



HOCKEY CALGARY

Date: June 27, 2018
To: Hockey Calgary Members
From: Kevin Kobelka – Executive Director
CC: HC Board of Directors

SUBJECT: Atom & PW League Structure Update

Further to the bulletin of May 31 regarding changes within Hockey Calgary for the upcoming season, I wanted to provide you some additional information regarding the structure of Atom & PW Hockey for the 2018-19 season.

As many of you are aware Hockey Alberta has made an announcement to move to a standardized tiering grid for the full province, see information below:

Alberta One Standardized Tiering

- Over the past couple of seasons Hockey Alberta has been looking at ways to standardize tiering to improve the competitiveness of play throughout the season and at provincial play down time.
- In April Hockey Alberta released a 'Standardized Tiering Model' for all tiers '**below AA Hockey**' that all Minor Hockey Associations will be required to follow for the upcoming season (in Alberta AA hockey exists in PW, Bantam & Midget).
- As a member of Hockey Alberta, Hockey Calgary will be required to follow this tiering grid for the 2018-19 season for all age categories (atom – midget) that fall below AA programs.
- With our new league structures Hockey Calgary is mostly aligned, but will require some associations (based on size) to have an increased number of teams at higher levels based on the HA tiering grid.
- See attached Hockey Alberta memo
 - i. <https://www.hockeycalgary.ca/assets/file/1712 - Standardized Tiering.pdf>

Based on this directive, the Bantam and Midget categories of play go basically unchanged (with a few small tweaks to seeding). Within the Atom and Pee Wee Age Categories, we have had to make modifications to align with Hockey Alberta, therefore Hockey Calgary will be operating the Atom & Pee Wee Divisions as follows:

Atom League Structure

- **There is no 'AA' hockey within the province at the Atom level**, all programming starts with Atom Division #1, so an Atom 1 team in Calgary should be equivalent to an Atom 1 team in any other area of the province.
- Atom within HC will maintain 7 divisions of play as in 2017-18, HA has asked the remainder of the province to move to 6 divisions, but HC was granted an exception

to this as it was shown that we tested 6 divisions in 2016-17, and it was not successful.

- The only caveat to having 7 divisions of play is that HC needed to keep the seeding alignment at the top of the grid in line with the recommendations of Hockey Alberta. **This means that all Associations with greater than 10 Community Atom teams MUST have 2 evenly selected Division #1 teams.**
- Based on this criteria Hockey Calgary will have more teams in Divisions 1-3 than in past years, but we will align to the remainder of the province (HC is not at a competitive disadvantage).
- With more teams in divisions 1-3, 'City Wide' Divisions would now be too large (you would not have an opportunity to play all teams). The decision was made to move to a 'North/South' League Structure, as operated in divisions 4-7 over the past 2 seasons. **All Atom Hockey will operate under the North/South divisional structure for 2018-19 for seeding and league play.**
- HC encourages teams to play teams from the other regions in exhibition and tournament play for variety of competition.
- Please see Atom Grid attached based on 2017-18 registration and team numbers, the number of teams per Association is subject to change for 2018-19 relative to registration in this age category.

Pee Wee League Structure

- As previously communicated HC was in the process of aligning the Pee Wee structure to that of the Atom structure
 - i. Moving Pee Wee from 12 divisions to 7
 - ii. Requiring Associations to have 2 equally balanced teams in select divisions (as per a pre-determined tiering grid)
 - iii. Moving to a North/South alignment in some divisions of play
- With the announcement from Hockey Alberta, we have had to alter our plans slightly, but for the most part the league structure will move forward as planned.
- In the remainder of the province, there has always been a category of play termed Pee Wee AA (PWAA). While HC has never categorized our teams as such, our division 1 teams have always been equitable, and have competed very well in this category on the provincial level.
- For the 2018-19 season HC will follow the HA naming convention, and name (categorize) our division 1 teams as PWAA. The Pee Wee Division of hockey will have 7 divisions in total (similar to Atom), but will be named PWAA, divisions 1-6.

- The seeding grid as noted in 'Alberta One' is for teams **BELOW AA**, so the seeding grid will be different for PWAA, and the 'Alberta One' seeding grid will start at the 'former PW 2 level', now called PW 1.
- Within the PWAA Category the only differences will be as follows:
 - i. PWAA will not have a seeding round, teams that start the season in this category will remain there for the full season, no matter what the record
 - ii. The former 'Seeding' round and 'Regular' season will be combined to offer a 20 game season, same total number of games as in divisions 1-6
 - iii. Division 1 teams will not be permitted to seed up into this category
- Within Pee Wee Divisions 1 – 6, the only difference will be:
 - i. All divisions will be split North/South similar to the Atom model
- HC encourages teams to play teams from the other regions in exhibition and tournament play for variety of competition.
- Please see Pee Wee Grid attached based on 2017-18 registration and team numbers, the number of teams per Association is subject to change for 2018-19 relative to registration in this age category.

