



INFORMATION BULLETIN

Bulletin No: 15/14

Date: August 13, 2015

To: Minor Hockey Associations

C.C: Elite Draw Zone Teams
AMHL
AMMHL
AMBHL

From: Michelle Skilnick – Manager, Hockey Operations

SUBJECT: Alberta Development Model Changes

The Elite Development Committee has recently decided to initiate a complete review of the Alberta Development Model (ADM) in order to monitor its' continued effectiveness. The primary goal of the ADM is to get the best players playing Elite Hockey (throughout the three Elite leagues) and establishing a consistent review process will help move the Model towards achieving this goal.

The review will include looking at past Draw Zone communication processes, participant registration numbers, player movement trends within and between Draw Zones, as well as the assignment of MHA's to each Draw Zone. As a starting point to the review, the Elite Development Committee discussed proposals for change to the Draw Zones that had been submitted by member MHA's over the past season.

The following changes have now been approved and will take place for the 2015-2016 season.

- Red Deer Draw Zone to reduce to hosting one (1) Bantam AAA team;
- Slave Lake MHA moved from the St. Albert Draw Zone to the Grande Prairie Draw Zone;
- Bashaw MHA moved from the Leduc Draw Zone to the Sherwood Park/Camrose Draw Zone;
- New Sarepta MHA moved from the Sherwood Park/Camrose Draw Zone to the Leduc Draw Zone;
- 3C's MHA (formerly Castor, Coronation and Consort) added to the Medicine Hat Draw Zone;
- CR MHA (formerly Calahoo and Riviere Qui Barre) added to the St. Albert Draw Zone;
- Enoch Cree Hockey Association (New member) added to the St. Albert Draw Zone.

Furthermore, in order to create more consistency and to provide clarity for the MHA's, the Elite Development Committee proposed a few ADM amendments to the Board of Directors of Hockey Alberta. For further information on the approved amendments, please refer to the updated Male Alberta Development Model (enclosed) for the 2015-2016 season. All changes are provided in bold text for you there.

Another area of focus for the 2015-2016 season is going to be Elite Draw Zone Meetings. In accordance with the Alberta Development Model (ADM), Hockey Alberta has developed a standardized agenda and we are asking the Host LMHA for each of our Elite Draw Zones to invite the MHA's within their area to a meeting. This meeting will be targeted towards discussing the current state of Elite (AAA) hockey in your specific Draw Zone and within the Province, but will also initiate discussion on the future of the game.

We hope that all Hockey Alberta Member MHA's are able to send a representative to their respective Elite Draw Zone Meeting as it does provide you with an opportunity to share your thoughts and experiences as they relate to Elite (AAA) hockey in Alberta.

Please do not hesitate to contact myself, or any of the Elite League Presidents, if you have any questions or concerns.



MALE ALBERTA DEVELOPMENT MODEL

“A Partnership in Elite Hockey Development”



MALE ALBERTA DEVELOPMENT MODEL ELITE HOCKEY DEVELOPMENT

INTRODUCTION

In 2007, at the direction of the Hockey Alberta Board of Directors a committee was formed to develop a process to enable Alberta's top hockey athletes to compete at the highest level in a fair and equitable manner. The focus of the process deals with the elite system within Hockey Alberta and provides for the development of the elite athlete reflecting an "Alberta Made Development Model".

The idea is to provide guidance and direction so that player opportunity and movement is done in recognition of the needs of the player and the teams involved. The guiding principle that has unanimous consensus is the agreement at all times for making responsible decisions and everyone will act in the best interest of the athlete's ability to play at an elite level. It further recognizes and supports that each athlete has the right to consider all options.

The document is based on four (4) principles and uses these principles to create a system that better meet the needs of the athlete as they progress through the system of development. This document creates an improved development system providing a positive experience for all participants through improved communications and a better understanding of the principles.

PHILOSOPHY OF LEAGUES WITHIN THE ELITE STREAM OF HOCKEY

PRINCIPLES

The four (4) agreed upon principles of the Elite Development Model are as follows

