



# Mount Pearl Minor Hockey Association

## Annual Awards Program

*Updated with the current information version*



Approved August 2008 (Revised 2025)

Mount Pearl Minor Hockey has reviewed the Annual Awards Program and, based on feedback received from coaches, players, and parents, and after extensive discussion, we are pleased to present the following Program. (2008)

Development/House League	All-Star	Other
<b>U-7IP</b> Participation Medals at Year-End Jamboree		Keith Hendry U7IP Coach of the Year Award
<b>U-9 Hockey</b> Participation Medals		The Youth Volunteer Award
<b>U-11 Hockey</b> Esso Medals of Achievement/Team. <b>Dave Denine</b> Unsung Hero award for U11 House League/team	<b>U11 A,B &amp; C</b> Esso Medals of Achievement awards/Team. <b>Derm Connolly</b> MVP Award for <b>U11 A,B &amp; C Teams</b> .	House League Coaching Staff of the Year. <b>All-Star Coaching Staff of the Year</b>
<b>U-13 Hockey</b> Esso Medals of Achievement/Team. <b>Ralph Neil</b> Unsung Hero award for U13 House League/Team	<b>U13 A,B &amp; C</b> Esso Medals of Achievement awards/Team. <b>Reg White</b> MVP Award for <b>U13 A, B &amp; C Teams</b> .	The Doug Mealy Award (Volunteer W/O a child in Hockey)
<b>U-15 Hockey</b> Esso Medals of Achievement/Team. <b>Gerry Taylor</b> Unsung Hero award for U15 House League.	<b>U-15 A, B &amp; C</b> Esso Medals of Achievement awards/Team. <b>Pat O'Keefe</b> MVP Award for <b>U15 A, B &amp; C Teams</b> .	Christopher Pink Award (U11 House League Most-Spirited Player)
<b>U-18 Hockey</b> Esso Medals of Achievement/Team. <b>Bruce Styles</b> Unsung Hero award for U18 House League.	<b>U-18</b> MPMHA President's Certificate of Dedication will be presented to all 3rd-year players.	Albert Clarke Parent Volunteer of the Year Award <b>The MPMHA President's Awards</b>
<b>Girls U-9 Hockey</b> Participation Medals		2 MPMHA Scholarship Awards
<b>Girls Hockey U11, U13, U15, U18.</b> Esso Medals of Achievement/Team <b>Bonnie Evans</b> Unsung Hero award for these Girls' teams.	Crystal O'Keefe Girls Hockey Award	Albert Stanley Referee of the Year Award. <b>MPRA Rookie of the Year Award</b>

**Note:**

\*\* There will be **No** ties for Awards - one winner per award, with an exception for goalies.

\*\* There will be no All-Star Awards for short-term Development teams, as they are included within the HL Awards. (This includes Girls' teams that will not play as a team all season.)

\*\* Make sure awards include the full name, including the person being recognized by the award (ie, Dave Denine Unsung Hero Award + Team Name)

To assist with the selection of award winners, it was felt that a clearly defined criteria was needed. This criteria will focus on two areas: 'general criteria' will outline what is expected for a player to be considered for any award; and 'award specific criteria' outlines what we should look for in a player who deserves each specific award.

**This criteria does not apply to participation-type awards and certificates** (ie, Medals of Participation)

## **General Award Criteria**

For any hockey player to be considered or selected for an award (excluding participation awards) they must meet **all** of the following criteria.

1. Player is in 'good standing' with MPMHA.
2. 75% attendance at practices. (exclude sickness & injury)
3. 90% attendance at regular-season games. (exclude sickness, injury, work(U18) and Tournaments)
4. Has not been suspended during the season for 'abuse of an official'.
5. Has not been written up (documented) for abuse of coaches, players, or parents.
6. Has not been suspended during the season by MPMHA for behavior reasons.

Coaches are asked to solicit feedback from parents when determining team awards. This feedback should be considered when selecting award winners, but would not be the determining factor. Coaching Staff will have the final say.

Considering the number of eligible candidates and in the spirit of 'fairness'. **No** player should receive more than one award. This excludes participation-type medals and certificates.

## **Specific Award Criteria**

**ESSO Awards:(All MPMHA teams excluding U7IP, U9 Hockey & Girls U9 Hockey as per Hockey Canada rule that these three Divisions emphasize FUN ONLY, and no awards specified.**

The following 3 achievement awards (medal and certificate as provided by ESSO) will be presented to 3 players from each House League and All-Star teams within MPMHA.

1. **Most Improved:** They've pushed beyond their limits. They're coachable and have sharpened their skills or boosted their attitude. They've made leaps and bounds from their first day of practice to the last game of the season.
2. **Most Team Spirit:** This player has an all-around great attitude, both on and off the ice. They don't let a bad play lead to a bad game. They cheer on their teammates through thick and thin, and the team wouldn't be the same without them.
3. **Most Dedicated:** They spend their weekends on the driveway practicing slapshots. They come to practice early and stay late. And most importantly, their team always comes first.

