



Provincial Categorization by Division Pilot





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This pilot has been developed from the Provincial Categorization by Division Model that was approved by Hockey Alberta's Minor Council and Board of Directors in the Fall of 2008. *Note: Calgary and Edmonton Minor Hockey Associations are exempt from this process. Their participation in Hockey Alberta Provincials will be determined appropriately in conjunction with Hockey Alberta Minor Council.

PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIP PHILOSOPHY

The philosophy of Minor Hockey Provincials in Alberta is that it is a competition for associations with like sized Divisions competing their programs against one another.

A. PROVINCIAL CATEGORIZATION

1.0 Provincial Categorization is based on the number of Players registered in each LMHA, in each Division, based on actual registration (excluding; Players registered on Elite Hockey teams, and adjustments for Player Movement) in the current Hockey Season.

Clarification: Those associations with Elite Stream teams will not have those numbers count towards their Provincial Categorization as outlined in Pilot A 2.0 below.

2.0 Categorization for Provincials will be as follows:

Category Number of Registered Players in an Association's Division

| | |
|----------|--------------|
| AA Major | 115 and up |
| AA Minor | 58-114 |
| A | 41-57 |
| B | 24-40 |
| C | 17-23 |
| D | 16 and below |

Clarification: The Categorization for Provincials for an LMHA's Division will be determined on January 10th of the current Hockey Season.



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3.0 Each Division within an LMHA will have the top Team placed in the appropriate Category according to the current Hockey Season's registration numbers. The remaining Teams within the Division will be automatically placed in the next lowest Category. There will be no movement down in Category for any reason.

i.e. An association's Midget Division has a registration of 36 with a total of 2 teams. The top team will be provincially categorized 'B' and the second team will automatically be provincially categorized 'C'. Further, the same association's Atom Division has a registration of 65 with a total of 4 teams. The top team will be provincially categorized 'AA Minor', second team automatically provincially categorized 'A', third team automatically provincially categorized 'B', and the fourth team automatically provincially categorized 'C'. These teams may only move up.

4.0 The following minimum team registration breakdown will be in effect for Associations with Divisions of 'AA Major' Categorization for Provincials.

Number of registered Players:

| | |
|----------|----------------------------|
| AA Major | 289 and up (3 Equal Teams) |
| AA Major | 202 – 288 (2 Equal Teams) |
| AA Major | 115 – 201 (1 Team) |

Clarification: The determination of an Association's size for their Team Registration minimum breakdown will be done at the time of the creation of their teams through the "Pre-Registration Process" as outlined in the HCR. Should their number of registered players increase after the creation of their teams, requiring the creation of another "equal" team the subsequent team(s) in that Division will be moved up in Category and each team below them will follow suit. The evaluation of the association's participation in Provincials shall be determined by Hockey Alberta Regulation 10.1.3.



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B. PLAYER MOVEMENT

The current principles of Player Movement are to remain the same therefore the process for Player Movement will be based on an Associations size as per Hockey Alberta Regulation 9.6.

- 1.0 LMHA Categorization for the sole purposes of Player Movement shall be as follows:

Category Number of Registered Players in Association

| | |
|-----|--------------|
| AAA | 451 and up |
| AA | 201-450 |
| A | 136-200 |
| B | 101-135 |
| C | 66-100 |
| D | 65 and below |

- 2.0 Categorization for the sole purpose of Player Movement is based on the number of Players registered in each LMHA based on actual registration (excluding adjustments for Player Movement) in the previous Hockey Season.

Clarification: As the majority of Player Movement occurs prior to the actual registration of any participants as outlined in Hockey Alberta Regulation 4.3 there needed to be a pre-determined reference point for the principles of Player Movement to remain. Therefore the previous season's numbers must be used.

- 3.0 Minor female Players registered on minor male Teams will be included in the numbers used to determine registered Players in an LMHA. Female Player numbers registered on female Teams will not be used in the registered Player numbers used to determine male categorization for the purposes of Player Movement.



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- 4.0 Novice and Initiation Program registered Players will not be used in the registered player numbers used to determine categorization for Player Movement.
- 5.0 Junior C registered Players will not be used in the registered Player numbers used to determine categorization for Player Movement.
- 6.0 A Player may not register in another Local Minor Hockey Association that is of the same Category for Player Movement as or a lower Category for Player Movement than the Local Minor Hockey Association in which the Player resides.
- 7.0 PERMISSION TO TRY OUT

A Permission to Try Out form may be refused in situations where:

- i. The Player requesting the release intends on registering with a new LMHA that is at the same or lower Category for Player Movement as his resident Local Minor Hockey Association or, if applicable, the LMHA with which he was registered in the previous Hockey Season.

Clarification: The categorization for Player Movement is not to be confused with the categorization for Provincials.

B. PLAYER MOVEMENT continued: (Application of Player Movement)

To be as reflective as possible of an Association's Division's current seasons status the application of Player Movement reflects the numbers used in Provincial Categorization.



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8.0 APPLICATION OF PLAYER MOVEMENT

Subject to the exceptions contained in Paragraph 7.6:

- i) Each Player who leaves his resident LMHA shall take the median Provincial Categorization number, from the LMHA within whose Boundaries he/she resides, of the Division for which the Player is eligible. (See Pilot A 2.0)
- ii) Each Player who leaves his resident LMHA to play in another LMHA will automatically add the median Provincial Categorization number, from the LMHA within whose Boundaries he/she resides, of the Division for which the Player is eligible to the new LMHA's Division registration numbers effective immediately.
- iii) In addition, each Player who leaves his resident LMHA to play in another LMHA, shall also add the median Provincial Categorization number of the Division for which the Player is eligible, of all LMHA's by-passed, but only those registration numbers of such LMHA's by-passed in the direction of travel from the Players resident LMHA to the new LMHA.
- i.e. If the Player leaves LMHA "X" (B Categorization for Player Movement) to play in LMHA "Y" (AA Categorization for Player Movement) the following will occur. Given that LMHA "X" has a Categorization for Player Movement of "B" 32 will be added to the Division in which the Player is registering in LMHA "Y". This movement will only effect the Division in which the movement occurred.

Clarification*: The following are the predetermined median numbers of each category that a player would carry as previously mentioned. (Pilot B 8.0)

***Median Numbers of Provincial Categorization**

- AA - 86
- A - 49
- B - 32
- C - 20
- D - 12



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Clarification: The median of D was determined as 12 as the bottom of the D Category for Provincial Categorization is technically 0; however in order to have a Team the registered number required is 8 therefore the median was taken between 8 and 16.

Clarification: There is the potential within the mechanics of this pilot that a player may move from an Association with a Categorization for Player Movement that is higher than the Categorization for Provincials to where the player is going.

9.0 In addition to Pilot B 8.0, each Team within the Division will assume the registration number of any Non-Resident Player taken on that particular Team. This may result in that Team being moved up in category. Top Teams add non-resident numbers to that particular Division's total registration number. Any subsequent Teams will add non-resident numbers to the lowest limit of the Category that Team is in.

i.e. An Association's Pee Wee Division has 45 registrants for a total of three (3) Teams. The top and second teams have Non-Resident Players. Each Non-Resident Player, coming from Associations with "B" Categorization for Player Movement, brings a number of 32 to the Teams. The top Team will add 32 to 45 for a total of 77, which reclassifies them to "AA Minor". The second Team now reclassified "A" adds 32 to the lowest limits of "A" (41) for a total of 73 which reclassifies them to "AA Minor" as well. The third team is automatically reclassified "A".