1.
 - a) Accept a "Made and Played in Alberta" philosophy.
 - b) Hockey Alberta establishes an outlined system of development that starts at Bantam AAA and concludes at Major Junior (Bantam AAA, Minor Midget AAA, Midget AAA, Junior A, and Major Junior). "AA" Hockey (Bantam and Midget) is recognized as part of the Elite Stream for the purposes of Affiliation.
 - c) All Elite Leagues and Local Minor Hockey Associations are to focus on moving players through the system to the next level.
2. A mechanism is developed to encourage communication between Elite Level Leagues on matters related to the Development Model.
3. The Elite Development System will include criteria to determine an appropriate number of Teams within each League and the terms and conditions under which these Teams will operate. Elite Level Teams will provide elite level opportunities for the top players within their Boundaries.
4. Establish an Affiliation structure that accommodates athlete development under the development model.
 - Leagues and Teams within the development system shall be known as the "Elite Stream" of hockey.
 - Leagues, Conferences and Teams within the Elite Stream are not allowed to have Bylaws and Regulations that impact the development system. All Bylaw and Regulation changes are to be approved by Hockey Alberta.
 - Sanctions will be imposed for any non-compliance to the principles established within the Elite Development System and is to be enforced by Hockey Alberta.

DEFINITIONS

The following definitions for words and phrases are to be applied solely for the purposes of the Alberta Development Model and may or may not be the same as those definitions as outlined in the Hockey Alberta and Hockey Canada Bylaws and Regulations.

1. "Alberta Development Model" or "ADM" means the document established by Hockey Alberta that was developed to provide Alberta players with a program that focuses on the development of the elite athlete;
2. "Affiliation" means the process that provides the opportunity for higher Division/Category teams to dress the maximum number of players allowable for a game in accordance with the Hockey Canada Playing Rules;
3. "Affiliated Player" shall mean a Player, referred to and approved by Hockey Alberta, as eligible to play for a team in a higher Category/Division than the team in the Category/Division with whom the Player is registered;
4. "Board" means the Board of Directors of Hockey Alberta;
5. "Boundaries" shall mean that line, as mutually agreed upon and/or recognized by Hockey Alberta, that separates one LMHA from another, and defines that area from which each LMHA may register participants as Resident Players;
6. "Bylaws" mean the Bylaws of the League(s) as approved by Hockey Alberta;
7. "Category(ies)" means the sub-divisions of Divisions as follows "AAA, AA, A, B, C, D, Minor, Major";
8. "Conferences" means those sub-divisions of a League used to separate areas of a League as follows "North, South, Central, etc.";
9. "Division" means one of the following: Junior, Midget, Bantam, Peewee, Atom, Novice, and Initiation;
10. "Elite Draw Zone Area" or EDZA shall mean that line, in accordance with recognized Boundaries and determined by Hockey Alberta, that separates one draw area of the Elite Stream from another, and defines the area by which Teams in the Elite Stream can access Players from. In the instance of more than one (1) team in a specific division/category within the recognized EDZA, the area that they will be able to draw players from shall be agreed to between themselves and approved by HA. In the event of the teams being unable to agree, Hockey Alberta shall set the boundaries.
11. "Elite Hockey" means those Divisions and Categories considered as high performance (Major Junior, Junior A, Midget AAA, Minor Midget AAA, and Bantam AAA);
12. Geographical Sub Division – may include a city, town, municipality, rural area or zone as established from time to time by a Branch within its own jurisdiction.
13. "Import Player" shall be defined in elite hockey as a non-resident / import / resident player who resides in one Elite Draw Zone Area and registers with a team in another Elite Draw Zone Area. Note: All import players will be automatically released back to their resident LMHA's at the end of the hockey season.

14. "League" means those groups of teams (Bantam AAA, Midget AAA and Minor Midget AAA) forming province wide leagues as recognized by Hockey Alberta for the purpose of participating in the elite stream, which has adopted Bylaws and Regulations that are consistent with the Alberta Development Model and Bylaws and Regulations of Hockey Alberta and are approved by the Board of Hockey Alberta;
15. "Local Minor Hockey Association" or "LMHA" means an association, registered as a body corporate in the Province of Alberta, which has adopted bylaws and regulations that are consistent with the bylaws and regulations of Hockey Alberta, are approved by the Board of Hockey Alberta;
16. "Non Resident Player" shall be defined in elite hockey as a Player who resides outside of the Boundaries of the host LMHA of the Elite Team but within the boundaries of the Elite Draw Zone Area that the Player is registered with in any playing season;

NOTE: All non-resident / import players registering on Elite teams will be automatically released back to their resident LMHA's at the end of the hockey season.
17. "Notification of Try-Out Form" shall be defined as the designated Hockey Alberta form used by Players to try-out with teams within the Elite Stream of Hockey.
18. "Provincials" means the Hockey Alberta playoff competition;
19. "Regulations" means those regulations of League(s), approved by Hockey Alberta, used for the administration and advancement of Hockey;
20. Registry – means the electronic registration system used by Hockey Alberta to register all players and coaches
21. "Release" means the unconditional discharge of a Player from a LMHA;
22. "Resident Player" shall be defined in elite hockey as a Player who resides within the Boundaries of the host LMHA of the Elite Team that the Player is registered with in any Playing Season;
23. "Stakeholders" means those Leagues, LMHA's, Clubs, and Teams involved in the Elite Stream;

ELITE DRAW ZONE AREAS

In order to make it fair and equitable for all teams within the Elite Stream, "Elite Draw Zone Areas" have been established. These Elite Draw Zone Areas are to be used to establish a feeder system throughout the Minor Elite Stream.

