



ALBERTA DEVELOPMENT MODEL

2009-2010

"A Partnership in Elite Hockey Development"

February 21, 2009





ALBERTA DEVELOPMENT MODEL 2009-2010 Elite Hockey

INTRODUCTION

In 2007, at the direction of the Hockey Alberta Board of Directors a committee was formed to develop a process to enable Alberta's top hockey athletes to compete at the highest level in a fair and equitable manner.

The focus of the process deals with the elite system within Hockey Alberta and provides for the development of the elite athlete reflecting an "Alberta Made Development Model".

The idea is to provide guidance and direction so that player opportunity and movement is done in recognition of the needs of the player and the teams involved. The guiding principle that has unanimous consensus is the agreement at all times for making responsible decisions and everyone will act in the best interest of the athlete's ability to play at an elite level. It further recognizes and supports that each athlete has the right to consider all options.

The document is based on four (4) principles and uses these principles to create a system that better meet the needs of the athlete as they progress through the system of development. This document creates an improved development system providing a positive experience for all participants through improved communications and a better understanding of the principles.



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PHILOSOPHY OF LEAGUES WITHIN THE ELITE STREAM OF HOCKEY

PRINCIPLES

The four (4) agreed upon principles of the Elite Development Model are as follows

1. *a) Accept a "Made and Played in Alberta" philosophy.*
b) Hockey Alberta establishes an outlined system of development that starts at Bantam AAA and concludes at Major Junior (Bantam AAA, Midget 15's, Midget AAA, Junior A, and Major Junior). "AA" Hockey (Bantam and Midget) is recognized as part of the Elite Stream for the purposes of Affiliation.
c) All Elite Leagues and Local Minor Hockey Associations are to focus on moving players through the system to the next level.
 2. *A mechanism is developed to encourage communication between Elite Level Leagues on matters related to the Development Model.*
 3. *The Elite Development System will include criteria to determine an appropriate number of Teams within each League and the terms and conditions under which these Teams will operate. Elite Level Teams will provide elite level opportunities for the top players within their Boundaries.*
 4. *Establish an Affiliation structure that accommodates athlete development under the new development model.*
- Leagues and Teams within the development system shall be known as the "Elite Stream" of hockey.
 - Leagues, Conferences and Teams within the Elite Stream are not allowed to have Bylaws and Regulations that impact the development system. All Bylaws and Regulation changes are to be approved by Hockey Alberta Board of Directors.
 - Sanctions will be imposed for any non-compliance to the principles established within the Elite Development System and is to be enforced by Hockey Alberta.



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DEFINITIONS

The following definitions for words and phrases are to be applied solely for the purposes of the Alberta Development Model and may or may not be the same as those definitions as outlined in the Hockey Alberta and Hockey Canada Bylaws and Regulations.

1. "Alberta Development Model" or "ADM" means the document established by Hockey Alberta that was developed to provide Alberta players with a program that focuses on the development of the elite athlete
2. "Affiliation" means the process that provides the opportunity for higher Division/Category teams to dress the maximum number of players allowable for a game in accordance with the Hockey Canada Playing Rules;
3. "Affiliated Player" shall mean a Player, referred to and approved by Hockey Alberta, as eligible to play for a team in a higher Category/Division than the team in the Category/Division with whom the Player is registered;
4. "Board" means the Board of Directors of Hockey Alberta;
5. "Boundaries" shall mean that line, as mutually agreed upon and/or recognized by Hockey Alberta, that separates one LMHA from another, and defines that area from which each LMHA may register participants as Resident Players;
6. "Bylaws" mean the Bylaws of the League(s) as approved by Hockey Alberta;
7. "Category (ies)" means the sub-divisions of Divisions as follows "AAA, AA, A, B, C, D, Minor, Major";
8. "Conferences" means those sub-divisions of a League used to separate areas of a League as follows "North, South, Central, etc.";



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9. "Division" means one of the following: Junior, Midget, Bantam, Pee Wee, Atom, Novice, and Initiation;
10. "Elite Draw Zone Area" or EDZA shall mean that line, in accordance with recognized Boundaries and determined by Hockey Alberta, that separates one draw area of the Elite Stream from another, and defines the area by which Teams in the Elite Stream can access Players from. In the instance of more than one (1) team in a specific division/category within the recognized EDZA, the area that they will be able to draw players from shall be agreed to between themselves and approved by HA. In the event of the teams being unable to agree, the Hockey Alberta Board of Directors shall set the boundaries.
11. "Elite Hockey" means those Divisions and Categories considered as high performance (Major Junior, Junior A, Midget AAA, Minor Midget AAA, and Bantam AAA);
12. Geographical Sub Division – may include a city, town, municipality, rural area or zone as established from time to time by a Branch within its own jurisdiction.
13. "Import Player" shall be defined in elite hockey as a non-resident / import / resident player who resides in one Elite Draw Zone Area and registers with a team in another Elite Draw Zone Area. Note: All import players will be automatically released back to their resident LMHA's at the end of the hockey season.
14. "League" means those groups of teams (Bantam AAA, Midget AAA and Minor Midget AAA) forming province wide leagues as recognized by Hockey Alberta for the purpose of participating in the elite stream, which has adopted Bylaws and Regulations that are consistent with the Alberta Development Model and Bylaws and Regulations of Hockey Alberta and are approved by the Board of Hockey Alberta;
15. "Local Minor Hockey Association" or "LMHA" means an association, registered as a body corporate in the Province of Alberta, which has adopted bylaws and regulations that are consistent with the bylaws and regulations of Hockey Alberta, are approved by the Board of Hockey Alberta;



