



INFORMATION BULLETIN

Bulletin No: 15/23

Date: October 20, 2015

To: Minor Hockey Associations
Female Hockey Leagues

From: Trish Minor
Chair, Elite Female Implementation Committee

SUBJECT: Female Hockey Review Committee - Update

In April, it was reported to member Minor Hockey Associations (MHAs) and Female Hockey Leagues that Hockey Alberta's Female Hockey Review identified the need to move forward with implementation committees that would begin a process of working out the details of the approved recommendations. As both the Grassroots and Elite Implementation Committees are gathering feedback and discussing options for a new Female Hockey Model, I wanted to take some time to update you on the status of the Elite Implementation Committee.

Using the recommendations from the Female Review Committee, which were approved by the Hockey Alberta Board of Directors, the Elite Implementation committee identified the following principles as the foundation for the new Elite Female Hockey model in Alberta.

- Provide a standardized, province-wide system of hockey and the opportunity for female players to develop and progress from Grassroots hockey through to Elite hockey and up into Team Alberta's High Performance programs.
- Establish criteria to determine the appropriate number of Teams within each Category and define the terms and conditions under which these teams will operate. This criteria establishes an environment to provide players with the ability to access the level of hockey at which they are capable of playing, ranging from grassroots programs up to elite level opportunities for the top "Elite" level players.
- Foster development through the Female Hockey Model. Provide an opportunity for players to access Grassroots teams within close proximity to their home town. Provide an opportunity for players to access the AA Developmental program regionally within a reasonable distance of travel. Provide an opportunity for players to access the AAA Elite program within the Province with no defined boundaries.

The next step is to identify where teams will be located to provide an opportunity for all players to access the proper level of hockey for their skill level. To allow all MHAs to demonstrate their interest in being involved in the new Female Hockey Model, the Elite Implementation Committee is asking for MHAs that are interested in hosting Female AAA and/or AA teams to submit a letter of interest to Hockey Alberta.



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We are currently reviewing registration statistics and relating them to the geographic areas within Alberta and we would like to be able to cross reference this information with a list of MHAs that are interested and able to operate Female Hockey at these levels. Criteria being considered for an MHA to be eligible to host a regional program include:

- Minimum 3 hours of practice ice time a week
- Fitness program created by a professional or in partnership with a fitness facility
- Properly certified coaches in place, including a goalie coach
- Partnership with local high school(s)
- Player billet program in place
- Athletic therapist required
- A permanent facility for the program

If your MHA wishes to be involved in hosting AAA or AA Teams within the new Female Hockey Model, please submit a letter of interest to info@hockeyalberta.ca, outlining the level(s) in which you wish to be involved and providing a brief summary of how you would support and promote player development within this model.

Please submit this letter of interest no later than Friday, October 30.

The Elite Implementation Committee will follow up with the interested parties and provide a detailed package outlining the formal process and guidelines that will be required for an MHA to apply to Host. A formal deadline for applications will be set and final decisions on the location of the teams will be made before the end of January.

For any further information or questions please contact either of the following Hockey Alberta officials:

Kevin Macrae (kmacrae@hockeyalberta.ca)

Mike Kraichy (mkraichy@hockeyalberta.ca).

Thanks,

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