Hockey Alberta has limited the number of Leagues at each of the Divisions of the development system to one (1) league (Bantam AAA, Midget AAA, and Minor Midget AAA) and established Conferences that focus on minimized travel requirements and lower costs for regular season play.

Hockey Alberta has established consistent Elite Draw Zone Areas that allow for a feeder system under Midget AAA.

- Elite Draw Zone Areas for each Division/Category within the elite structure do not overlap.
- Entire Minor Hockey Associations are within specific Draw Zones and not split.

Provincial Championships at each level of the Elite Stream are to be determined via League Play. Only Elite League teams will be eligible to play in the Championships.

The winner of the AMHL will be the sole representative to the HC Midget National Championship.

The winner of the AMBHL will be the sole representative to the HC Bantam Regional Championship.

EXPANSION & REDUCTION OF LEAGUES

Expansion and reduction of teams in the Leagues within the Elite Stream will be based on the following criteria:

- 1. Hockey Alberta registration numbers are to be used, in conjunction with other factors in determining an appropriate ratio of available players per Division.**
- 2. Each Elite Draw Zone Area will include a minimum of one Midget "AAA" team, one Minor Midget AAA team and one Bantam AAA team.**
- 3. Historical statistics will be reviewed to determine how competitive the Teams within that Draw Zone have been within the Province.**
- 4. Player Development is the most important factor in the rationale for expansion or reduction.**
- 5. Teams must still allow Non-Resident Players from outside the host LMHA Boundaries but within the Team's Draw Zone. The objective is to provide opportunities for the best players from within a Team's Draw Zone.**

MIDGET AAA DRAW AREAS & FEEDER SYSTEM

Lethbridge Midget AAA		Medicine Hat Midget AAA	
LMHA'S WITHIN THE ELITE DRAW ZONE		LMHA'S WITHIN THE ELITE DRAW ZONE	
Cardston Claresholm Coaldale Crowsnest Pass Fort MacLeod Kainai Lethbridge Lomond	Magrath Picture Butte Pincher Creek Raymond Taber Vauxhall Vulcan Warner	3 C's Bassano Bow Island Brooks Duchess Foremost Hanna	Hussar Irvine Medicine Hat Oyen Redcliff Siksika
Lethbridge Minor Midget AAA		Medicine Hat Minor Midget AAA	
LMHA'S WITHIN THE ELITE DRAW ZONE		LMHA'S WITHIN THE ELITE DRAW ZONE	
Cardston Claresholm Coaldale Crowsnest Pass Fort MacLeod Kainai Lethbridge Lomond	Magrath Picture Butte Pincher Creek Raymond Taber Vauxhall Vulcan Warner	3 C's Bassano Bow Island Brooks Duchess Foremost Hanna	Hussar Irvine Medicine Hat Oyen Redcliff Siksika
Lethbridge Bantam AAA		Medicine Hat Bantam AAA	
LMHA'S WITHIN THE ELITE DRAW ZONE		LMHA'S WITHIN THE ELITE DRAW ZONE	
Cardston Claresholm Coaldale Crowsnest Pass Fort MacLeod Kainai Lethbridge Lomond	Magrath Picture Butte Pincher Creek Raymond Taber Vauxhall Vulcan Warner	3 C's Bassano Bow Island Brooks Duchess Foremost Hanna	Hussar Irvine Medicine Hat Oyen Redcliff Siksika