Coaches and managers are asked to solicit feedback from the parents and submit the name of one player for each award on their team who is deserving of these awards.

**Unsung Hero Award: (U11, U13, U15, U18 House League only and Girls U11, U13, U15 & U18.**

This award is intended to go to the 'unsung hero' of a team. This is a player who, in the opinion of the coach(s), plays a quiet but important role on the team. The player that best displays dedication, sportsmanship, enthusiasm, and a genuine love for the game of hockey. This is not solely intended for the

player who normally stands out on a team by scoring all the goals and making all the big plays. The player should truly be a team player who works hard and who is always eager to help and support their teammates.

This award recognizes the player who:

1. Shows up for most all games and practices and who gives his/her best at all times.
2. He/she supports their teammates, encourages others, displays a positive attitude during good and bad plays, and helps others when they get down or frustrated.
3. He/she helps the coach whenever possible and is respectful of everyone around.
4. Demonstrates dedication and leadership to the games and their team.
5. Plays the game with heart.
6. Shows enthusiasm and all-around team spirit.
7. Demonstrates 'sportsmanlike' behavior on and off the ice and does not draw attention to themselves through unacceptable behavior (ie, yelling at teammates, banging stick, use of poor language, etc)

Coaches and managers are asked to solicit feedback from the parents and submit the name of one player on their team who is deserving of these awards.

**MVP Awards: ( U11 A,B,C, U13 A,B,C, U15 A,B,C ALL-STAR Teams only)**

This honor is typically bestowed upon the best performing player on a specific team who has contributed the most to the success of the team. This player demonstrates:

1. Excellent skills,
2. Displays leadership ability,
3. Commitment and dedication,
4. Ability to be a team role model, during practices and games, as well as on and off the ice,
5. Be a positive influence on the people around them,
6. Ability to support their teammates, encourage others, displays a positive attitude during good and bad plays, and helps others when they get down or frustrated

**Medals of Participation: (U7IP, U9 Hockey & Girls U9 Hockey)**

A participation medal will be presented to each U7IP, U9 and Girls U9 player at their respective Jamboree. U9 Hockey and Girls U9 Hockey will receive participation certificates at the year-end banquet.

**Individual Awards:**

**Christopher Pink Award: ( U11 House League)**

The Christopher Pink Award is awarded to the Most Spirited Player in the U11 House League. This award is in memory of Christopher who passed away tragically in an automobile accident. Christopher at the time played for "Lee's Snowballs".

Please Choose a player who you feel best represents this award. You should focus on a player who:

1. Has a very positive upbeat type of spirit,
2. Is hardly ever late for practice or a game and a low absenteeism,
3. Has a positive spirit to both peers and teammates,
4. Has left a positive impression of his/her leadership all year.

**There are no ties for this award. Coaching staff are asked to solicit feedback from parents and submit names of players who would be deserving of this award, and provide a brief written explanation as to why the person is being nominated.**

**MPMHA President's Certificates of Dedication:**

A certificate and or gift will be presented to each outgoing U18 player as a token of appreciation after years of contributing to MPMHA. This includes players from the Girls U18 and DMHL.

**Coaching Staff of the Year Award: (One each for House League, All-Star & Female)**

This award is presented on an annual basis to a MPMHA Coaching staff that has shown not only "hockey knowledge" but also "people Skills". This staff will have demonstrated respect and leadership towards children and adults of the game, be it parents, co-coaches or officials.

Our children come into hockey at the beginning of each season with enthusiasm, different attitudes and various levels of skills. Therefore our coaches and in particular Coaching Staff of the Year nominees, would have demonstrated patience in allowing for individual differences. They would be a role model on and off the ice while motivating and encouraging the growth of hockey's younger enthusiasts.

**Things that should be considered (but not limited to) is that the coaching staff:**

1. Represents values, goals and objectives of MPMHA,
2. Continuously shows respect for players, officials, opponents and parents,
3. Treats everyone fairly and promotes fair play,
4. Demonstrates concern for all-around development of the athlete and promotes responsible conduct even beyond the rink,
5. Presents a positive public image of coaching and the role of the coach,
6. Applies relevant training theory and coaching practices,
7. Demonstrates a proven capacity to improve the team's or athlete's performance,
8. Certified in at least one level of the National Coaching Certification Program. (includes U7IP)

Parents, players or parent representatives are asked to submit names of staff who would be deserving of this award, and provide a written explanation as to why the coaching staff is being nominated and how they worked to satisfy the above criteria.

