Jack McGee Kawartha Komets Special Needs Hockey Program

WHO WE ARE...

We are a not-for-profit hockey program launched in 2009 giving males and females 5 – 50 years old with physical, emotional and/or neurodevelopmental challenges an opportunity to play the game they love. Individuals with various barriers that would prevent them from playing "regular" hockey can enjoy playing non-contact hockey and build lasting relationships with others. The only requirement is that the player must be able to stand on skates. Every player is given equal ice time regardless of their skill level. Last season (2012-2013) we had three teams with a total of 60 players.



WHO AND WHERE DO WE PLAY...

We have a game or a practice every weekend from mid-October to the end of March. As a member team of Special Hockey International, we play teams such as the Cambridge Ice Hounds, the Innisfil Snowdogs, the Don Mills Diamonds, the Grandravine Tornadoes, the Brampton 45's, the Newmarket Nighthawks and the Durham Dragons. Most home games are played at the Evinrude Centre in Peterborough.

OUR COACHES AND VOLUNTEERS...

Our coaching staff and volunteers are familiar with the challenges these players face and offer them a funfilled, positive, life-changing experience as they learn social skills, build character, hockey skill levels and team spirit that will last a lifetime. We welcome committed coaches and volunteers to work with us and take an active role in promoting this unique style of hockey. We provide educational, in-service sessions for our staff.

WHO OPERATES THE KAWARTHA KOMETS...

The Kawartha Komets were founded by Carol Fisher. We have a very active and committed Board of Directors that governs the affairs of the team. We meet regularly as a board throughout the season. We have recently filed incorporation papers and will be applying for Registered Charitable status with the Canada Revenue Agency in the summer of 2013.

HOW ARE THE KAWARTHA KOMETS FUNDED...

Our registration fees which are very reasonable compared to other hockey programs cover a good percentage of our expenses. Our primary sponsor, the McGee family (in memory of the late Jack McGee) covers the cost of our ice time. We are always looking for associate sponsors to cover other costs such as extra-curricular activities...our annual banquet, summer picnic, trips to hockey games, etc. We often loan used equipment to players who cannot afford their own as we as provide limited scholarships to those on O.D.S.P. as a supplement to what they can afford.

OUR ANNUAL SPECIAL HOCKEY INTERNATIONAL (SHI) TOURNAMENT

Each year the Kawartha Komets travel to an international tournament where we compete with other teams from Canada, the United States and Great Britain. This is always our most costly event and we must rely on corporate donations and fundraisers to raise the necessary funding to make the trip. Next spring the tournament will be held just north of Detroit, Michigan from May 1st – 3rd, 2014.



Special Hockey International Tournament Fraser, Michigan. May 1st – 3rd, 2014

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