Red Deer Midget AAA		Airdrie Midget AAA	
LMHA'S WITHIN THE ELITE DRAW ZONE Alix Bentley Big Valley Blackfalds Bowden Caroline Clive Delburne Eckville Endmoor Innisfail		LMHA'S WITHIN THE ELITE DRAW ZONE Airdrie Banff Beiseker Blackie Canmore Carstairs Chestermere Cochrane Cremona Crossfield Didsbury	
Red Deer Minor Midget AAA		Red Deer Minor Midget AAA	Airdrie Minor Midget AAA
LMHA'S WITHIN THE ELITE DRAW ZONE Alix Bentley Big Valley Blackfalds Bowden Caroline Clive Delburne Eckville Endmoor Innisfail		Lacombe Morrin Olds Red Deer Rimbey Rocky Mountain House Spruce View Stettler Sundre Sylvan Lake	LMHA'S WITHIN THE ELITE DRAW ZONE Airdrie Banff Beiseker Canmore Carstairs Cochrane Cremona Crossfield Didsbury Drumheller Kneehill Mini Thni
Red Deer Bantam AAA		Airdrie Bantam AAA	Okotoks Bantam AAA
LMHA'S WITHIN THE ELITE DRAW ZONE Alix Bentley Big Valley Blackfalds Bowden Caroline Clive Delburne Eckville Endmoor Innisfail		Lacombe Morrin Olds Red Deer Rimbey Rocky Mountain House Spruce View Stettler Sundre Sylvan Lake	LMHA'S WITHIN THE ELITE DRAW ZONE Blackie Chestermere Foothills High Country Indus Nanton Okotoks Rockyford Strathmore

Leduc Midget AAA		Fort Saskatchewan Midget AAA	
LMHA'S WITHIN THE ELITE DRAW ZONE		LMHA'S WITHIN THE ELITE DRAW ZONE	
Beaumont	Millet	Andrew	Mundare
Calmar	New Sarepta	Athabasca	Plamondon
Devon	Pembina	Boyle	Redwater
Drayton Valley	Ponoka	Bruderheim	Saddle Lake
Edson	Thorsby	CNN	Smoky Lake
Hinton	Wabamun	Fort McMurray	St. Paul
Jasper	Warburg	Fort Saskatchewan	Sturgeon Hockey
Leduc	Wetaskiwin	Goodfish Lake	Thorhild
Maskwacis	Winfield	Josephburg	Two Hills
		Kikino	Vegreville
		La La Biche	Wabasca
		Lamont	Westlock
Leduc Minor Midget AAA		Fort Saskatchewan Minor Midget AAA	
LMHA'S WITHIN THE ELITE DRAW ZONE		LMHA'S WITHIN THE ELITE DRAW ZONE	
Beaumont	Millet	Andrew	Mundare
Calmar	New Sarepta	Athabasca	Plamondon
Devon	Pembina	Boyle	Redwater
Drayton Valley	Ponoka	Bruderheim	Saddle Lake
Edson	Thorsby	CNN	Smoky Lake
Hinton	Wabamun	Fort McMurray	St. Paul
Jasper	Warburg	Fort Saskatchewan	Sturgeon Hockey
Leduc	Wetaskiwin	Goodfish Lake	Thorhild
Maskwacis	Winfield	Josephburg	Two Hills
		Kikino	Vegreville
		La La Biche	Wabasca
		Lamont	Westlock
Leduc Bantam AAA		Fort Saskatchewan Bantam AAA	
LMHA'S WITHIN THE ELITE DRAW ZONE		LMHA'S WITHIN THE ELITE DRAW ZONE	
Beaumont	Millet	Andrew	Mundare
Calmar	New Sarepta	Athabasca	Plamondon
Devon	Pembina	Boyle	Redwater
Drayton Valley	Ponoka	Bruderheim	Saddle Lake
Edson	Thorsby	CNN	Smoky Lake
Hinton	Wabamun	Fort McMurray	St. Paul
Jasper	Warburg	Fort Saskatchewan	Sturgeon Hockey
Leduc	Wetaskiwin	Goodfish Lake	Thorhild
Maskwacis	Winfield	Josephburg	Two Hills
		Kikino	Vegreville
		La La Biche	Wabasca
		Lamont	Westlock

Sherwood Park Midget AAA		St. Albert Midget AAA	
LMHA'S WITHIN THE ELITE DRAW ZONE Bashaw Camrose Holden Killam Rosalind Sedgewick		LMHA'S WITHIN THE ELITE DRAW ZONE Sherwood Park Strathcona Thunderstars Tofield Viking	
LMHA'S WITHIN THE ELITE DRAW ZONE Barrhead CR Knights Enoch Fox Creek Mayerthorpe Onoway		LMHA'S WITHIN THE ELITE DRAW ZONE Sangudo Spruce Grove Stony Plain St. Albert Swan Hills Whitecourt	
Sherwood Park Minor Midget AAA	Camrose Minor Midget AAA	St. Albert Minor Midget AAA	Spruce Grove Minor Midget AAA
LMHA'S WITHIN THE ELITE DRAW ZONE Sherwood Park Strathcona	Bashaw Camrose Holden Killam Rosalind Sedgewick Thunderstars Tofield Viking	LMHA'S WITHIN THE ELITE DRAW ZONE Barrhead CR Knights St Albert	Enoch Fox Creek Mayerthorpe Onoway Sangudo Spruce Grove Stony Plain Swan Hills Whitecourt
Sherwood Park Bantam AAA	Camrose Bantam AAA	St. Albert Bantam AAA	Spruce Grove Bantam AAA
LMHA'S WITHIN THE ELITE DRAW ZONE Sherwood Park Strathcona	Bashaw Camrose Holden Killam Rosalind Sedgewick Thunderstars Tofield Viking	LMHA'S WITHIN THE ELITE DRAW ZONE Barrhead CR Knights St Albert	Enoch Fox Creek Mayerthorpe Onoway Sangudo Spruce Grove Stony Plain Swan Hills Whitecourt

