



North Central Minor Hockey Association

www.ncmha.com

All NCMHA Member Associations

March 2, 2016

RE: Update on League Matters

Association President/s/NCMHA Representatives:

The Executive would like to take this opportunity to provide an update on some recent developments since the January General Meeting that may affect NCMHA for the upcoming 2016-2017 season.

At the January meeting it was discussed that the NCMHA executive has been busy preparing plans for the upcoming season as well as meeting with various associations and leagues to work on the issues at hand. It was also discussed that several associations within NCMHA were exploring options and considering play within the CAHL league starting next season.

Since the January Meeting there have been conversations and meetings with member associations, Hockey Alberta reps, the CAHL League, and the 16/60 League.

Where things are at

- NCMHA met the CAHL with a detailed proposal on how interlocking play in some or all tiers may be achieved. Good discussion occurred and our understanding is the proposal was discussed at a CAHL meeting; however we have not heard how things will proceed.
- NCMHA has also been in discussion with the 16/60 League, and recently a proposal at the moment lead by the 16/60 in conjunction with NCMHA, Sturgeon Pembina, and the North East Alberta Hockey League for league cooperation and interlock is developing. In this model, each team would remain and register in their own league, but play blocks of interlocking play with

c/o E. Bonde, RR #3

Rocky Mountain House, AB T4T 2A3

surrounding teams/leagues where it makes sense geographically and reduces travel. This model appears similar to the proposal by NCMHA to CAHL, however, may benefit more it not all of the NCMHA teams as opposed to just teams on the southern edge. These meetings are next week.

- NCMHA has received some interest from member Associations to participate in non body checking hockey. NCMHA is gathering more information from Hockey Alberta to present to members on whether movement between associations or combined teams is allowed and how it affects provincials, if at all. It has been suggested this may help bridge the gap between minor hockey and local "fun league" type hockey groups operating separate from minor hockey. If the interest continues there could possibly be a single tier at both Bantam and Midget next season.

Moving Forward

The Executive would like to continue conversation with the CAHL as well as participate in the development of a model with the 16/60, SP, and NEAHL. As details are worked out on all, they will be shared with the membership.

The Executive would like to thank all the associations for their patience during this season. There are options available that will be able to provide competitive and enjoyable hockey experiences for all next season.

If you have any questions, comments, or suggestions we encourage you to contact any member of the executive.

Regards,

NCMHA Executive

c/o E. Bonde, RR #3

Rocky Mountain House, AB T4T 2A3