



# MEMORANDUM 16

## 2020-21

July 5, 2021

To: MHAs, Volunteers, Leagues  
From: Bryden Burrell, Coordinator, Hockey Programs  
Email: [bburrell@hockeyalberta.ca](mailto:bburrell@hockeyalberta.ca)  
**SUBJECT: Update - Minor League Structure Review**

In March, as part of the Alberta One initiative, Hockey Alberta announced a review of the Minor League Structure for Tiered Minor Hockey and Minor Female Hockey to provide alignment and consistency across the province. Since then, work has been ongoing and this memorandum is intended to provide an update on the work and actions undertaken to date.

### **Affiliation Amendment Proposal**

Feedback was requested from the membership in May regarding changes being proposed to the Hockey Alberta Minor Affiliation Regulations that would align Affiliation rules across the province for all types of game play (League, Playoffs, Exhibition, Tournament and Provincial Championships).

Based on the feedback received, the proposed Affiliation Amendment will be implemented for the 2021-2022 season, with a few minor changes. This amendment affects the Minor Regulations and tiered Minor Hockey Leagues only. The new Minor Affiliation Regulations have been enclosed with this memorandum.

### **MHA Communication Season Pathway**

The streamlining of communication channels between Hockey Alberta, MHAs and Leagues is another key element of the review. With the collaboration of the Leagues, Hockey Alberta has developed the enclosed MHA Communication Season Pathway which highlights deadlines and key contacts for items such as Player and Team Registration and Discipline and Sanctioning for the streamlined Alberta One regulations, policies and procedures as well as those of the Regional Minor Leagues.

This document will be hosted on the Hockey Alberta website and updated on an annual basis. It is intended to be a training tool for MHAs that can be provided to new and existing executive members.

### **Alberta One Regulations, Policies & Procedures**

Hockey Alberta's Minor Leagues and Minor Female Committees continue to make important strides towards the adoption of the Alberta One Regulations, Policies and Procedures. These documents will govern the day-to-day operations of the Tiered Minor Leagues and Minor Female Leagues.

The Tiered Minor Leagues and Minor Female Leagues will adopt a majority of the Alberta One Regulations, Policies and Procedures for the 2021-2022 season, with full implementation taking place for the 2022-2023 season.

### **Registered Societies**

Amongst the current tiered Minor Hockey Leagues and Minor Female Leagues, it was determined through review that not all leagues were registered societies with the Government of Alberta. Those Leagues, which include the APHL, NEAHL, RMFHL and ECAFHL, have all started the process to become registered societies. These Leagues will complete the process and be registered societies prior to the start of the 2022-2023 season.

Hockey Alberta remains committed to soliciting feedback and providing regular updates to the membership as the Minor League Structure Review continues. If you have any questions regarding the Minor League Structure Review, please contact the Hockey Alberta Office.

# AFFILIATION REGULATION AMENDMENT

## 7. Affiliation – Minor Hockey

The Alberta Development Model determines Affiliation regulations for players involved in participation of Teams within the Elite Hockey stream.

The “AA” Hockey Model determines Affiliation Regulations for Teams involved in participation within the “AA” Hockey stream.

The purpose of affiliation is to provide:

(a) An opportunity for higher Division or Category Teams to replace when regular registered players are sick, injured or otherwise unavailable.

7.1 Affiliation must be first declared and filed with the CEO, or designate, prior to the affiliated player being allowed to participate in any game with the Hockey Team to which he or she is affiliated. Affiliations will be accepted and endorsed by the CEO, or designate, up to and including **January 15** of the current hockey season.

7.2 Affiliation must be secondly declared and filed with the members respective Minor Hockey League, prior to the affiliated players being allowed to participate in any League game with the Hockey Team to which they are affiliated. Affiliations will be accepted and endorsed by the Minor Hockey League up to and including January 15 of the current hockey season.

7.3 Affiliation and the use of Affiliates up to and including December 1<sup>st</sup>, will only be recognized where:

(a) Players are added to the Official Team Roster in the Registry and identified as ‘Affiliates’ with “pending’ status.

(b) Affiliation has been approved by the Minor Hockey League for use in any League game.

(c) Affiliation has been endorsed by the President of the applicable LMHA.