Lloydminster Midget AAA		Grande Prairie Midget AAA	
LMHA'S WITHIN THE ELITE DRAW ZONE		LMHA'S WITHIN THE ELITE DRAW ZONE	
Bonnyville Chauvin Cold Lake Dewberry Edgerton Elk Point Frog Lake Glendon Hardisty Hughenden	Irma Kitscoty Lloydminster Mallaig Mannville Marwayne Paradise Valley Provost Vermilion Wainwright	Beaverlodge Clairmont East Smoky Fairview Fort Vermilion Grande Cache Grande Prairie Grimshaw Grovedale High Level High Prairie Hines Creek Horse Lake Hythe	La Crete La Glace Manning Nampa Peace River Rainbow Lake Rycroft Savanna Sexsmith Slave Lake Smoky River Spirit River Valleyview Wembley
Lloydminster Minor Midget AAA		Grande Prairie Minor Midget AAA	
LMHA'S WITHIN THE ELITE DRAW ZONE		LMHA'S WITHIN THE ELITE DRAW ZONE	
Bonnyville Chauvin Cold Lake Dewberry Edgerton Elk Point Frog Lake Glendon Hardisty Hughenden	Irma Kitscoty Lloydminster Mallaig Mannville Marwayne Paradise Valley Provost Vermilion Wainwright	Beaverlodge Clairmont East Smoky Fairview Fort Vermilion Grande Cache Grande Prairie Grimshaw Grovedale High Level High Prairie Hines Creek Horse Lake Hythe	La Crete La Glace Manning Nampa Peace River Rainbow Lake Rycroft Savanna Sexsmith Slave Lake Smoky River Spirit River Valleyview Wembley
Lloydminster Bantam AAA		Grande Prairie Bantam AAA	
LMHA'S WITHIN THE ELITE DRAW ZONE		LMHA'S WITHIN THE ELITE DRAW ZONE	
Bonnyville Chauvin Cold Lake Dewberry Edgerton Elk Point Frog Lake Glendon Hardisty Hughenden	Irma Kitscoty Lloydminster Mallaig Mannville Marwayne Paradise Valley Provost Vermilion Wainwright	Beaverlodge Clairmont East Smoky Fairview Fort Vermilion Grande Cache Grande Prairie Grimshaw Grovedale High Level High Prairie Hines Creek Horse Lake Hythe	La Crete La Glace Manning Nampa Peace River Rainbow Lake Rycroft Savanna Sexsmith Slave Lake Smoky River Spirit River Valleyview Wembley

Calgary Midget AAA	Edmonton Midget AAA
4 Midget AAA	4 Midget AAA
Minor Midget AAA	Minor Midget AAA
8 Minor Midget AAA	4 Minor Midget AAA
Bantam AAA	Bantam AAA
4 Bantam AAA	4 Bantam AAA

ELITE PLAYER MOVEMENT

The following are Elite Player Movement Procedures for any player who wishes to move from his permanent residence **to access his first try out with an Elite team** outside his resident draw zone.

- Players are expected to play for the Elite Draw Zone Team that draws from the Team/Local Minor Hockey Association the player is resident in. If, however, a player wishes to move the following application process must be followed:
 - The player should only request movement for extenuating circumstances (i.e. considerably closer for travel).
 - The player completes a Player Movement Application Form and has it signed by all necessary parties (as outlined on the form).
 - Player submits the Player Movement Application and supporting documents by July 1st (no exceptions) to the Hockey Alberta office.
 - Hockey Alberta Office notifies the players resident Elite Draw Zone Team and Local Minor Hockey Association that the player has submitted an application to move.
 - The resident Elite Draw Zone Team / Local Minor Hockey Association **is asked to respond within Five (5) days** with their comments on the application.
 - The HA office insures documentation is complete and submits the request to the Player Movement Committee (PMC) in July (a decision will be rendered prior to August 1).
 - The PMC reviews the application which includes the Local Minor Hockey Association and Elite Draw Zone Team's comments.
 - The Player Movement Committee approves or denies movement.
 - Notification of decision will be sent out from the Hockey Alberta Office to the Player, LMHA, Elite Draw Zone Teams involved, and the appropriate League(s).
 - **If approved, the Player MUST access their first try out within the Elite Draw Zone they have been approved to attend. Players will not be permitted to try out for another Elite Team unless this newly approved first try out is exhausted first.**
 - In the case that an affected member is dissatisfied with the decision, the Hockey Alberta Appeals process may be accessed.

