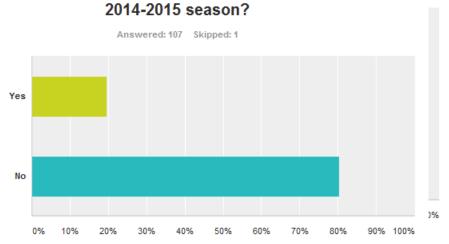
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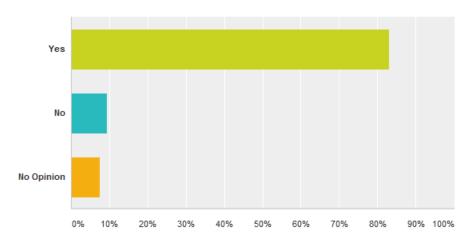
#### Rate your experience with the baseline

# Did you use the Konkussion program for an injury sustained by your child during the



# Would you like to see the Konkussion program rolled out for the 2015-2016 season?

Answered: 106 Skipped: 2







A trainers section was added to the Waxers website. Schematics of all Waxers home rinks were compiled and added to the website.

A trainers meeting will be held in September 2015 in order to provide support and guidance for new trainers and answer trainer's questions. At this time, we will offer an advanced, hockey-specific first aid course to the trainers. The cost will be covered by the association.

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