

# AA HOCKEY IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE

## FINAL REPORT

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### COMMITTEE MANDATE

The AA Hockey Implementation Committee was established to devise the AA Hockey Model to be implemented in the 2015-2016 hockey season. The committee addressed rules, regulations, policies, and procedures pertaining to the operations and governance of hockey at the AA level. The Committee's recommendations were submitted to, and approved by, the Hockey Alberta Board of Directors at the Board's March 2015 meeting.

### COMMITTEE OBJECTIVES

- Gather feedback from MHAs and stakeholders with regard to draft versions of the model;
- Gather detailed registration statistics, travel distances, and other relevant information on which to base the final model;
- Create the ideal operational guidelines and regulations of AA Hockey League(s);
- Create the detailed Recruitment Areas;
- Establish protocol to ensure standardization and consistency;
- Review the first season of the model's implementation and recommend revisions as necessary.

### COMMITTEE MEMBERS

**Chair:** Graham Parsons

**Members:** Duncan Cathcart (Cochrane), Betty Chmilar (Zone 8), Greg Davenport (SCAHL), Steven Holt (NCMHA), Kevin Kobelka (Hockey Calgary), Danny Povaschuk (Zone 6), Earl Reid (NAMHL), Dave Schotte (Sherwood Park MHA), and Bryden Burrell and Kevin Macrae (Hockey Alberta staff)

### SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS

The AA Hockey Implementation Committee met several times over the course of the 2015/2016 season to discuss, evaluate, review and initiate change to the AA Hockey Model after its first season of operation.

The changes to the AA Hockey Model contained within this report are based on a number of meetings, review of statistics and information as well discussion with the Hockey Alberta membership. In order to identify the areas of change, the committee split in separate Sub-Committees to review the following areas:

- The Second Tryout Process & Procedures.
- AA Recruitment Area Revisions.
- Dates & Times within the AA Hockey Model.
- Regional Team Management.

In reviewing the AA Hockey Model, the Committee did feel that drastic changes to the Model could not be made after only one season of implementation. Although minor tweaks and changes have been made, the Committee felt the education of the Model amongst the membership would expand during the second season, and allow for a better gauge in any areas that may require major change in the future.

### CHANGES TO THE AA HOCKEY MODEL FOR THE 2016/2017 SEASON

1. Okotoks Minor Hockey Association will be required to host two (2) Peewee AA teams within the AA Hockey Model.
2. Okotoks Minor Hockey Association has been granted an expansion to two (2) Midget AA teams within the AA Hockey Model for the 2016/2017 season.
3. Grande Prairie Minor Hockey Association has been granted a reduction to host one (1) Bantam AA team within the AA Hockey Model for the 2016/2017 season.
4. Airdrie Minor Hockey Association will be required to host two (2) Peewee AA teams for the 2016/2017 season.

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5. Chestermere Minor Hockey Association has been named a Peewee AA Host Site for the 2016/2017 season. Based on the requirement for two (2) teams within the Strathmore Recruitment Area at Peewee AA, the AA Hockey Committee has decided to award Chestermere the second Peewee AA team to ensure two (2) AA teams are operating in the area. The revised Peewee AA Recruitment Areas for the area are as follows:

<b>Chestermere</b>	<b>Strathmore</b>	
Chestermere	Strathmore	Indus
	Bassano	Morrin
	Drumheller	Rockyford
	Hanna	Siksika
	Hussar	

The Bantam AA & Midget AA Recruitment Areas in the Strathmore/Chestermere area will remain unchanged, with the required one (1) team at those divisions hosted out of Strathmore Minor Hockey Association.

6. Lac La Biche Minor Hockey Association will no longer be a Host Site within the AA Hockey Model, with all three (3) AA teams eliminated from the AA Hockey Model. The Minor Hockey Associations within the Lac La Biche Recruitment Area have been relocated to the following Recruitment Areas:
- Boyle (Fort Saskatchewan)
  - Smoky Lake (Fort Saskatchewan)
  - Goodfish Lake (Bonnyville)
  - Kikino (Bonnyville)
  - Lac La Biche (Bonnyville)
  - Plamondon (Bonnyville)
  - Athabasca (Sturgeon)
7. Wetaskiwin Minor Hockey Association will no longer be a Host Site within the AA Hockey Model, with all three (3) AA teams eliminated from the AA Hockey Model. The Minor Hockey Associations with the Wetaskiwin Recruitment Area have been relocated to the following Recruitment Areas:
- Wetaskiwin (Camrose)
  - Maskwacis (Camrose)
  - Millet (Leduc)
  - Winfield (Leduc)
  - Ponoka (Lacombe)
8. Viking Minor Hockey Association has been relocated to the Wainwright AA Recruitment Area at all three (3) Divisions to allow for parody amongst AA Recruitment Areas.
9. Spruce View Minor Hockey has been relocated to the Sylvan Lake AA Recruitment Area at all three (3) Divisions.
10. Starting with the 2016/2017 season, Hockey Alberta will be providing a Standardized Agenda Template for all AA Recruitment Area Meetings as specified under the Regional Team Management Section of the AA Hockey Model.
11. Hockey Alberta will be distributing a Survey to all MHA's to gather feedback on the AA Hockey Model and the Regional Team Structure within the AA Hockey Model.
12. The Peewee AA, Bantam AA & Midget AA Provincial Championships will take place from Thursday, March 30<sup>th</sup> – Sunday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2017.
13. Approved by the Minor Regulations Committee for implementation during the 2016/2017 season, the AA Committee will be implementing a Provincial Championship Host Site Rotation amongst the four (4) AA Hockey Leagues. Once all guidelines are in place, the policy will be released to notify which Associations are eligible to host one of the AA Provincial Championships.

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### 2016/2017 AA HOCKEY COMMITTEE

With the AA Hockey Model having been successfully implemented, the AA Hockey Implementation Committee has completed its mandate and will disband as an Ad-Hoc Committee of Hockey Alberta. A new Standing Committee has been established to continue to provide guidance and support for the operations of the AA Hockey Model. The purpose, goals & objectives of the standing AA Hockey Committee will be as follows:

#### PURPOSE

The committee shall be charged with developing change for the advancement of the AA Hockey Model through recommendation to the Minor Regulation Committee of the organization. This shall be done with proper process and consultation of the member teams and stakeholders of this level of hockey. Additionally, as required the committee shall be charged with responding to proposed change and advancement to the game through actions of the Board and Executive Director. The committee will work in conjunction with all Hockey Alberta Bylaws, Regulations Policies and Procedures.

#### GOALS and OBJECTIVES

The Goals and Objectives are established on an annual basis based on the direction derived from the Strategic Plan. Additionally, specific goals for the committee should be established by the committee, on an annual basis based on the mandate and authority as already mentioned. In order to establish these, the committee needs to work closely with the Executive Director (or designate) to ensure the proper alignment of committee work to organizational priorities.

Specifically:

- Provide service to members, clients and stakeholders through interpretations of Regulations.
- Review and recommend changes to improve and grow hockey within the AA Hockey Model.
- Make recommendations regarding the expansion and reduction of Teams within the AA Hockey Model.
- Encourage development opportunities for Players, Teams, MHA's and Leagues.
- Establish regular communications between Teams, MHA's and Elite Male Leagues.