Note: ALL PLAYERS WILL RETURN TO THEIR RESIDENT LOCAL MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION AT THE END OF THE HOCKEY SEASON

Application Forms can be found on the Hockey Alberta website

www.hockeyalberta.ca

HockeyAlberta.ca

ADM COMMUNICATION MODEL

The following communication model will be used for communications with LMHA's and elite teams as outlined by the ADM.

Communication with Local Minor Hockey Associations

- Feedback is to be gathered from the LMHA's every year.
- This feedback will be done through a on-line survey that will be used to gather feedback from the general membership in regards to how the ADM is doing with their LMHA and the draw area of which they are apart of.
- The feedback will be gathered and reviewed by the Elite Development Committee so that adjustments could be dealt with prior to the following season. This feedback survey will be similar to the agenda for the Elite Draw Zone team meetings

Communication with Elite Draw Areas and Elite Teams

- Each Draw Zone Area will meet two (2) times per year to discuss elite hockey within their area and the ADM in general. These meetings would occur at the start and end of the season with the second meeting taking place so that the feedback would be gathered and reviewed by the Elite Development Committee so that adjustments could be dealt with prior to the following season.
- **The purpose of the meetings is to ensure that the development of the players within their Elite Draw Zone Area is being handled in the most efficient and productive manner. Each of the Elite Draw Zones will be permitted to make recommendations and suggestions with respect to Draw Zone Areas, formation of teams, locations of teams and development opportunities within their Elite Draw Zone Area.**
- In the case of Edmonton and Calgary, this would be done through their respective "AA" Councils.
- The meeting would be chaired by the AMHL team director/governor and he/she would be responsible to communicate the date and time of the meeting and report any feedback that is received to the Hockey Alberta Office.
- The meetings would be made up of one representative from each of the assigned elite teams within the Draw Zone Area.
- The agenda for these meetings would be built as templates by the Elite Development Committee so that there is consistency relative to the information that is being brought forward from the stakeholders.

In each of the cases above, information will be gathered through the two means listed above, reviewed by the Elite Development Committee, with recommendations then being sent to Hockey Alberta.

NOTIFICATION OF TRY-OUT PROCEDURE

Any Player may try-out for the team for which the Player is eligible of the: AMHL (Alberta "AAA" Midget Hockey League, AMMHL (Alberta Minor Midget AAA Hockey League), or AMBHL (Alberta Major Bantam Hockey League) provided;

- a) the player has filed a completed Notification of Try-Out form;
- b) the team has been approved for membership by Hockey Alberta in the Elite Development stream.

Elite Teams must allow for Non-Resident Players from outside the host LMHA's boundaries, but within the teams Elite Draw Zone area, to have the opportunity to try out with the team. The objective is to provide opportunities for the best players from within a Team's Draw Zone.

LMHA's hosting Elite Draw Zone Teams must ensure that there are no restrictions on the number of Non-Resident Players that are eligible to make and register with the Elite Draw Zone Team. The top 19 or 20 players, by position, should be selected, regardless of where they reside.

It is incumbent upon the Host LMHA to insure they have a plan for accommodating non-resident players in their Elite Draw Zone. This would include information on the following:

- Living arrangements for players that need to be billeted if they make the team
- Schooling so the player can maintain their academics
- Tryouts scheduled on weekends to insure it is convenient for the out of town player to properly participate?

Players wishing to try-out with an Elite Team (as defined) must first complete a Notification of Try-Out Form and submit to their resident LMHA (the LMHA of which the player resides), and the Team to which the player wishes to try-out for.

Residency of the player is determined as per Hockey Canada Residency Qualifications.

A player must first try-out for the team in the Elite Draw Zone Area where the player resides (unless previous approval has been obtained via Elite Player Movement Application).

If the player does not make the team they are trying out for, they may have the option to try-out for the next closest Elite Team as defined by the Elite Draw Zone Areas. (If there is any dispute with the next closest Elite Team, the dispute shall be settled by Hockey Alberta upon application).