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16. "Non Resident Player" shall be defined in elite hockey as a Player who resides outside of the Boundaries of the host LMHA of the Elite Team but within the boundaries of the Elite Draw Zone Area that the Player is registered with in any playing season;

NOTE: All non resident / import players registering on Elite teams will be automatically released back to their resident LMHA's at the end of the hockey season.

17. "Notification of Try-Out Form" shall be defined as the designated Hockey Alberta form used by Players to try-out with teams within the Elite Stream of Hockey.
18. "Provincials" means the Hockey Alberta playoff competition;
19. "Regulations" means those regulations of League(s), approved by Hockey Alberta, used for the administration and advancement of Hockey;
20. Registry – means the electronic registration system used by Hockey Alberta to register all players and coaches
21. "Release" means the unconditional discharge of a Player from a LMHA;
22. "Resident Player" shall be defined in elite hockey as a Player who resides within the Boundaries of the host LMHA of the Elite Team that the Player is registered with in any Playing Season;
23. "Stakeholders" means those Leagues, LMHA's, Clubs, and Teams involved in the Elite Stream;



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ELITE DRAW ZONE AREAS

In order to make it fair and equitable for all teams within the Elite Stream, "Elite Draw Zone Areas" have been established. These Elite Draw Zone Areas are to be used to establish a feeder system throughout the Minor Elite Stream.

Hockey Alberta has limited the number of Leagues at each of the levels of the development system to one (1) league at each level of Minor Leagues (Bantam AAA, Midget AAA, and Minor Midget AAA) and to establish Conferences that focus on minimized travel requirements and lower costs for regular season play.

Hockey Alberta has established consistent Elite Draw Zone Areas that allow for a feeder system under Midget AAA.

- Elite Draw Zone Areas for each Division/Category within the elite structure do not overlap.
- Entire Minor Hockey Associations are within specific Draw Zones and not split.

Provincial Championship at each level of the Elite Stream are to be determined via League Play. Only Elite League teams will be eligible to play in the Championships.

The winner of the AMHL will be the sole representative to the HC Midget National Championship.

The winner of the AMBHL will be the sole representative to the HC Bantam Regional Championship.



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EXPANSION & REDUCTION OF LEAGUES

Expansion and reduction of teams in the Leagues within the Elite Stream will be based on the following criteria

a) Major Midget "AAA"

1. Hockey Alberta registration numbers are to be used, in conjunction with other factors in determining an appropriate draw ratio of available Midget aged players.
2. Teams within the existing Boundaries of Edmonton and Calgary remain the same until such time as they feel an expansion and reduction of teams is required.
3. Each Elite Draw Zone Area will include a minimum of one Midget "AAA" team, one Minor Midget AAA team and one Bantam AAA team.
4. Teams allow a minimum of nine (9) Non-Resident Players from outside the host LMHA Boundaries but within the Teams Draw Zone. The objective is to provide opportunities for the best players from within a Team's Draw Zone. This recommendation excludes Edmonton and Calgary.



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b) Minor Midget "AAA"

1. Midget 15 year old specific hockey be used at the elite level as per the development system.
2. There is a minimum of at least one Minor Midget AAA Team within an Elite Draw Zone Area.
3. Teams allow a minimum of nine (9) Non-Resident Players from outside the host LMHA Boundaries but within the Teams Draw Zone. The objective is to provide opportunities for the best players from within a Team's Draw Zone. This recommendation excludes Edmonton and Calgary.

c) Bantam AAA

1. The Alberta Major Bantam Hockey League includes the involvement of Calgary teams.
2. There is a minimum of at least one Bantam AAA Team within an Elite Draw Zone Area.
3. Teams allow a minimum of nine (9) Non-Resident Players from outside the host LMHA Boundaries but within the Teams Draw Zone. The objective is to provide opportunities for the best players from within a Team's Draw Zone. This recommendation excludes Edmonton and Calgary



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MIDGET AAA DRAW AREAS & FEEDER SYSTEM