7.4 Affiliation and the use of Affiliates after December 1<sup>st</sup>, will only be recognized where:

(a) Affiliation has been filed in accordance with the following tiering grid as hereby defined vertically and laterally:

# AFFILIATION REGULATION AMENDMENT

<b>U18</b>	<b>U15</b>		
Tier 1	AA	<b>U13</b>	
Tier 2	Tier 1	AA	<b>U11</b>
Tier 3		Tier 1	Tier 1
Tier 4			
Tier 5	Tier 3		
Tier 6	Tier 4	Tier 2	Tier 2
	Tier 5	Tier 3	Tier 3
	Tier 6	Tier 4	Tier 4
		Tier 5	Tier 5
		Tier 6	Tier 6

Example: Team "A" plays in the U18 Tier 3 category of their league. Team "A" would be eligible to affiliate players from within their MHA playing on teams competing at U18 Tier 4, 5 or 6; as well as teams playing U15 Tier 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6.

- (b) Players are added to the Official Team Roster in the Registry and identified as 'Affiliates', and approved by the CEO, or designate and approved by the Minor Hockey League.
- (c) Affiliation has been endorsed by the President of the applicable LMHA.

7.5 Any Player participating in any game as an affiliated player after December 1<sup>st</sup> without the approval of the CEO, or designate and approval of the Minor Hockey League, shall be considered an Ineligible Player and teams officials are subject to discipline.

7.6 A Hockey Team may affiliate up to nineteen (19) Affiliated Players from a lower Division, Category or Tier within their MHA as hereby defined vertically and laterally.

7.7 (a) Teams are permitted to use affiliation for any League, Playoff or Provincial Championship game to return the team to their original roster size.

Example: A team has 14 skaters and two (2) goaltenders registered to their Official Team Roster for a maximum of 16 players. Should two (2) skaters be unavailable due to sickness or injury, the team would be permitted to use two (2) affiliates to bring their roster size back up to the original 14 skaters and two (2) goaltenders.

(b) Teams are permitted to use affiliation for any Exhibition or Tournament game to bring their team up to the maximum permitted roster size of seventeen (17) skaters and two goaltenders.

## AFFILIATION REGULATION AMENDMENT

- 7.8 (a) Affiliated players will NOT be permitted to replace suspended players.

Exception

- (b) In the event a team's roster falls below ten (10) registered skaters (excluding goaltenders) due to suspensions, that team will be permitted the ability to use affiliation to return their roster size to a maximum of ten (10) skaters plus goaltenders.
- 7.9 Affiliations will not be deemed to have taken place automatically without properly filing of the said affiliation.
- 7.10 Affiliations will not be approved in the Registry by the CEO, or designate, until first approved by the Minor Hockey League.
- 7.11 Minor Hockey Leagues and the CEO, or designate reserve the right to revoke the approval of an affiliate player up and to January 15th should that player be deemed to strengthen the team in which he or she is affiliated.
- 7.12 Providing Affiliation has been declared, filed and approved with the Minor Hockey League and the CEO, or designate, Affiliates are eligible to participate in all Exhibition, Tournament, League, Playoff and Provincial Championship games.
- (a) Players registered within the U7 Division are not eligible to participate as an Affiliate in Provincial games.
- 7.13 In circumstances when a MHA does not have a registered team at the next lower Division, as per the tiering grid, upon consideration of application by the MHA to the Hockey Alberta appointed Minor Leagues Coordinator and Minor Administration Coordinator, in consultation with the League, the team may be permitted to affiliate player(s) from a lower Division in the next closest MHA providing that the identified MHA does not have a registered team in the same Division.
- 7.14 Upon consideration of application to the appropriate Minor League President, in consultation with the Hockey Alberta appointed Minor Leagues Coordinator, participants registered with a "AA" Hockey Model or Elite Hockey Stream (ADM) Team may be permitted to be affiliated to a team within their resident LMHA, participating in Tiers One (1). Applications can only be submitted subsequent to November 1 of the current hockey season.
- 7.15 Participants will only be permitted to affiliate to one (1) team. Once the affiliation has been filed, it is final and will not be reversed during the current Hockey season.
- Note: All affiliations shall terminate at the end of the current playing season.
- 7.16 Female players playing on Minor Male hockey teams may be permitted to affiliate to Female Teams, upon consideration of application to the Minor Administration Coordinator, in consultation with the Minor Female Regulation Coordinator

## **AFFILIATION REGULATION AMENDMENT**

- 7.17 Providing affiliation has been properly filed, an affiliated Player may play with the Hockey Team to which the Player is affiliated up to a maximum of ten (10) games, excluding exhibition and tournament games. Should an affiliated Hockey Player play more than ten (10) games with the Hockey Team to which the player is affiliated, he shall be considered an "Ineligible Player" for the affiliated team. However, if the player's registered team completes its regular season and playoffs before the player's affiliated team, the player may thereafter affiliate an unlimited number of times.