Once again, we thank you in advance for your support of these initiatives. We will continue to monitor them as we move through the 2018-19 season to ensure they are providing an optimal playing environment for all of our young athletes.

See you at the rink!!

ATOM 2018-19 SEASON (FINAL)

Revised: June 12, 2018

AS PER HA ALBERTA ONE MODEL (modified for 7 divisions)

* This Proposal is based on 2017-18 team #'s.

North / South										
Balanced Equal Teams										
#'s represent the number of equally balanced teams in each division										
TEAMS	DIV 1	DIV 2	DIV 3	DIV 4	DIV 5	DIV 6	DIV 7	TOTAL		
5 Teams		1		1	1	1	1	1	1	5
6 Teams		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	6
7 Teams	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	7
8 Teams	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	8
9 Teams	1	2	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	9
10 Teams	2	1	1	1	2	1	2	2	2	10
11 Teams	2	1	1	2	1	2	2	2	2	11
12 Teams	2	1	2	2	1	2	2	2	2	12
13 Teams	2	2	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	13
14 Teams	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	14

PROJECTED 2018-19 SEEDING BASED ON GRID (using # of teams from 2017-18 season)

ASSOCIATION	NORTH							TOTAL
	DIV 1	DIV 2	DIV 3	DIV 4	DIV 5	DIV 6	DIV 7	
Bow River	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	8
Crowfoot	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	8
Girls Hockey					1	1	1	3
McKnight	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	8
NW Warriors	2	1	1	2	1	2	2	11
Saints		1		1	1	1	1	5
Simons Valley	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	8
Springbank	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	14
	8	8	7	13	9	10	10	
SOUTH								
Blackfoot	2	1	1	1	2	1	2	10
Bow Valley	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	14
Girls Hockey				1	1	1	1	4
Glenlake	2	1	2	2	1	2	2	12
Lake Bonavista		1	1	1	1	1	1	6
Mavericks	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	8
Southwest	2	1	1	2	1	2	2	11
Trails West	2	1	2	2	1	2	2	12
	11	8	10	13	10	12	13	
TOTAL	19	16	17	26	19	22	23	142

NOTE: Aligns to the remainder of the province, but no structure change, other than move all divisions to N/S
 Highlighted cells indicate where Associations gain an extra team versus last year, to align to Alberta One
 All Associations increase teams in division #1 or 2, so fair for all programs.

PEE WEE 2018-19 SEASON (FINAL)

Revised: June 12, 2018

AS PER HA ALBERTA ONE MODEL

* This Proposal is based on 2017-18 team #'s.

North / South										#'s ex
Balanced Equal Teams										
#'s represent the number of equally balanced teams in each division										
TEAMS	AA	DIV 1	DIV 2	DIV 3	DIV 4	DIV 5	DIV 6	TOTAL	AA	
5 Teams		1		1	1	1	1	5	5	
6 Teams		1	1	1	1	1	1	6	6	
7 Teams	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	7	6	
8 Teams	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	8	7	
9 Teams	1	1	1	2	1	2	1	9	8	
10 Teams	1	1	2	1	2	1	2	10	9	
11 Teams	1	2	1	2	1	2	2	11	10	
12 Teams	1	2	2	1	2	2	2	12	11	
13 Teams	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	13	12	
14 Teams	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	14	12	

PROJECTED 2018-19 SEEDING BASED ON GRID (using # of teams from 2017-18 season)

ASSOCIATION	NORTH									TOTAL	#'s ex
	AA	DIV 1	DIV 2	DIV 3	DIV 4	DIV 5	DIV 6				
Bow River	1	1	2	1	2	1	2	10	9		
Crowfoot	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	8	7		
Girls Hockey								0			
McKnight	1	1	1	2	1	2	1	9	8		
NW Warriors	1	1	1	2	1	2	1	9	8		
Saints		1		1	1	1	1	5	5		
Simons Valley	1	1	1	2	1	2	1	9	8		
Springbank	1	2	2	1	2	2	2	12	11		
		8	8	10	10	11	9				
SOUTH											
Blackfoot	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	8	7		
Bow Valley	1	2	2	1	2	2	2	12	11		
Girls Hockey								0			
Glenlake	1	2	1	2	1	2	2	11	10		
Lake Bonavista	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	7	6		
Mavericks	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	7	6		
Southwest	1	2	1	2	1	2	2	11	10		
Trails West	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	13	12		
		11	9	10	10	11	11				
TOTAL	13	19	17	20	20	22	20	131			

NOTE: Highlighted cells indicate where Associations gain an extra team versus last year, to align to Alberta One
 All Associations increase teams in division #2 or 3, so fair for all programs.
 All Pee Wee divisions with the exception of PW AA will play in the North/South Model