Lethbridge Y's Men		Medicine Hat Tigers	
LMHA'S WITHIN THE ELITE DRAW ZONE AREAS		LMHA'S WITHIN THE ELITE DRAW ZONE AREAS	
Cardston Claresholm Coaldale Crowsnest Pass Fort MacLeod Kainai Lethbridge Lomond	Peigan Picture Butte Pincher Creek Stavely Taber Vauxhall Vulcan Warner	Bassano Bow Island Brooks Castor Consort Coronation Duchess	Foremost Hanna Hussar Irvine Medicine Hat Oyen Red Cliff Siksika
Lethbridge Minor Midget AAA		Medicine Hat Minor Midget AAA	
Cardston Claresholm Coaldale Crowsnest Pass Fort MacLeod Kainai Lethbridge Lomond	Peigan Picture Butte Pincher Creek Stavely Taber Vauxhall Vulcan Warner	Bassano Bow Island Brooks Castor Consort Coronation Duchess	Foremost Hanna Hussar Irvine Medicine Hat Oyen Red Cliff Siksika
Lethbridge Bantam AAA		Medicine Hat Bantam AAA	
Cardston Claresholm Coaldale Crowsnest Pass Fort MacLeod Kainai Lethbridge Lomond	Peigan Picture Butte Pincher Creek Stavely Taber Vauxhall Vulcan Warner	Bassano Bow Island Brooks Castor Consort Coronation Duchess	Foremost Hanna Hussar Irvine Medicine Hat Oyen Red Cliff Siksika



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Red Deer Rebels		UFA Bisons	
LMHA'S WITHIN THE ELITE DRAW ZONE AREAS		LMHA'S WITHIN THE ELITE DRAW ZONE AREAS	
Alix Bentley Big Valley Blackfalds Bowden Caroline Clive Delburne Eckville Innisfail	Lacombe Morrin Olds Red Deer Rimbey Rocky Mountain House Spruce View Stettler Sundre Sylvan Lake	Airdrie Banff Beiseker Blackie Canmore Carstairs Chestermere Cochrane Cremona Crossfield Della	Didsbury Drumheller High Country High River Indus Kneehill (Trochu/Threehills) Morley Okotoks Rockyford Strathmore Nanton
Red Deer Minor Midget AAA	Red Deer Minor Midget AAA	Airdrie Minor Midget AAA	Okotoks Minor Midget AAA
Alix Bentley Big Valley Blackfalds Bowden Caroline Clive Delburne Eckville Innisfail	Lacombe Morrin Olds Red Deer Rimbey Rocky Mountain House Spruce View Stettler Sundre Sylvan Lake	Airdrie Banff Beiseker Canmore Carstairs Cochrane Cremona Crossfield Didsbury Drumheller Kneehill (Trochu/Threehills) Morley	Blackie Chestermere Della High Country High River Indus Okotoks Rockyford Strathmore Nanton
Red Deer Bantam AAA	Red Deer Bantam AAA	Airdrie Bantam AAA	Okotoks Bantam AAA
Alix Bentley Big Valley Blackfalds Bowden Caroline Clive Delburne Eckville Innisfail	Lacombe Morrin Olds Red Deer Rimbey Rocky Mountain House Spruce View Stettler Sundre Sylvan Lake	Airdrie Banff Beiseker Canmore Carstairs Cochrane Cremona Crossfield Didsbury Drumheller Kneehill (Trochu/Threehills) Morley	Blackie Chestermere Della High Country High River Indus Okotoks Rockyford Strathmore Nanton



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Leduc Oil Kings		Ft. Saskatchewan Rangers	
LMHA'S WITHIN THE ELITE DRAW ZONE AREAS		LMHA'S WITHIN THE ELITE DRAW ZONE AREAS	
Bashaw	Jasper	Andrew	Morinville
Beaumont	Leduc	Athabasca	Mundare
Calmar	Millet	CNN (Bon Accord/Gibbons)	Plamond0n
Devon	Ponoka	Boyle	Red Water
Drayton Valley	Thorsby	Bruderheim	Saddle Lake
Edson	Wabamum	Buffalo Lake	Smoky Lake
Evansburg	Warburg	Fort McMurray	St Paul
Hinton	Wetaskiwin	Fort Saskatchewan	Thorhill
Hobbema	Winfield	Good Fish	Two Hills
		Josephburg	Vegreville
		La La Biche	Wabasca Desmarais
		Lamont	Westlock
		Legal	
Leduc Minor Midget AAA		Ft. McMurray Minor Midget AAA	Ft. Saskatchewan Minor Midget AAA
Bashaw	Jasper	Ft. McMurray	Andrew
Beaumont	Leduc		Morinville
Calmar	Millet		Mundare
Devon	Ponoka		Plamondon
Drayton Valley	Thorsby		Red Water
Edson	Wabamum		Saddle Lake
Evansburg	Warburg		Smoky Lake
Hinton	Wetaskiwin		Fort Saskatchewan
Hobbema	Winfield		St Paul
			Good Fish
			Thorhill
			Two Hills
			Vegreville
			Wabasca Desmarais
			Westlock
Leduc Bantam AAA		Ft. Saskatchewan Bantam AAA	
Bashaw	Jasper	Andrew	Morinville
Beaumont	Leduc	Athabasca	Mundare
Calmar	Millet	CNN (Bon Accord/Gibbons)	Plamondon
Devon	Ponoka	Boyle	Red Water
Drayton Valley	Thorsby	Bruderheim	Saddle Lake
Edson	Wabamum	Buffalo Lake	Smoky Lake
Evansburg	Warburg	Fort McMurray	St Paul
Hinton	Wetaskiwin	Fort Saskatchewan	Thorhill
Hobbema	Winfield	Good Fish	Two Hills
		Josephburg	Vegreville
		La La Biche	Wabasca Desmarais
		Lamont	Westlock
		Legal	



