



BODY CHECKING OPTIONS

Overview

- Bulletin of April 20, 2015
- Glance at Other Parts of the Country
- 2015-2016 Outlook
- Next Steps



Bulletin: Non-Body Checking Options

- 450 Bantam & 500 Midget Teams in Alberta
- Examine Options / Opportunities

Objectives

1. Awareness
2. Discussion
3. Encouragement – ie. Non Checking Tournaments
4. Tracking
5. Knowledge
6. Review



Statistics from Around the Country

- 6 Branches have some form of provincial policy.
- In 2014-15, 42% of those that responded in Bantam & Midget hockey play with body checking.
- One Branch made further change which would result in the national average going to 35% in Bantam & Midget.

- **67,500 Midget players in Canada**
- **71,000 Bantam players in Canada**



Statistics from Around the Country

- QB – 28% ➔ 15% (Midget)
 - 30% ➔ 13% (Bantam)
- ON – 35% of total registration in Canada
 - 48% of their players play with body checking
- BC – No provincial mandate, however 30% play with body checking
- AB – Predict approximately 90%



The “Line”

- 20 Leagues – various tiering, tiers 1-6
- 1-14 tiers in large centres
- Hockey Alberta has 6 provincial categories
- AA Model could assist



New Program in 2015-2016

- 5 Programs
- 10 Associations

Examples:

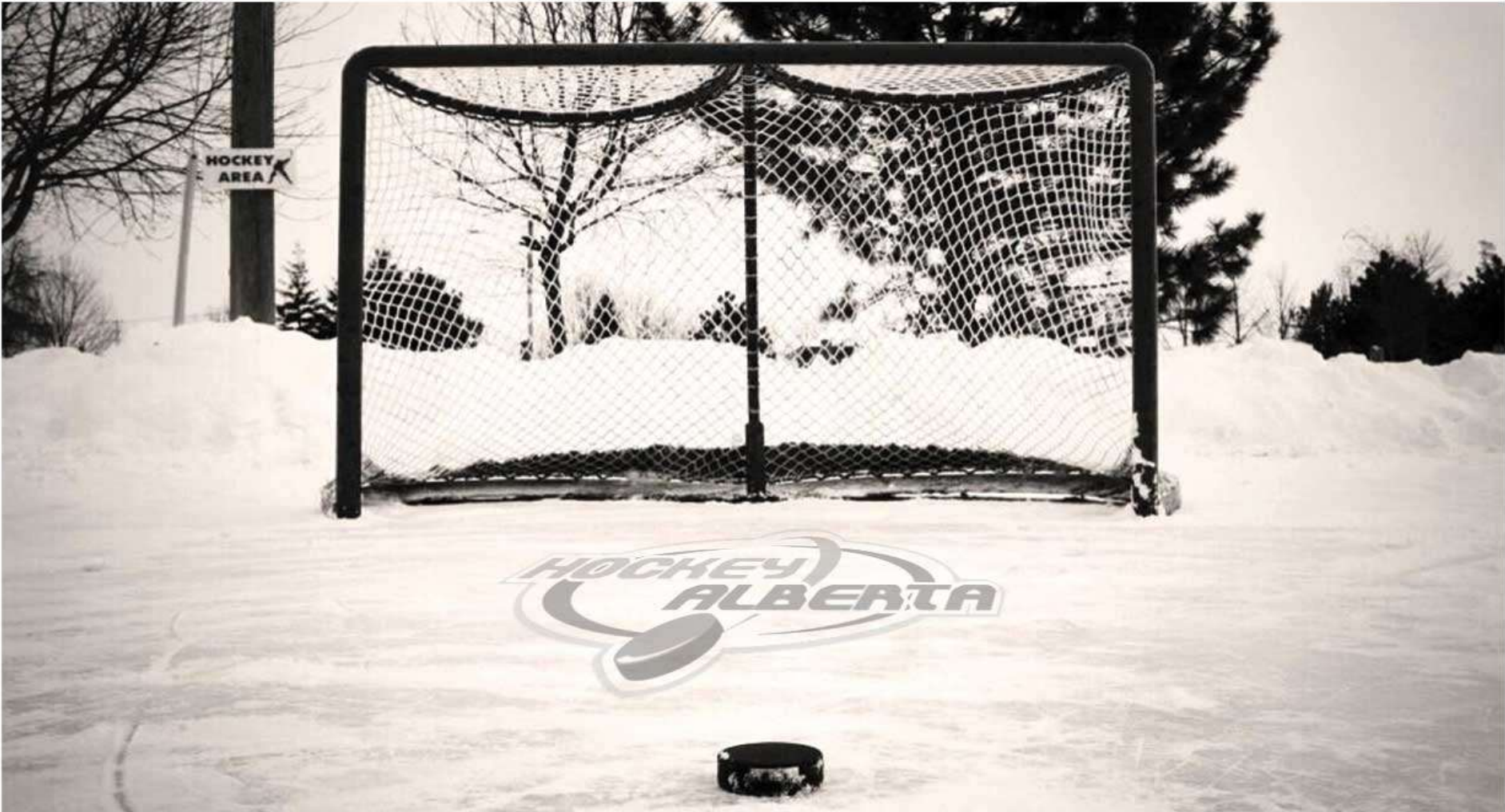
- Exhibition games non-body checking
- New seasonal structure
- Non-checking based on tier



