

Witness the Power



Coach's Corner

By Fort Frances Lakers Coach/General Manager
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Fort Frances Lakers – SIJHL

In this week's coach's corner.

Disappointing news struck the SIJHL with the bowing out of the K&A Wolverines, I am sure it was a tough decision to make and not an easy call for their entire executive involved. The league still awaits approval from Hockey USA on whether the new expansion teams from Duluth and Spooner; WS will be full time members of the SIJHL. Everyone is anxiously waiting and hoping to see these new teams enter the league.

On the team front we continue to plug away Jon Sinclair will be inked soon, we hope to announce the signing of Casey Mertens a big power forward from Washington. Local players Josh Scott and Mike Jourdain will also be returning for the 2010 – 11 season. Then we will continue to bring back veterans players that have committed to the team. We are also hoping to announce a trade sometime this week that will bring back a local product to our communities.

Our Summer Camp will be July 16 – 18 in International Falls at the Broncos Arena. To date we have the maximum of 5 goalies registered, around 7 defenseman and a bunch of forwards. We are looking to have 12 defenseman and 18 – 24 forwards in camp. These players will be vying for an invite to main camp, which will start August 25th and make a roster spot on the Lakers 2010 – 11 team.

We urge all local players with dates of birth '90 – '94 that want to try out for the Lakers hockey team to go on our website at www.fortfranceslakers.com and fill out a Summer Camp registration form.

The team also continues to look for a Director of Scouting interested people can go on our website and read the information about the position with the team.

Off the ice the league continues to forge ahead with a budget meeting coming up, expansion committee being formed and the scheduling meeting, which will most likely be held here in Fort Frances.

The Lakers continue to push ahead with the selling of season tickets; you can get a season ticket for \$175.00 until the end of June. Please get out and support your local Junior Hockey Team. It's a great deal and good entertainment for the winter months. The team is also busy planning a golf tournament at Heron Landing Golf Course for July 10th. Come out for a chance to win \$25,000.00 in the hole in one contest sponsored by Sunset Country Ford. 400 club tickets are available for \$50.00 from board members it's your chance to win some extra cash through the winter months at our Lakers home games as it pays out close to \$10,000.00.

You may see Lakers board members and volunteers out selling season tickets and 400 club tickets. The Lakers will also host a Pancake Breakfast on July 10th at the Couchiching Recreation Centre (Multiuse Building), \$8. for a big hearty breakfast and \$5. for children under 12. Please come out and get your day started with a good meal.

I have been meaning to write this for the last two coaches' corner but the Lakers board, team and staff send best wishes to Bev Kotnik Lakers fan club member with her recovery from heart surgery. We also send a thank you in advance to all the supporters we have throughout the district. Until next coaches corner I wish everyone a great summer when it decides to give us a few nice days!

"Achieve, Believe and Succeed"