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Sherwood Park Kings		St. Albert Raiders	
LMHA'S WITHIN THE ELITE DRAW ZONE AREAS		LMHA'S WITHIN THE ELITE DRAW ZONE AREAS	
Camrose Daysland Holden Killam Loughheed New Sarepta Roslind	Sedgewick Sherwood Park Strathcona Thunderstars (Daysland/Forestburg) Tofield Viking	Barrhead Riviere Qui Barre St Albert	Calahoo Fox Creek Mayerthorpe Onoway Sangudo Slave Lake Spruce Grove Stony Plain Swan Hills White Court
Sherwood Park Minor Midget AAA	Camrose Minor Midget AAA	St Albert Minor Midget AAA	Spruce Grove Minor Midget AAA
Sherwood Park Strathcona	Sedgewick Thunderstars (Daysland/Forestburg) Tofield Viking Camrose Daysland Holden Killam Loughheed New Sarepta Rosalind	Barrhead Riviere Qui Barre St Albert	Calahoo Fox Creek Mayerthorpe Onoway Sangudo Slave Lake Spruce Grove Stony Plain Swan Hills White Court
Sherwood Park Bantam AAA	Camrose Bantam AAA	St Albert Bantam AAA	Spruce Grove Bantam AAA
Sherwood Park Strathcona	Sedgewick Thunderstars (Daysland/Forestburg) Tofield Viking Camrose Daysland Holden Killam Loughheed New Sarepta Rosalind	Barrhead Riviere Qui Barre St Albert	Calahoo Fox Creek Mayerthorpe Onoway Sangudo Slave Lake Spruce Grove Stony Plain Swan Hills White Court



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Lloydminster		Grande Prairie	
LMHA'S WITHIN THE ELITE DRAW ZONE AREAS		LMHA'S WITHIN THE ELITE DRAW ZONE AREAS	
Bonnyville Chauvin Cold Lake Dewberry Edgerton Elk Point Glendon Hardisty Hughenden Irma	Kitscoty Lloydminster Malaig Mannville Marwayne Paradise Valley Provost Vermillion Wainwright	Beaverlodge Clairmont Fairview Falher - East Smokey Fort Vermillion Grande Cache Grande Prairie Grimshaw Grovedale High Level High Prairie Hythe La Crete La Glace	Manning McLennan Peace River Rainbow Lake Rycroft Savanna Sexsmith Smoky River Spirit River Sturgeon Lake Valleyview Wembley
Lloydminster Minor Midget AAA		Grande Prairie Minor Midget AAA	
Bonnyville Chauvin Cold Lake Dewberry Edgerton Elk Point Glendon Hardisty Hughenden Irma	Kitscoty Lloydminster Malaig Mannville Marwayne Paradise Valley Provost Vermillion Wainwright	Beaverlodge Clairmont Fairview Falher - East Smokey Fort Vermillion Grande Cache Grande Prairie Grimshaw Grovedale High Level High Prairie Hythe La Crete La Glace	Manning McLennan Peace River Rainbow Lake Rycroft Savanna Sexsmith Smoky River Spirit River Sturgeon Lake Valleyview Wembley
Lloydminster Bantam AAA		Grande Prairie Bantam AAA	
Bonnyville Chauvin Cold Lake Dewberry Edgerton Elk Point Glendon Hardisty Hughenden Irma	Kitscoty Lloydminster Malaig Mannville Marwayne Paradise Valley Provost Vermillion Wainwright	Beaverlodge Clairmont Fairview Falher - East Smokey Fort Vermillion Grande Cache Grande Prairie Grimshaw Grovedale High Level High Prairie Hythe La Crete La Glace	Manning McLennan Peace River Rainbow Lake Rycroft Savanna Sexsmith Smoky River Spirit River Sturgeon Lake Valleyview Wembley



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Calgary		Edmonton	
4 Midget AAA	AMHL	4 Midget AAA	AMHL
Minor Midget AAA		Minor Midget AAA	
8 Minor Midget AAA	AMMHL	5 Minor Midget AAA	AMMHL
Bantam AAA		Bantam AAA	
4 Bantam AAA	AMBHL	4 Bantam AAA	AMBHL



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ELITE PLAYER MOVEMENT

Player Movement

For Players wishing to move to another Elite Draw Area other than their resident draw area but **continue residing with their parent(s)**.

