

March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2019

## THE UHL is back!!!

(St. Stephen's very own Ukrainian Hockey League)



Now in its 21<sup>st</sup> season, the **UHL hockey league** is back with the season starting on Sunday April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2019. All parishioners and hockey fans are encouraged to come see over 60 players battle it out every Sunday night at 7:30 at the Westside Recreation Centre, with the ultimate goal of achieving the title of the 2019 winner of the Cossack Kup. Please follow us online for details, pictures and other shenanigans as the battle for the cup continues.

[www.uhlhockey.net](http://www.uhlhockey.net)

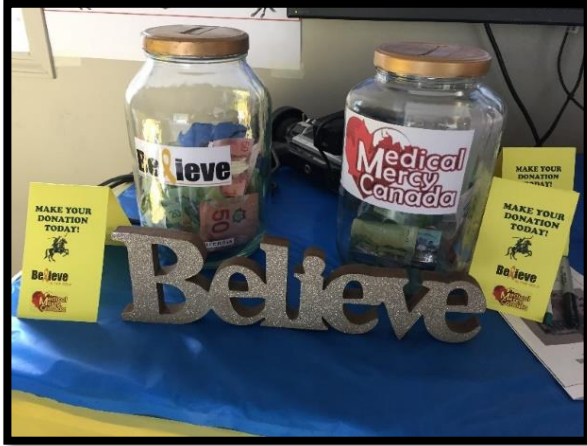
It was in 1998 a few St. Stephen Parishioners got together to play men's recreational hockey. It got to as many as 20 players within a few short years headed by Ron Josephs at the time. Then in 2003 Ron Bobyn took over and built it up to over 60 players ranging in age from 15 to 62. Ron Bobyn (the self-proclaimed "Commish") has since re-branded everything to become the **Ukrainian Hockey League... now known as "The UHL"**. ([www.uhlhockey.net](http://www.uhlhockey.net))

In 2017 the UHL expanded to 4 teams led by the Commish and four volunteer Team Captains. Things have sped up enough to make the "old guys" try to keep up to their younger teammates (their own kids!). As of today, it now has 64 players (male and female) playing Sunday nights in April, May and June. Many teams have multiple players including **7 Demchuks, 5 Ewanchynas, 7 Sakundiaks, 4 Patricians, 4 Josephs** and a dash of **Siroishkas** just to name a few!!!

These players are all playing for fun, and the thrill of playing with their son, daughter or dad has become the driving force behind the UHL. One year, the UHL had three generations of Demchuks on the ice at the same time. With players ranging in skill from novice to one currently playing in the NHL. One even played for Women's Team Canada!!! Now an Olympian Speed skater has joined the UHL to try and keep the pace.

The UHL has a "**Cossack Kup**" that was indiscreetly donated by the church many years ago (various pots and pans spot-welded together) to form its own trophy equivalent to the Stanley Cup.

During each season, the players also "Pay Per Goal scored" to donate to charities and/or people in need. To date the UHL is proud to have raised over \$15,000 from its players and has donated these funds to charity, select parishioners in need of medical assistance, and to the Hike for Life Foundation.



## UHL 2019 PLAYER DRAFT is “LIVE” MONDAY MARCH 18<sup>TH</sup>!!!



Join us in the Parish Hall (FREE ENTRY) on Monday March 18 at 6:30pm to see **who gets drafted** by which team. Also participate in our 2<sup>nd</sup> annual UHL Fantasy Draft. Follow it online, and you could win half the pot with half going to Charity. Cost to enter is \$20/entry. You pick your team (based on statistics provided), and you may win big. Last year's 3 winners split over \$600.

Snacks and refreshments will be available for a small Ukrainian cost. Come out and see this entertaining event with lots of laughs, history and fun.

**SEE YOU THERE!!!**



I want to share your **“views”** as they are important to our parish family.

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