



MEMORANDUM 03

2022-23

November 16, 2022

To: Hockey Alberta MHAs
From: Kendall Newell, Manager Female Hockey
SUBJECT: AFHL U15AA and U13AA Franchise Application

As a result of the Female Hockey Review that was completed in 2015, Hockey Alberta developed a new Female Hockey Model. The Franchise Model provides a more professional program for Elite Female Hockey and allows Minor Hockey Associations (MHAs) to build a comprehensive player development structure that starts with Grassroots programming in local communities and aligns the entire Female Hockey model to create support through the U15 and U18 AA programs, the U18 AAA program and finally into the Team Alberta program.

Over the past year, the Alberta Female Hockey League has been reviewing the structure of Elite Female hockey in Alberta, to ensure alignment and progression within the entire hockey system. As a result, the following will occur starting in the 2023-24 season:

1. Addition of a U13 AA division, to provide a competitive all-female option and development pathway for female athletes through the Elite system.
2. Expansion of the number of teams within the U15 AA division, due to increased numbers of female players graduating through the system.

To facilitate the addition of the U13 AA division and the expansion of the U15AA division, AFHL franchise applications are now being accepted from member MHAs to begin operations for the 2023-24 season. Links to the application forms and the Application Guidelines document can be accessed below, or can be found on the Hockey Alberta website's [Elite Female Hockey](#) page.

[APPLICATION FORM – EXISTING AFHL FRANCHISE >](#)

[APPLICATION FORM – NEW FRANCHISE >](#)

[APPLICATION GUIDELINES >](#)

The new franchise application process is open to all MHAs interested in joining the AFHL and hosting the above-mentioned divisions of teams as part of their franchise. Please ensure you submit the correct form based on your status in the AFHL. The Applications Guidelines document includes important suggestions for MHAs looking to join the AFHL for the first time.

The application deadline is December 15.

Completed applications can be submitted online with any additional supporting documentation sent to:

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