- Players are expected to play for the team that draws from the Team/ Local Minor Hockey Association the player is resident in.
- This form is intended for players who wish to play for a team in an Elite Draw Zone other than the Elite Draw Zone they reside within and they will remain living with their parent(s).
- Player notifies the league representative prior to July 1 and identifies they would like a waiver to try out for the other team.
- The league shall send the player with a waiver form to the rep of the Elite Team whose draw zone the player resides in and the LOCAL MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION where they are resident. They have the waiver signed by the team and the Local Minor Hockey Association President.
- The team/ Local Minor Hockey Association may refuse to give a waiver, however they must provide written reasons why they will not provide it.
- The player should only request a waiver for extenuating circumstances (i.e. considerably closer for travel).
- If the Team/ Local Minor Hockey Association refuse permission, the player will have the right to appeal to the Player Movement Committee.
- The Player Movement Committee will render a decision.
- If anyone disagrees with the decision of the Player Movement Committee, the Hockey Alberta appeal process would be the next step.

Note: ALL PLAYERS WILL RETURN TO THEIR RESIDENT LOCAL MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION AT THE END OF THE HOCKEY SEASON

Application Forms can be found on the Hockey Alberta website
www.hockeyalberta.ca



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Player Movement (continued)

For Players wishing to move to another Elite Draw Area other than their resident draw area and will reside with **someone other than their parent(s)**.

- Players are expected to play for the team that draws from the Team/Local Minor Hockey Association the player is resident in and the first option is using a billet there.
- This form is for a player who wishes to move from his permanent residence to play for an Elite team outside his resident draw zone.
- The player completes a Player Movement Application form and has it signed by his resident Minor Hockey Association President.
- Player submits the "Player Movement Application" and supporting documents by July 1st to the Hockey Alberta office.
- Supporting documents must include the signed application and a letter from the family he will be staying with indicating their relationship and their concurrence with the request.
- Hockey Alberta Office notifies the players resident Team and Local Minor Hockey Association that the player has submitted an application to move.
- The resident Team/ Local Minor Hockey Association have Ten (10) days to respond with their comments on the application.
- The HA office insures documentation is complete and submits the request to the Player Movement Committee in July.
- The PMC reviews the application which includes the Local Minor Hockey Association and Teams comments.
- The Player Movement Committee approves or denies movement.
- Notification of decision will be sent out from the Hockey Alberta Office to the LMHA, Elite Teams involved, and the appropriate League(s).
- The Hockey Alberta appeal process would be the next step for anyone that disagrees with the Player Movement Committee decision.

Note: ALL PLAYERS WILL RETURN TO THEIR RESIDENT LOCAL MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION AT THE END OF THE HOCKEY SEASON

Application Forms can be found on the Hockey Alberta website
www.hockeyalberta.ca



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ADM Communication Model

The following communication model will be used for communications with LMHA's and elite teams as outlined by the ADM.

Communication with Local Minor Hockey Associations

- Feedback is to be gathered from the LMHA's every year.
- This feedback will be done through a on-line survey that will be used to gather feedback from the general membership in regards to how the ADM is doing with their LMHA and the draw area of which they are apart of.
- The feedback will be gathered and reviewed by the Elite Development Committee prior to the Hockey Alberta Board of Directors Meeting in April, so that adjustments could be dealt with at this meeting prior to the following season. This feedback survey will be similar to the agenda for the Elite Draw Zone team meetings

Communication with Elite Draw Areas and Elite Teams

- Each draw area will meet two (2) times per year to discuss elite hockey within their area and the ADM in general. These meetings would occur at the start of the season with the second meeting taking place so that the feedback would be gathered and reviewed by the Elite Development Committee prior to the Hockey Alberta Board of Directors Meeting in April so that adjustments could be dealt with at this meeting prior to the following season.
- In the case of Edmonton and Calgary, this would be done through their respective "AA" Councils.
- The committee would be chaired by the AMHL team director/governor and he/she would be responsible to communicate the date and time of the meeting and report any feedback that is received to the Hockey Alberta Office.
- The committee would then be made up of one representative from each of the assigned elite teams within the Midget AAA draw area at the Minor Midget AAA and Bantam AAA level.
- The agenda for these meetings would be built as templates by the Elite Development Committee so that there is consistency relative to the information that is being brought forward from the stakeholders.

In each of the cases above, information will be gathered through the two means listed above, reviewed by the Elite Development Committee, with recommendations then being sent to the Hockey Alberta Board of Directors for their April meeting.