Next Steps

- Review / monitor / report on the new program
- Discuss if / what line could be formed in Alberta
- Hockey Alberta may consider a working group
- Continue to bring information back to members at zone meetings & AGM





INITIATION HOCKEY

Overview

- Bulletin of April 21, 2015
- LTPD Principle
- Key Guidelines
- Next Steps



Bulletin: Initiation Hockey

- Environmental Scan
- Program Guidelines and Resources

Objectives

1. Player Registration
2. Instructor Training
3. Playing Surface
4. Equipment
5. Technical Curriculum



FUNdamentals - Initiation

- **Guiding Principle:** Make the first impression of hockey a positive one for players and parents.
- **FUNdamentals to do list for associations:**
- Allow players to develop skills in practices and test skills in modified games
- Maximize ice time by putting upwards of 40 players on ice at a time
- Utilize modified equipment (blue puck and fun teaching implements)
- Provide instructors with the most up to date resources while providing a support system through mentorship
- Provide instructors with continuing education opportunities



Key Guidelines

- Initiation team registration requirements will allow associations to operate and register as a “Program”.
- NCCP Coach 1 Clinic will be offered for Initiation Program Instructors. (1 trained to 10 players registered)
- The official playing surface for Initiation practices and games should be reduced to one-half, one-third or one-quarter the size of the regulation playing surface.



Playing Surface

HOCKEY IS THE ONLY MAJOR SPORT THAT DOESN'T SHRINK ITS PLAYING SURFACE TO MATCH THE AGE GROUP.

We would never consider having our children at 8 years of age play on a big-league-sized diamond. Instead, they play on an appropriately sized Little League diamond. When attempting to teach your 8-year-old to play golf, you would not have them tee off from the black tees. Football shrinks the playing field. Soccer uses a smaller ball and smaller field. Basketball uses a smaller ball and lowers the rim. Sensing a theme?



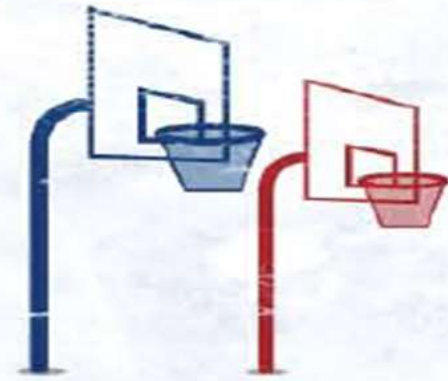
SOCCER

A pro-size ball measures 28 inches, while a youth-size ball measures 24 inches.



BASEBALL

In pro baseball, the distance from the pitcher's mound to home plate is 60 feet 6 inches, while in Little League it's only 46 feet.



BASKETBALL

A pro basketball hoop measures 10 feet high. Younger kids play with a hoop that's as much as 2 feet lower.

Next Steps

- Create Initiation Section on website for associations to access Initiation Hockey Guidelines.
- Provide support to associations that need it through Regional Centre network.
- Hockey Canada Initiation Program Review





“AA” HOCKEY MODEL

Overview

- Review & Implementation Process
- Key Operating Procedures
- Next Steps



Review & Implementation

- “AA” Hockey Model has been approved as the only structure for “AA” Hockey in Alberta for Peewee, Bantam and Midget.
- League(s) have been identified to operate “AA” Hockey in Alberta.
- A “regional” philosophy with regard to player residency was adopted for the purpose of “AA” Hockey.
- LMHA’s identified to Host Recruitment Area Teams.



Key Operating Procedures

- League Structure
 - Northern Alberta Hockey League
 - South Central Alberta Hockey League
 - Hockey Edmonton
 - Hockey Calgary

- Recruitment Areas
 - Finalized for 2015-2016 Season
 - 2 Approvals for Reduction (GP / Airdrie)
 - 1 Approval for Expansion (Okotoks)



Key Operating Procedures

- Player Movement
 - Moving to a different Recruitment Area
 - Travel Distance or Extenuating Circumstances
 - Applications to “AA” Committee (League) by Sept. 1
- Try Outs
 - Permission granted through Player Movement Form
 - Try Out within Resident Recruitment Area
 - Second Try Out only permitted based on “need” of Team
 - Application to the League



Key Operating Procedures

- Provincials
 - League Play ranks teams for playoffs
 - Leagues determine and operate playoff structure
 - Champions and/or Identified Teams attend Tournament
 - Tournament moved back in March



Next Steps

- League Meetings
 - Establish Schedules
- Recruitment Area Meetings
- Player Movement & Try Outs Begin
- Regular Season - October
- Continual Review of the Model



THANK YOU



QUESTIONS?