1. The player must first obtain a **Waiver** from the team of which he did not make.
2. The player would then submit the amended Notification of Try-out form for the next closest Elite team. This Notification of Try-out form is required in order to try-out as a non-resident / Import player for the next team. His previous waiver(s) must accompany the request.

Note: 15 Year Old Midget Players are permitted to try out with the Midget AAA (AMHL) Team within their Resident Draw Zone Area only. If the player does not make the Team within their Resident Draw Zone Area they have the ability to try out for the Minor Midget AAA (AMMHL) Team within their Resident Draw Zone Area. A 15 Year Old Player may travel to the next closest Draw Zone Area to try out for an additional Minor Midget AAA (AMMHL) Team only.

A player making the designated Elite Team will receive Permission to Play from the LMHA of which the player was registered in the previous season and/or their resident LMHA. The player must pay any outstanding fees or other financial obligations owing to the previous registered Team.

Once an Import Player (by definition) has made the Elite Team of which he was trying out for, the Player must ensure that his Notification of Try-out Forms and all applicable Waivers are submitted together at the time of registration to Hockey Alberta.

Failure to submit the Notification of Try Out form and applicable waivers (as required for an Import Player), at the time of registration, will result in that player being not registered.

In cases where an Import Player is found to have played in a game, without first having submitted his Notification of Try Out form and applicable waiver(s) at the time of registration, the Team Officials of the Hockey Team with which the Player has played, will be subject to discipline in accordance with Hockey Alberta Minor Regulation A. 13 – Discipline.

Please Note: Players trying out for any of the Elite Teams, should also be cognizant of the fact that IF they don't make these Elite Teams, they should ensure that they determine which team and apprise them of their possibility of playing for the team at the next level of which they are eligible for. The worst situation for a player to be in is to Try-Out for the Elite Teams, not make one of them, and then not have an appropriate team of their skill level to try-out for within the appropriate time frame. Timely and informed decisions must always be kept in consideration.

Check out the Hockey Alberta website to view the Elite Player Movement Process

www.hockeyalberta.ca

TEAM REGISTRATION

All Hockey Teams must be properly and duly registered in the Registry with Hockey Alberta, prior to their first League Game or November 15, whichever occurs first. All Players participating on a Hockey Team must be duly registered in the Registry before their first league game. Any Hockey Team whose registration is received after November 15, will not be eligible for Provincials.

MAJOR MIDGET AAA (AMHL Teams)

During the Try Out portion of the season, Teams are to register a maximum of a **“40 man roster”** in the HCR. All players playing in exhibition games and preseason tournaments will be listed as tryout players on this roster. This is not applicable to those players skating at tryout sessions, only those players in exhibition games.

- The transfers will be entered into HCR with the NTO uploaded to the transfer and the transfer will be approved using “Approve (Share)” so that both the Resident MHA and the MHA in which the Midget AAA Team is hosted can view the player’s profile.
- Once the player makes the Midget AAA team, the primary association of the player will be changed to the MHA of the Midget AAA team he is now registered with.
- All players that don’t make the Midget AAA team will be released off the team in the Registry and will return to their resident LMHA.

The AMHL has declared 5 games at the beginning of the season as being Pre-Season games for the purpose of Team roster declaration. This structure was developed to better reflect the current Hockey Alberta Regulations and to address the dates by which players are released from higher divisions. To follow is the structure by which Teams in the AMHL will register:

- The first 5 games of the AMHL scheduled season have been declared as Pre-Season games for the purposes of Team roster declaration.
- AMHL Teams will register a minimum of 15 players in the Registry by their first Pre-Season game.
- Beyond the minimum 15 players registered in the Registry, teams will have access to a floating 10 player auxiliary list during the course of the 5 scheduled Pre-Season games.
- Upon the commencement of the scheduled 6th league game all players will be registered in the Registry.
- All Discipline matters will be administered by the AMHL with all notifications of suspensions during the AMHL Pre-Season to be forwarded to the respective Zone Discipline / Sanction Coordinator for review.

MINOR MIDGET AAA (AMMHL Teams) and BANTAM AAA (AMBHL Teams)

During the Try Out portion of the season, Teams are to register a maximum of a **“30 man roster”** in the HCR. All players playing in exhibition games and preseason tournaments will be listed as tryout players on this roster. This is not applicable to those players skating at tryout sessions, only those players in exhibition games.

