



JT Statter of the Jackson Hole Moose peewee hockey team battles a Team Wyoming opponent for control of the puck Friday during the first period of an exhibition game at the ice arena at Snow King. Jackson won 10-8.

Peewee Power

Jackson Hole Moose hockey team for players age 11 and 12 impresses at weekend tournament at Snow King.

*Story by Brandon Zimmerman
Photographs by Bradley J. Boner*

The Jackson Hole Moose peewee hockey team has four objectives for the season: Be safe, have fun, learn hockey and realize a life lesson or two.

Coach Matt Sauter said all those goals were met last weekend when Jackson hosted six teams for a three-day tournament at the ice rink at Snow King.

The peewees, made up of 11- and 12-year-olds, opened with a 10-8 victory over Team Wyoming in an exhibition Friday.

Team Wyoming has some of the top players in the state. Four Jackson players who normally skate for Team Wyoming — Harrison Sauter, James Doyle, Tanner Colson and Ryan Welch — played for their home squad in the tournament.

The Jackson team then split into two for the rest of the tournament. The B team finished 1-3, while the A team went 4-1 Saturday and Sunday.

The B team's top performances were a tough, 4-3 loss to Idaho Falls and a come-from-behind 7-2 win over Casper after trailing 2-0 late in the second period.

The A team dominated competition through the preliminary rounds before losing a close game to Team Wyoming in the finals. Team Wyoming raced out to an early three-goal lead, which the A team could not overcome. Jackson outshot Team Wyoming in the game, 25-20.

"Every kid on both rosters grew and learned this weekend, both on and off the ice," Sauter said. "They learned how to be better hockey players and learned life lessons that will take them farther in their life as they grow. It is a wonderful thing to see as these kids move on with the second half of their hockey season."



Moose peewee teammates mob Charlie Bringham, center, after he scored in the first period. Friday's exhibition game kicked off a three-day tournament.



Moose peewee player Harrison Sauter drives the puck down the rink during the second period Friday.