



BREAKFAST CLUBS

Morden Breakfast Club

The Morden Breakfast Club experienced a second successful year. This year's Breakfast Club was organized by myself, Brian McElroy, and Gerry Leiding was the other lead on-ice instructor. The Breakfast Club was held every Wednesday morning from the middle of December to the end of February from 7:15 to 8:15. The players wore skates, helmets, gloves and any other equipment they wished. We ran drills for the full hour and then the kids would go for breakfast and then off to school. We split the kids into two groups, the 11 year old players and older went with Gerry and the 10 and under players were in my group. We averaged 12 kids per session. The younger kids felt less intimidated being with their own age, but we did do some drills where all kids participated at once. Gerry and I used drills that included puck control, passing & receiving, and triangle attack drills from the Puck Control DVD's. The drills ended with shots on net. We also did some small area games that the kids really enjoyed.

Most kids and parents were from Morden, but some traveled from the country. I live 18 miles from Morden and on the mornings that were really cold I wondered what was I doing going to a hockey rink at that time of the morning, but I knew there would be 12 kids waiting. How rewarding is that! The parents were surprised and happy to see how easily the kids got up and ready to go to the Breakfast Club no matter what the weather.

We ran 10 Breakfast Club sessions this year and all players showed much skill improvement. Parents commented that their son or daughter played the game with more confidence.

The ice was donated by the Town of Morden and the breakfast food was supplied by Wal-Mart, Giant Tiger, and Bannister Pipeline. Thanks to Ken and Robin Freund and Miriam Sweetham who donated their time to make pancakes for breakfast.

Brian McElroy

