

Teagan Marion: Of ice and ring

Teagan Marion will enter her fifth year of ringette this winter. At 13 years old she is already a skilled and experienced ringette player with many years ahead to develop into a world-class athlete.

“There are a lot reasons why I like ringette,” Marion explains. “The game moves really fast on the ice, and it’s a lot different from hockey. The different stick changes a lot of things.” At the time this article was written, Marion was about to enter try outs for the provincial Tween U14 ringette team. This team, made up of players under 14 years of age, is the most elite ringette played in Saskatchewan for Marion’s age group. “I have a pretty good chance of making the team,” she says.

Marion’s confidence should not be misread, as her performance on the ice speaks for itself. Last season, her team won silver at provincials, and Marion contributed to the team’s success with a total 116 points through the season – she scored 86 goals and made 30 assists. She adds that the silver at last year’s provincials – her first time at a provincial tournament – was the peak of her ringette career so far.

Through the summer, while she has been away from the ice, Marion has been training to guarantee she is in shape for try outs and for the coming season. “I started running a couple of months ago,” she says, “to make sure I’m fit and ready for this season.”

Marion is a multi-faceted player, who has contributed to the success of her teams from many different positions on the ice. “My coach knows I can play well in any position so I get to play all over,” she explains. Considering her stats from last year, it is no surprise Marion says her favourite position is forward. “I like to score goals,” she says. Her coach, Terry McAdam, is a veteran in the world of ringette and Marion is grateful for the contribution he has made to her success. “He’s a great coach, and over the years he has helped me to become a better player,” she says.

Looking into the future, she sees a lot of opportunity within her sport. With the necessary work and training, she hopes she will be able to play with the Saskatoon Wild, her hometown team, of the National Ringette League (NRL). The NRL consists of 18 teams from all across Canada, divided into two conferences – the Eastern Conference and the Western Conference.

Already, Marion has travelled for ringette tournaments. Her sport has taken her to Alberta, where she has played in Medicine Hat, Red Deer, Lethbridge and St. Albert. Of course, playing with a team like the Saskatoon Wild would offer much more opportunity to travel. Marion adds she would also love the opportunity to play ringette with Team Canada.

Reflecting on what she has gained from playing ringette, Marion says; “when you’re on a team with a group of girls, you make friendships. The next year you might not play with those same girls, but when you do play with them again your team will be stronger. It helps make team spirit.”