

# President Report AGM May 2020

Another year is behind us. Once again, I want to begin by thanking all of our board members who hold down the fort each week and permit all of this to happen. Many thanks to our coaches (Julia, David and Sue) for their time, experience and patience week after week. And thanks to all the parents who have stepped up throughout the year to lend a helping hand for the club.

The 2019-2020 season presented many challenges. We began the season with the City's new Arena User Cards program, but thanks to the donation from the Saint John Hotel Group the program was cancelled and fees refunded to the users. We had a great skating season in short track and a short season in Long Track due to mild weather at the Halifax Oval. We then ended the season abruptly mid-March due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Although we only missed a couple of weeks of practice, we, unfortunately, had to see the Canada East Championship cancelled along with some summer training opportunities.

Congratulations to all skaters who achieved some of their personal goals. To those skaters who qualified for Canada East Championship, although it was cancelled, just know that your efforts were noticed. Congratulations to Morgan Haslett and Regan MacKinley who attended the Canadian Long Track Championship in Red Deer, and to Regan for her bronze medal, first medal in many years in Long Track. Congratulations to our skaters who qualified for the provincial team. Congratulations to our skaters who attended Quebec meets. I'm sure others will highlight our club achievements but you all make us proud.

Saying all this, thank you to all the parents! You make your kids' dreams a reality. Many of you have stepped up to assist in the dreams of other skaters by volunteer some time, lending a helping hand and support. Parents, you are the backbone of our club, you make all this happen. To maintain an active and competitive club, we need more volunteers. As the kids of our current board members and volunteers are growing up and moving on, we need the next generation of skater parent to step in, learn the ropes and keep the club going. Stop by the rink office, send us an email, we can probably use the help with something.

This is my last President's Report as I will now be stepping aside as my time is required elsewhere. I will still attend as many practices as I can and will still be helping out to some extent. With current pandemic restrictions, we will see some changes to our next season, but I expect everyone will train hard and still have a lot of fun.