



INFORMATION BULLETIN

DATE: June 28, 2013

TO: Alberta Midget Hockey League Teams; Alberta Junior Hockey League Teams;
Bob Olynyk – AMHL; Ryan Bartoszyk – AJHL; Richard Doerksen, WHL

FROM: Rob Litwinski
Executive Director

SUBJECT: **Clarification - Player Recruitment to the WHL**

As identified in the Alberta Development Model, Hockey Alberta has defined higher divisions and categories of play. The Alberta Development Model was created in order for there to be ongoing communication with Elite leagues in Alberta as defined by the model.

One aspect that Hockey Alberta would like to remind all teams and players about is with respect to recruitment. The system is designed to foster a player's advancement through the Elite stream and to ensure their ability to play at the highest level possible. Hockey Alberta strongly encourages all players to consider, and make informed decisions, on their program choices. Hockey Alberta, through the Alberta Development Model, has identified a Notification of Try-Out Procedure which teams and players must follow.

Specific to players recruited to Western Hockey League Clubs, we remind teams of the following: Prior to the season, for players recruited to attend Western Hockey League Team Camps, players may not be refused the opportunity to attend a try-out camp or training camp of a WHL team. During the season, a WHL Club must first contact the player's Manager or Coach prior to communicating directly with his parents regarding a Three Game Try-Out for a player, or calling up a player as a Specially Affiliated Player (SAP). Specially Affiliated Players will be permitted to play a maximum of 10 games (maximum of 5 games for 15 year olds) with the WHL Club, not including games played during National Junior, Under 17 and Canada Winter Games events, until the conclusion of the players current season.

Any club within Hockey Alberta that does not comply with the allowance for players to try out for a WHL team will be subject to sanction; if the incident is reported to the Hockey Alberta office and, through investigation, it is proven that a team did not comply with protocol stated above. Sanctions may include, but not be limited to, a financial penalty or other sanctions as determined by Hockey Alberta.

The recruitment protocol to WHL teams is an agreed to protocol as part of the Western Branches – Western Hockey League Agreement. Should you have any further questions please feel free to contact Kevin Macrae, Manager – Member Services at the Hockey Alberta office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rob Litwinski".

RL