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NOTIFICATION OF TRY-OUT PROCEDURE

Any Player may try-out for the team for which the Player is eligible of the: AMHL (Alberta "AAA" Midget Hockey League, AMBHL (Alberta Major Bantam Hockey League) or AMMHL (Alberta Minor Midget AAA Hockey League).

- a) the player has filed a completed Notification of Try-Out form;
- b) the team has been approved for membership by Hockey Alberta in the Elite Development stream.

Elite Teams must allow for a minimum number of Non-Resident Players from outside the host LMHA's boundaries but within the teams Elite Draw Zone area to have the opportunity of registering with the team.

The following Non-Resident Policy for each division is as follows:

1. AMHL teams – Teams allow a minimum of nine (9) Non-Resident Players from outside the host LMHA Boundaries but within the Teams Draw Zone. The objective is to provide opportunities for the best players from within a Team's Draw Zone. This recommendation excludes Edmonton and Calgary.
2. Minor Midget AAA teams – Teams allow a minimum of nine (9) Non-Resident Players from outside the host LMHA Boundaries but within the Teams Draw Zone. The objective is to provide opportunities for the best players from within a Team's Draw Zone. This recommendation excludes Edmonton and Calgary.
3. AMBHL teams - Teams allow a minimum of nine (9) Non-Resident Players from outside the host LMHA Boundaries but within the Teams Draw Zone. The objective is to provide opportunities for the best players from within a Team's Draw Zone. This recommendation excludes Edmonton and Calgary.



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LMHA's hosting Elite Teams must make a provision for allowing Non-Resident Players the ability to make the particular Team that they are trying out for. This does not mean that you have to have the minimum number, but that IF the designated minimum # of Players trying out for the Elite Team come from outside the boundaries of the host LMHA, then they should be given the opportunity of being registered on the Team. This is also not to say that a LMHA hosting an Elite Team cannot take more than the minimum # of Non-Resident Players, it just means that if there are going to be limits set on the Players, then they must be set at the minimum number for that Division.

The ideal situation should be that there should be no policy on which Players can be registered on the team and that the top 19 or 20 players should be selected – regardless of where they reside within the Elite Draw Zone Area for that Team.

It is incumbent upon the Host LMHA to insure they have a plan for accommodating non resident players in their Elite Draw Zone. This would include information on the following:

- Living arrangements for players that need to be billeted if they make the team.
- Schooling so the player can maintain their academics
- Tryouts scheduled on weekends to insure it is convenient for the out of town player to properly participate?

Players wishing to try-out with an Elite Team (as defined) must first complete a Notification of Try-Out Form and submit to their resident LMHA (the LMHA of which the player resides), the applicable league/conference for which the team is a member of and the Team to which the player wishes to try-out for.

Residency of the player is determined as per Hockey Canada Residency Qualifications.

A player must first try-out for the team in the Elite Draw Zone Area where the player resides (unless previous approval has been obtained via Elite Player Movement Application).

If the player does not make the team they are trying out for, they may have the option to try-out for the next closest Elite Team as defined by the Elite Draw Zone Areas. (If there is any dispute with the next closest Elite Team, the dispute shall be settled by Hockey Alberta upon application).



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1. The player must first obtain a waiver from the team of which he did not make and then return to his resident LMHA.
2. The player would then submit an additional Notification of Try-out form for the next closest Elite team. This Notification of Try-out form is required in order to try-out as a non-resident / Import player for the next team. His previous waiver(s) and Notification of Try-Out forms must accompany the request.

A player making the designated Elite Team will receive an unconditional release from the LMHA of which the player was registered in the previous season and/or their resident LMHA. The player must pay any outstanding fees or other financial obligations owing to the previous registered Team

Once an Import Player (by definition) has made the Elite Team of which he was trying out for, the Player must ensure that his Notification of Try-out Forms and all applicable Waivers are submitted together at the time of registration to Hockey Alberta.

Failure to submit the Notification of Try Out form and applicable waivers (as required for an Import Player), at the time of registration, will result in that player being not registered.

In cases where an Import Player is found to have played in a game, without first having submitted his Notification of Try Out form and applicable waiver(s) at the time of registration, the Team Officials of the Hockey Team with which the Player has played, will be subject to discipline in accordance with Hockey Alberta Regulation Section 13.0 – Discipline.

EDMONTON PROCEDURE:

If an IMPORT player wishes to Try-Out for a team in the City of Edmonton, they must first request to Try-Out within EMHA. They are then put into a draw between the four teams. Their Notification of Try-Out must indicate that they are trying out for an Edmonton Based team. They must go to the team they have been selected for in the draw as determined by Edmonton Minor Hockey. If they fail to make that team, they are put back into a draw for the other 3 teams. They then go through the process again. If they fail to make that team, they are sent back to their resident LMHA.



