

2013-14 Valley Speed Skating Club Report

Submitted by: Steve Raftery, President

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The Valley Speed Skating Club achieved its goals of significant growth and development in its second season, 2013-14. Membership grew to a total of 28 (20 youths and 8 adults) from 13 (6 youths and 7 adults) in 2012-13. We continued to expose the sport to Valley residents, holding five open houses and also partnering with the Town of Wolfville to offer an eight week after school program at the Acadia Arena. The Club held its first ever officiating clinic and mini-meet, helping develop the skills and experience of our volunteers, coaches and parents.

Members also participated in programs and events at the Emera Oval. These included the Atlantic Long Track Camp, the Atlantic Long Track Championships, and the Sunday Racing Series. One member participated in the Fredericton Tail Ender Meet in March.

The funding support that the VSSC has received has been integral to its success in introducing a new sport to the Valley region. The Club now has a solid inventory of skates and other equipment to support its growth and development.

Planning has begun for the 2014-15 season. It is anticipated that we will again experience significant growth. It is also anticipated that more of our members will begin to compete in regional meets and events. We hope to offer free after school programs at the Acadia Arena and at the Credit Union Centre. We have also had discussions with Acadia University about starting a student/masters club.