**Albert Clarke Parent Volunteer of the Year Award:**

**(Note: Coaching staffs have their own award and cannot be considered for this award)**

This award is presented on an annual basis to a Mount Pearl Minor Hockey parent/guardian who has been a dedicated volunteer in furthering the objectives of the Mount Pearl Minor Hockey Association. They dedicate the time and energy towards making the hockey season a positive experience for everyone around them. This person will demonstrate respect and leadership of not only children but also adults of the game, be it parents, co-coaches or officials.

Coaching staff should consider the numerous volunteers involved with their teams and identify one that goes well beyond the call of duty and demonstrates the following;

1. Demonstrates exceptional "organizational" and "planning" skills.
2. Has a positive impact on their respective team.
3. Shows respect for players, coaches, officials, opponents and other parents.
4. Presents a positive public image for their respective team.
5. Plays an active role at team events and is viewed as being more than a "typical" hockey parent/guardian.

Coaching staff(s) are asked to solicit feedback from parents and submit names of volunteers who would be deserving of this award, and provide a brief written explanation as to why the person is being nominated.

#### **MPMHA Scholarship Award (U18 Players and Female U18)**

Each year the Mount Pearl Minor Hockey Association awards two scholarships of \$500.00 each to 3rd year U18 players. MPMHA encourages all high school graduating players(male and female) to apply. These scholarships are based on a point system. The recipient of these scholarships must meet the following criteria.

1. Applicants must be graduating high school students as of September of the year application is submitted.
2. Applicants must reside in an area within the boundaries of MPMHA.
3. Applicants must have registered with the MPMHA for the previous season.
4. The applicant must be in good standing with MPMHA.
5. Applicants must be enrolled in a postsecondary educational institution.

The player is asked to complete the necessary application and file with MPMHA by **May 1st** of the current year, along with an official high school transcript , an essay of approximately 500 words discussing your educational goals and any other comments which may aid the selection committee in its decision.

#### **Doug Mealy Award (Volunteer without a child in hockey)**

Doug Mealy coached in the MPMHA system for 28 years in a variety of positions, and is very well known for his work with the Novice Skating Program during that time. Doug coached at all levels, atom to midget

including female in house league and all-star programs. This is a great accomplishment considering he had no child in the system for many of these years.

As a tribute to Doug's dedication this award will be presented to a volunteer within MPMHA that does not have a child in the system.

When selecting a deserving candidate for this award please consider the characteristics that Doug brought to the rink each day:

1. Continuously shows respect for players, officials, opponents and parents.
2. Treats everyone fairly and promotes fair play.
3. Displays a positive attitude at all times.
4. Helps others when they get down or frustrated.
5. Demonstrates dedication and leadership to the game and to his team.
6. Promotes 'sportsmanlike' behavior on and off the ice.

### **The Youth Volunteer Award**

This award was introduced in 2006 and is presented to an individual youth who has excelled in volunteering with our association for the hockey season.

This award requires a nomination from a MPMHA member; the nominator will submit the nomination in a form letter outlining the individual and his/her contributions to MPMHA.

### **Keith Hendry Initiation Program U7 Coach of the Year Award**

This award was established by Mount Pearl Minor Hockey Association in conjunction with the family of Keith Hendry, April 2019.

Tragically on November 10, 2018, Keith was killed in a hunting accident in Terra Nova. Keith was a former player, dedicated hockey dad and IP coach. Keith loved the game of hockey and was so proud to finally have the opportunity to coach his son Clark. Keith was passionate and brought his fun loving personality to coaching. He was an encouraging coach who was respected by the hockey community. Keith also loved having his step son Jack on the ice with him as a junior coach. Keith was a guiding force behind Jack and Clark's love for the game.

This award is to honor a coach who has demonstrated a sound ability to develop and improve player performance throughout the year through promoting fun, fairness, participation, respect and upholding the rules, values and goals of MPMHA. This coach would be someone who is passionate about the game of hockey and player development, while always keeping fun and fairness in mind.

### **Crystal O'Keefe Memorial Award**

### **Female Provincial Team MVP:**

The Crystal O'Keefe Memorial Award is awarded to a player in each of the Girls U11, U13, U15 and U18 MPMHA provincial teams. This award is given to the player on each team who the team representatives feel has had the greatest impact on the team, both on and off the ice in a positive way. Dedication to her team, putting her teammates and coaches first, displaying a solid work ethic and playing the game with respect. Crystal possessed many of these qualities during her hockey career.

Crystal was a humble and talented individual that supported and paved the way for many young female hockey players. One of her former teammates had this to say about her. "As a new player, Crystal always made me and others feel welcomed on the ice. Regardless of the fact that she was, most times, the most talented player on the ice. She certainly had a way of making us feel included, like we deserved to be there"

To nominate a player for your team please submit your nomination in a form letter to the MPMHA Female Director or email to [administrator@mountpearlblades.com](mailto:administrator@mountpearlblades.com)