



May 1, 2019

Portland Junior Winterhawks
Board of Directors

Dear Members of the Board:

After several months of discussion with the Portland Junior Winterhawks and other key parties associated with ice hockey throughout the region, the Portland Winterhawks would like to announce that it will be moving forward with the plans developed by PJW and the Winterhawks to transition the youth program to the management of the Winterhawks beginning with the 2019 / 2020 season.

As we begin this transition, we would like to thank all of you members of the board of the Portland Junior Winterhawks for your outstanding leadership and tireless efforts in building the youth program to its current level of success. To accomplish what you all have accomplished with an all-volunteer board is remarkable and the gratitude of the entire hockey community rests with you.

One of the key factors in our decision was the dedication and commitment our Head Coach and General Manager, Mike Johnston, and the rest of our hockey staff have made to oversee and participate in the complete hockey program for all age groups. This model will utilize the highest level of talent in the region to ensure the best quality program for the players and their families. We also will be hiring staff to oversee the operation and we intend to use volunteers to supplement where needed. As was the case with the Junior Winterhawks, the program will be based out of the WSC. In addition to the WSC we are finalizing a deal to rent over 100 additional hours of ice at the VMC. This will help our programs immensely.

We are now in the final stages of orchestrating the logistics of the change. We intend to announce this to the youth ice community with letters coming from both the Winterhawks and PJW sometime in the next week. At the end of May we will be ready to have an introductory open house for all interested families, giving an extensive overview of the program and opening registration. In the meantime, we will work closely with all parties to make this transition as smooth as possible.

For now, thank you again for all your hard work and for your dedication to making this transition a positive one for all the hockey families in the region.

Thank you and best regards,

Doug Piper

President
Portland Winterhawks Hockey Club