



HOCKEY CALGARY

ANNOUNCEMENT

Date: June 21, 2019
To: HC Member Associations, HC Members
From: Kevin Kobelka (Executive Director Hockey Calgary)
CC: Hockey Calgary Board of Directors
Re: Court Decision June 21, 2019

Over the past 18 months, Hockey Calgary has engaged the member association executives in reviewing the boundaries within the City of Calgary (zone 9). This review was initiated to address the ever changing landscape in Calgary which has led to a large disparity in size across member associations, and thus the ability to offer the same playing experience.

HC wants to ensure that all players have a positive minor hockey experience and have

- An opportunity to compete at the appropriate skill level
- An opportunity to equally develop their skills
- An opportunity to have equal access to ice.
- A competitive balance of competition across all associations.

As a city, Calgary continues to grow and evolve, therefore, Hockey Calgary needs to also adapt and change and the proposed boundary modifications help to accomplish that goal.

On March 18, Hockey Calgary announced a decision on boundaries that was ultimately challenged in a court of law over recent weeks. On June 21, the courts have ruled as follows:

- The Boundary decision as communicated by Hockey Calgary will be set aside for the 2019-20 season and remain status quo, with the caveat that any member associations who mutually agree to the decisions that affected their boundaries can move forward as planned.

Based on the courts understanding of our bylaws, the rationale for overturning the decision was for 2 specific reasons:

- Based on the HC Bylaws we could not eliminate an Association without their agreement.
- The Court interpreted the Terms of Reference of the Operations Committee as requiring a “formal” recommendation on boundaries.



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As an organization we are greatly disappointed in this decision. The fact that 82% of our membership supported the March 18 boundary decision at our recent AGM (June 18,2019), gives the board confidence that we acted in the best interests of our members. We still believe that the proposed decision was the right direction for the future of Hockey Calgary, and the goal of providing an equal opportunity for all 14,500 players.

The Hockey Calgary Board of Directors remains committed to ensuring the best possible playing experience for 'ALL' minor hockey players in Calgary and will carefully consider that goal in light of the Court's decision.

More information regarding next steps in the registration process will be forthcoming early next week.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Kevin Kobelka'.

Kevin Kobelka
Executive Director
Hockey Calgary