### Exception

- (a) Any player registered in the U9 division, affiliated to the U11 division, must have completed their hockey season in full (including exhibition games and festivals) to affiliate beyond a 10<sup>th</sup> game.
- 7.18 Appearance of an Affiliate Player's name on the official game report shall be considered participation in the game except in the case of an alternate goalkeeper, in which case actual participation only shall be considered as taking part in the game and such participation shall be specially noted on the official game report. All Affiliated Players being used in a game must be marked "AP" on the game record.

# MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION / MINOR LEAGUES

## COMMUNICATION SEASON PATHWAY



### IMPORTANT CONTACTS

#### HOCKEY ALBERTA

[MINOR ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE](#)  
[MINOR DISCIPLINE & SANCTIONING COMMITTEE](#)  
[MINOR FEMALE COMMITTEE](#)

[MINOR LEAGUES COMMITTEE](#)  
[HOCKEY ALBERTA REGIONAL CENTRES](#)  
[HOCKEY ALBERTA OFFICE](#)

#### MINOR LEAGUES

[ALL PEACE HOCKEY LEAGUE](#)  
[CENTRAL ALBERTA HOCKEY LEAGUE](#)  
[EDMONTON FEDERATION HOCKEY LEAGUE](#)  
[HOCKEY CALGARY](#)  
[NORTHERN ALBERTA INTERLOCK](#)  
[NORTH EASTERN ALBERTA HOCKEY LEAGUE](#)

#### MINOR FEMALE LEAGUES

[ALL PEACE HOCKEY LEAGUE](#)  
[EAST CENTRAL ALBERTA FEMALE HOCKEY LEAGUE](#)  
[EDMONTON FEDERATION HOCKEY LEAGUE](#)  
[HOCKEY CALGARY](#)  
[ROCKY MOUNTAIN FEMALE HOCKEY LEAGUE](#)

### RESOURCES

[HOCKEY ALBERTA FORMS](#)  
[ALBERTA ONE](#)  
[INTRO TO HOCKEY MODEL](#)  
[U11 PLAYER PATHWAY](#)  
[COACH CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS](#)

[COACH CLINICS](#)  
[RESPECT IN SPORT](#)  
[OFFICIAL CLINICS](#)  
[COACH/MANAGER DISCIPLINE HANDBOOK](#)  
[INSURANCE & INJURY REPORTS](#)

### SEASON PATHWAY

#### PLAYER & TEAM REGISTRATION / REGULATIONS

	Description	Contact(s)	Important Dates
<b>Hockey Canada Registry (HCR)</b>	Questions related to online registration system used by Hockey Alberta.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regional Minor Administration Coordinator</li> <li>Hockey Alberta Office</li> </ul>	N/A
<b>Parent Declarations &amp; New Player Registration Requirements</b>	Questions related to the Hockey Alberta Parent Declaration & the proof of residency requirements for new registrants.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regional Minor Administration Coordinator</li> </ul>	N/A
<b>Minor Player Movement</b>	Questions related to the Minor Player Movement Form & Process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minor (Regional Minor Leagues Coordinator)</li> <li>Female (Regional Minor Female Coordinator)</li> </ul>	<b>Deadline:</b> January 10 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Team Orders</b>	Orders for the number of teams an MHA is looking to register for the season.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regional Minor Administration Coordinator</li> </ul>	<b>Deadline:</b> October 15 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Overage Player Applications</b>	Questions related to Hockey Alberta Overage Player Application, Process & Use of an Overage player.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minor (Regional Minor Leagues Coordinator)</li> <li>Female (Regional Minor Female Coordinator)</li> </ul>	<b>Deadline:</b> October 31 <sup>st</sup>

**MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION / MINOR LEAGUES**  
**COMMUNICATION SEASON PATHWAY**



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• League Position (President or designate)</li> </ul>	
<b>Team Registration</b>	Registration of teams in the Hockey Canada Registry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regional Minor Administration Coordinator</li> </ul>	<b>Deadline:</b> November 15 <sup>th</sup> or prior to first League Game (includes Tiering Games), whichever occurs first.
<b>Coach Requirements</b>	Coach Certification Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hockey Alberta Regional Centre Manager</li> </ul>	<b>Deadline:</b> November 15 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Respect in Sport Parent Certification</b>	Respect in Sport Certification Requirements for Parents & Coaches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regional Minor Administration Coordinator</li> <li>• Hockey Alberta Office</li> </ul>	Must be completed prior to registration to a team (cannot be on ice without valid RIS)
<b>Affiliation</b>	Affiliation Regulations as it relates to League, Playoff, Exhibition, Tournaments and Provincials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minor (Regional Minor Leagues Coordinator)</li> <li>• Female (Regional Minor Female Coordinator)</li> <li>• Regional Minor Administration Coordinator (HCR Approvals)</li> <li>• League (President or designate)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Minor:</b> December 1<sup>st</sup> (Must be approved to participate)</li> <li>• <b>Deadline:</b> January 15<sup>th</sup></li> </ul>
<b>Substitute Goaltender Application</b>	Substitute Goaltender Request Process when affiliates are unavailable.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• League - Contact(s) determined by each Regional League.</li> <li>• Minor - Regional Minor Leagues Coordinator Female (Regional Minor Female Coordinator)</li> </ul>	N/A
<b>Team Approvals</b>	Team Approvals in the Hockey Canada Registry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regional Minor Administration Coordinator</li> </ul>	N/A
<b>Registration Deadline</b>	Deadline to Register players to a team in the HCR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regional Minor Administration Coordinator</li> </ul>	<b>Deadline:</b> January 10 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Special Permission to Register Deadline</b>	Deadline to receive special permission to register a player to a team in the HCR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regional Minor Administration Coordinator</li> </ul>	<b>Deadline:</b> February 10 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Insurance &amp; Injury Reports</b>	Hockey Canada Insurance Program and submission of Injury Reports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hockey Alberta Office</li> </ul>	N/A

# MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION / MINOR LEAGUES

## COMMUNICATION SEASON PATHWAY



### ALBERTA ONE & REGIONAL MINOR HOCKEY LEAGUES

	Description	Contact(s)	Important Dates
<b>Alberta One</b>	Alberta One Regional League Standards, Regulations, Policies & Procedures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minor (Regional Minor Leagues Coordinator)</li> <li>• Female (Regional Minor Female Coordinator)</li> <li>• League (President or designate)</li> </ul>	N/A
<b>Regional Leagues</b>	Member Leagues of Alberta One who schedule Tiering, Regular Season & Tiering Games	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• League (President or designate)</li> </ul>	N/A
<b>Regional League Approximate Team Declaration</b>	Declaration on the <u>approximate</u> number of teams an association will have in the Regional League they take part in.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• League - Contact(s) determined by each Regional League.</li> <li>• Minor (Regional Minor Leagues Coordinator) Female (Regional Minor Female Coordinator)</li> </ul>	<b>Deadline:</b> September 10 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Regional League Initial Team Placement &amp; Non-Checking / Body Contact Only Declaration</b>	Declaration on an association's initial team placement as per the Alberta One Standardized Tiering Grid, including teams for Non-Checking / Body Contact Only Tiers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• League - Contact(s) determined by each Regional League.</li> <li>• Minor (Regional Minor Leagues Coordinator) Female (Regional Minor Female Coordinator)</li> </ul>	As determined by each Regional League
<b>Provincial Championship Host Site Bid Applications</b>	Questions related to applying to host a Provincial Championships Event.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hockey Alberta Office</li> <li>• Regional Minor Leagues Coordinator</li> <li>• Regional Minor Female Coordinator</li> </ul>	<b>Deadline:</b> November 15 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Affiliation</b>	Affiliation Regulations as it relates to League, Playoff, Exhibition, Tournaments and Provincials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minor (Regional Minor Leagues Coordinator)</li> <li>• Female (Regional Minor Female Coordinator)</li> <li>• Regional Minor Administration Coordinator (HCR Approvals) League (President or designate)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Minor:</b> December 1<sup>st</sup> (Must be approved to participate)</li> <li>• <b>Deadline:</b> January 15<sup>th</sup></li> </ul>
<b>Regional League Playoffs</b>	Questions related to a Regional League's Playoffs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• League (President or designate)</li> </ul>	Regional League Playoff/League Champions must be determined 10 days prior to the Provincial Championship Tournament (if applicable)



# MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION / MINOR LEAGUES COMMUNICATION SEASON PATHWAY



<b>Hockey Alberta Provincial Championships</b>	Questions related to Hockey Alberta's Provincial Championships.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hockey Alberta Office</li> <li>• Regional Minor Leagues Coordinator</li> <li>• Regional Minor Female Coordinator</li> </ul>	March
<b>Alberta One Regional League Membership Review Process</b>	Application requirements for an Associations looking to move from one Regional League to another.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hockey Alberta Minor Leagues Committee</li> <li>• Hockey Alberta Minor Female Committee</li> </ul>	<b>Deadline: April 1<sup>st</sup></b>
<b>Alberta One New Minor League Application Process</b>	Application requirements to form a new Minor Hockey League under Alberta One	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hockey Alberta Minor Leagues Committee</li> <li>• Hockey Alberta Minor Female Committee</li> </ul>	<b>Deadline: April 1<sup>st</sup></b>
<b>Alberta One Regulation Amendment Review Process</b>	Process on recommending amendments to the Alberta One Regulations, Policies & Procedures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hockey Alberta Minor Leagues Committee</li> <li>• Hockey Alberta Minor Female Committee</li> </ul>	<b>Deadline: April 1<sup>st</sup></b>

## DISCIPLINE & SANCTIONING

	Description	Contact(s)	Important Dates
<b>Exhibition, Tournament &amp; Travel Permit Sanctions</b>	Process & Requirements for Sanctioning Exhibition, Tournaments and Travel Permits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regional Minor Discipline &amp; Sanctioning Coordinator</li> </ul>	N/A
<b>Discipline &amp; Suspensions</b>	Hockey Alberta & Regional League Minimum Suspensions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regional Minor Discipline &amp; Sanctioning Coordinator</li> <li>• League – Discipline Coordinators (or designate as determined by League)</li> </ul>	N/A
<b>Suspension Deferrals</b>	Requests for a player with an outstanding suspension from the previous season to defer the suspension for any Exhibition, Pre-Season, Tiering or Tournament game	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regional Minor Discipline &amp; Sanctioning Coordinator</li> </ul>	<b>Deadline: October 15<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>Maltreatment Tracking Requirements</b>	Requirements of tracking all On-ice Penalties, On-ice Allegations and outside the game incidents under Playing Rule 11.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hockey Alberta Office</li> <li>• Regional Minor Discipline &amp; Sanctioning Coordinator</li> </ul>	N/A

**MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION / MINOR LEAGUES**  
**COMMUNICATION SEASON PATHWAY**



**PLAYER & COACH DEVELOPMENT**

	<b>Description</b>	<b>Contact(s)</b>	<b>Important Dates</b>
<b>U11 Player Pathway:</b> Preparation & Team Selection Phase	U11 Player Preparation for Team Selection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hockey Alberta Regional Centre Manager</li> </ul>	September
<b>Intro to Hockey:</b> Development Season	Intro to Hockey Development Season	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hockey Alberta Regional Centre Manager</li> </ul>	September 15 <sup>th</sup> – October 31 <sup>st</sup>
<b>U11 Player Pathway:</b> Development Phase	U11 Teams period of Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hockey Alberta Regional Centre Manager</li> <li>League (President or designate)</li> </ul>	October – Mid-November
<b>Intro to Hockey:</b> Regular Season	Intro to Hockey Teams can start Regular Season	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hockey Alberta Regional Centre Manager</li> <li>League (President or designate, if applicable)</li> <li>Regional Minor Discipline &amp; Sanctioning Coordinator</li> </ul>	As of November 1 <sup>st</sup>
<b>U11 Player Pathway:</b> Regular Season	U11 Teams can start Regular Season	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hockey Alberta Regional Centre Manager</li> <li>League (President or designate)</li> </ul>	Mid-November
<b>Coach Requirements</b>	Coach Certification Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hockey Alberta Regional Centre Manager</li> </ul>	<b>Deadline:</b> November 15 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Coach Clinics</b>	Coach Certification Clinics and Registration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hockey Alberta Regional Centre Manager</li> </ul>	N/A
<b>Respect in Sport Activity Leader Certification</b>	Respect in Sport Certification Requirements for Parents & Coaches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regional Minor Administration Coordinator</li> <li>Hockey Alberta Office</li> </ul>	Must be completed prior to registration to a team (cannot be on ice without valid RIS)