

### **2014 Season report Jr. and Sr. Ladies**

For the 2015 season the junior ladies had 5 teams and the senior ladies had 3 teams. We had 187 players total for the 2 divisions, in 2014 we had 168 so we are up but this was anticipated as there was a good contingent of midget players graduating up to Junior and graduating Juniors moving up to Senior and we were able to retain a good percentage of them. We anticipate increases for the 2016 season and have had inquiries for new team applications.

We played a 14 game interlocking schedule for the 2015 season and plan on similar for the 2016 season (depending on the addition of new teams).

The Edmonton Bandits won the Senior division championship in a NLL format playoff with the top two teams, the Sherwood Park Titans won the Junior division. There was some very exciting lacrosse throughout the season.

With Team Alberta in their third year and nationals being held in Calgary this year this has started to generate a lot of interest in the ladies game. Additionally, Calgary hosted an invitational national tournament for the Senior Ladies.

It seemed last year that the majority of the games were close in score making for some very exciting lacrosse. The standings at the end of the season reflected this with a few exceptions.

We had the unique problem of allowing some junior players to play as over age in midget as both Calgary junior teams were at a maximum on their roster. We are hoping that one or two new teams will apply for a team in the South as we appear to have a lot of graduating midgets that want to continue to play into junior. In conjunction with this, there are a lot of graduating juniors looking to continue with lacrosse. With this we are also looking at the possibility adding a couple senior teams (1 north and 1 south) to be able to accommodate these players.

So far as going forward we have listened to comments both good and bad from people from different sports on why ladies do or don't play lacrosse. One of the concerns was it was too rough. Continued from the 2013 & 2014 season we as a league brought in supplementary discipline for checking from behind as this seemed to be the biggest concern. This has had a positive impact for the ladies as those penalties have decreased significantly. We must as a division continue to try our best to retain players and have listened to the player's comments, again both good and bad and will be discussing this at the Breakout session this November. Our main goal remains whoever wants to play should be able to play. We as a division need to continue to make decisions that strengthen the divisions as a whole.