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The ONLY players permitted to try-out for teams within the Edmonton Draw Zone Area are those Midget Players who are trying out at Midget AAA only (no Bantams and no Midget 15 Year Old Division). No other players are permitted IN to try out in Edmonton. NO Edmonton PLAYERS are permitted to try out OUTSIDE of Edmonton's Elite Draw Zone Area. An Import player who comes in for the two try-outs at Midget AAA and does not make a team must then return home to his resident LMHA. And his try-outs for Midget AAA within the Edmonton Draw Zone Area are over.

CALGARY PROCEDURE:

Calgary does not allow any player who does not reside within the Draw Zone Area of Calgary to try-out for ANY of their Elite Teams.

Please Note: Players trying out for any of the Elite Teams, should also be cognizant of the fact that IF they don't make these Elite Teams, they should ensure that they determine which team and apprise them of their possibility of playing for the team at the next level of which they are eligible for. The worst situation for a player to be in is to Try-Out for the Elite Teams, not make one of them, and then not have an appropriate team of their skill level to try-out for within the appropriate time frame. Timely and informed decisions must always be kept in consideration.

[Click here to view the Elite Player Movement Process](#)



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TEAM REGISTRATION

All Hockey Teams must be properly and duly registered in the Registry with Hockey Alberta, prior to their first League Game or November 15, whichever occurs first. All Players participating on a Hockey Team must be duly registered in the Registry before their first league game.

Any Hockey Team whose registration is received after November 15, will not be eligible for Provincials.

MAJOR MIDGET AAA

The AMHL has declared 5 games at the beginning of the season as being Pre-Season games for the purpose of Team roster declaration.

This structure was developed to better reflect the current Hockey Alberta Regulations and to address the dates by which players are released from higher divisions. To follow is the structure by which Teams in the AMHL will register.

- The first 5 games of the AMHL scheduled season have been declared as Pre-Season games for the purposes of Team roster declaration.
- AMHL Teams will register a minimum of 15 players in the Registry by their first Pre-Season game.
- Beyond the minimum 15 players registered in the Registry, teams will have access to a floating 10 player auxiliary list during the course of the 5 scheduled Pre-Season games.
- Upon the commencement of the scheduled 6th league game all players will be registered in the Registry
- All Discipline matters will be administered by the AMHL with all notifications of suspensions during the AMHL Pre-Season to be forwarded to the Minor Council Chairman of Hockey Alberta for review.



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AFFILIATION POLICY

To allow for Affiliation within the Elite Draw Zone Area for the teams currently playing in the Alberta Midget Hockey League (AMHL), the Alberta Major Bantam Hockey League (AMBHL) and the Minor Midget AAA League (REM, RAMHL and SAML Conferences)

The Affiliation Policy is used to accommodate athlete development under the Alberta Development Model

The Teams within the Elite Stream of Hockey are eligible to Affiliate players from within their entire Elite Draw Zone Area for Midget AAA, Midget Minor AAA and Bantam AAA.

PROCEDURE AND CRITERIA TO HAVE AFFILIATION APPROVED BY HOCKEY ALBERTA

STEP ONE

All players to be used and registered for affiliation within either the AMHL Midget Minor AAA Provincial League (REM, RAMHL and SAML) or the AMBHL must meet and qualify in accordance with Hockey Canada Regulation ***(E) Teams, Clubs and Affiliations:***

The following wording of HC regulation E will be changed when HC rewords their regulation to accommodate the HC registry

13.
 - a) *A minor hockey team may affiliate nineteen (19) players from within the teams designated geographic subdivision, as defined and approved by the team's Branch.*
 - b) *A geographic subdivision may include a city, town, municipality, rural area or zone as established from time to time by a Branch within its own jurisdiction.*
 - c) *A player is only permitted to participate as an affiliated player with one Minor hockey team of a higher division or category during a playing season. Prior to participation as an affiliate player, the player's name must appear on the team's affiliation list filed with that Branch Executive Director.*



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14. *A Specially Affiliated Player shall not be permitted to play for the selecting team until his Hockey Canada card has been endorsed by the Branch Executive Director as being a specially affiliated player. Such endorsement may not be given by the Branch Executive Director before the written consent form from both teams involved in the affiliation is filed with that Branch Executive Director.*
15. *Once a player's Hockey Canada Card has been endorsed by the Branch Executive Director as being a specially affiliated player, his name becomes part of the selecting team's list of specially affiliated players and may not be dropped from such list during the current season and replaced, unless the team with which he signed his Hockey Canada Registration Certificate releases on or before January 10.*
16. *No player is permitted to be part of more than one (1) specially affiliated players list at any time during the current season.*
19. *An affiliated player must have the approval of his/her carded team.*

Affiliation needs to be filed with the zone register of which the Elite Team is registered in.