- The transfers will be entered into HCR with the NTO uploaded to the transfer and the transfer will be approved using “Approve (Share)” so that both the Resident MHA and the MHA in which the Midget AAA Team is hosted can view the player’s profile.
- Once the player makes the AAA team, the primary association of the player will be changed to the MHA of the AAA team he is now registered with.
- All players that don’t make the AAA team will be released off the team in the Registry and will return to their resident LMHA.

AFFILIATION POLICY

The Affiliation Policy is used to accommodate athlete development under the “Alberta Development Model” (ADM). To allow for Affiliation within each Elite Draw Zone Area for the Teams currently playing in the Alberta Midget Hockey League (AMHL), the Alberta Minor Midget Hockey League (AMMHL) and the Alberta Major Bantam Hockey League (AMBHL). The Teams within the Elite Stream of Hockey are eligible to Affiliate players that reside within the boundaries of an MHA within that specific Elite Draw Zone Area. All players to be registered for affiliation within the ADM must meet and qualify in accordance with the Hockey Alberta and Hockey Canada Regulations.

Affiliation needs to be filed in the Registry and approval will come from the Minor Zone Administration Coordinator for the Zone in which the Elite Draw Zone Area Host LMHA is located within.

- An Elite team may affiliate nineteen (19) players from within the team’s designated geographic region (Team to Team Affiliation is not permitted).
- Prior to participation as an affiliated player, the player’s name must appear on the team’s affiliation list filed within the Branch.
- Once a player’s affiliation is approved, the player’s name may not be dropped from the affiliation list during the current season and replaced, unless the team with which the player registered releases him/her on or before January 10.
- No player is permitted to be part of more than one (1) specially affiliated players list at any time during the current season.
- A player, registered with a team which has a “team to team” affiliation with a higher Division/Category team may not be selected as a specially affiliated player.
- Once a player has been selected as a specially affiliated player, the team with which that player is registered may not enter into a “team to team” affiliation agreement with a higher Division /category team.
- An affiliated player must have the approval of his/her registered team in order to play.

NOTE: All Affiliated players must reside in the Elite Draw Zone Area of the team they will be Affiliated with, in either the AMHL, AMMHL or AMBHL.

All affiliations shall terminate at the end of the current playing season.

For clarification purposes, the intent of this policy is to allow Players to Affiliate to Teams in the Elite Stream from any LMHA in the Elite Draw Zone Area regardless of the LMHA Categorization. The reason is to provide for the development of Players in the Elite Stream within their Elite Draw Zone Area as per this ADM.

ELITE STREAM COMMITTEE

The purpose of the Elite Development Committee will be to encourage communication and development between the Elite Level Leagues and communicate those concerns and ideas to Hockey Alberta.

It shall be the responsibility of the Elite Development Committee to monitor, formulate and recommend changes and improvements in the Elite Stream of Hockey.

The Elite Development Committee will report directly to the Executive Director. Upon making a decision regarding the recommendations, the Elite Development Committee shall have the responsibility to supervise and carry out the decisions.

The Elite Development Committee shall consist of two (2) representatives from each of the Elite Level Leagues involved. Each Elite Level League will submit a list of 5 names of proposed representatives, with the decision on who sits on this committee residing with Hockey Alberta. To ensure consistency, appointments will be based on a two (2) year team. Hockey Alberta will appoint the chair of the committee, one (1) member at Large as well as one (1) representative from the Minor Regulation Committee. **There will also be the opportunity to meet with representatives from each of the Junior Leagues (AJHL and WHL) as needed.**

The Elite Development committee will meet a minimum of 3 times per year. Meetings to be held at the start of the season, middle of the season and again at the conclusion of the season (August, November & May are potential dates). Leagues to be responsible for cost associated for their representative's travel and accommodations.

The Terms of Reference of the Elite Development Committee are:

- Make recommendations to encourage development opportunities to the Elite Level Players, Teams and Leagues related to the Elite Stream of Hockey.
- Review and recommend changes (if necessary) on the Draw Zones of Teams within the Elite Draw Zone Areas from recommendations and statistics from the Elite Draw Zone Teams.
- Establish a communications protocol and conflict resolutions procedure to ensure good governance amongst the leagues involved.
- Make recommendations in areas of expanding and/or reducing of Elite Draw Zone Areas to ensuring that they fit within the established criteria.
- Make recommendations in areas of reduction and additions of Elite Teams within the Elite Draw Zone Areas with input from the Elite Draw Zone teams ensuring that they fit within the established criteria.
- Make recommendations to deal with areas of player movement from the different levels of the Elite Stream throughout the hockey season.
- Develop a mechanism to encourage communication between Elite Level Leagues on matters related to the Development Model.