STEP TWO

All Players being used and registered for Affiliation with either the AMHL, Midget Minor AAA Provincial League (REM, RAMHL or SAML) or the AMBHL must abide by Hockey Alberta Regulation **3.0 (Player Registration)** in its entirety.

NOTE: All Affiliated players must reside in the Elite Draw Zone Area of the team they will be Affiliated with, in either the AMHL, Midget Minor AAA Provincial League (REM, RAMHL or SAML) or the AMBHL

All teams must adhere to Hockey Alberta Regulation **8.0 (Affiliation)**

- (8.1) *Affiliation must be declared and filed with the General Manager or his designate(s), prior to the affiliated Player being allowed to participate in any games within the Hockey Team to which he is affiliated. Affiliations will be accepted and endorsed by the General Manager or his designate(s) up to and including December 15th of the current Hockey Season.*



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(8.2) *Affiliation will only be recognized where:*

- a) Players are added to Teams in the Registry and identified as "Affiliates".
- b) the General Manager or his designate(s) acknowledge receipt and identify said players as approved prior to an affiliate Player participating, in any game, with the Hockey Team to which he is affiliated.
- c) the affiliation has been endorsed by the President of the applicable LMHA.

Note: *All affiliations shall terminate at the end of the current playing season.*

For clarification purposes, the intent of this policy is to allow Players to Affiliate to Teams in either the AMHL, AMBHL or Minor Midget AAA (REM, RAMHL or SAML Conferences) from any LMHA in the Elite Draw Zone Area regardless of the LMHA Categorization. The reason is to provide for the development of Players in the Elite Stream of hockey within their Elite Draw Zone Area as per the Alberta Development Model.



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ELITE STREAM COMMITTEE

The purpose of the Elite Development Committee will be to encourage communication and development between the Elite Level Leagues and communicate those concerns and ideas to the Hockey Alberta Board of Directors.

It shall be the responsibility of the Elite Development Committee to monitor, formulate and recommend changes and improvements in the Elite Stream of Hockey to the Board of Directors.

The Elite Development Committee will report directly to the Board of Director. Upon the Board of Directors making a decision regarding the recommendations, the Elite Development Committee shall have the responsibility to supervise and carry out the decisions.

The Elite Development Committee shall consist of two (2) representatives from each of the Elite Level Leagues involved. Each Elite Level League will submit a list of 5 names of proposed representatives, with the decision on who sits on this committee residing with the President of Hockey Alberta. To ensure consistency, appointments will be based on a two (2) year team. In year one: one (1) member to be appointed for a one (1) year with the other, being appointed for two (2) years. Each league will submit a list of 5 names to be selected from. The President of Hockey Alberta will approve the selections. The Hockey Alberta Board of Directors will appoint the chair of the committee, including one (1) member from the Board of Directors as well as one (1) representative from Minor Council. There will also be one representative (ex-officio members) from each of the Junior Leagues (AJHL and WHL).

The Elite Development committee will meet a minimum of 3 times per year. Meetings to be held at the start of the season, middle of the season and again at the conclusion of the season (August, November & May are potential dates). Leagues to be responsible for cost associated for their representative's travel and accommodations.

Within each of the Elite Draw Zone Areas, representatives from each of the Elite Teams within the Elite Draw zone Area will meet a minimum of 2 times per year in order to ensure that the development of the players within their Elite Draw Zone Area is being handled in the most efficient and productive manner. Each of these teams will make recommendations and suggestions to the Elite Development Committee in areas of Draw Zone Areas, formation of teams, locations of teams



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and development opportunities within their Elite Draw Zone Area. The meetings will be chaired by the Major Midget AAA team Director/Governor who will be responsible to communicate the date and time of the meetings and report any feedback to the Hockey Alberta Office.

The Terms of Reference of the Elite Development Committee are:

- Make recommendations to the Board of Directors to encourage development opportunities to the Elite Level Players, Teams and Leagues related to the Elite Stream of Hockey.
- Review and recommend changes (if necessary) on the Draw Zones of Teams within the Elite Draw Zone Areas from recommendations and statistics from the Elite Draw Zone Teams.
- Establish a communications protocol and conflict resolutions procedure to ensure good governance amongst the leagues involved.
- Make recommendations to the Board of Directors in areas of expanding and/or reducing of Elite Draw Zone Areas to ensuring that they fit within the established criteria.
- Make recommendations to the Board of Directors in areas of reduction and additions of Elite Teams within the Elite Draw Zone Areas with input from the Elite Draw Zone teams ensuring that they fit within the established criteria.
- Make recommendations to the Board of Directors to deal with areas of player movement from the different levels of the Elite Stream throughout the hockey season.
- Make recommendations to the Board of Directors to encourage development opportunities to the Elite Level Players, Teams and Leagues related to the Elite Stream of Hockey.
- Develop a mechanism to encourage communication between Elite Level Leagues on matters related to the Development Model.