



CENTRAL ALBERTA HOCKEY LEAGUE

Executive Memorandum

August 12, 2020

To: All CAHL Directors and Member Associations

RE: U9 update letter # 1

This letter is to update you to where we are at for the upcoming 2020 – 2021 season. There was lots of learning done last season as 60% of the teams just started ½ ice U9 last season. While we encountered issues we definitely did some good things as well.

The sudden end to our season caused a delay for us as we did not get our planned meetings completed but I assure you the work is ongoing. A supplemental U9 Regulation is being finalized and will be out for review shortly then we plan on a video meeting of sorts will happen shortly thereafter.

This is the feedback and items I have listed to be addressed, if I am missing anything here please just let me know:

- Scheduling - We will continue to:
 - create unbalanced schedules using travel distances to allow varying of opponents.
 - need Teams to help other teams nearby but on the outer edges of the League areas.
 - add TBA Games to team schedules as needed to help their schedule as well when impacted by opponents and their geographic location.
 - schedule the season in two parts so alterations can be made if needed in part 2 of the season.
 - there will be no games scheduled on the November and February Long Weekends.
- Team sizes – Hockey Alberta recommends team sizes of 9 to 13 players. We need to discuss this further as for some of the teams we need both sides of the ice active and not have some of the kids standing around. Further discussion is required here.
- Tier 1 / 2 teams - We will continue to operate the pure "A" (Tier 1/2) Division in this program as we used for the last part of the season with no cross-over to the "B" Teams.
- Cross-over groups - as we have done for the last two years, the "B" and "C" Groups will continue to play each other to help with reduced travel opponents unless members advise us they do not want their teams playing each other.
- Travel – we are continuing with the reduced travel time for the lower groupings of 1 hr. and 20 minutes and just slightly longer than that for the "A" group with the option to opt out of certain distances in the groupings
- Team Declarations – CAHL Members must not declare their teams so they are stronger intentionally that the other teams in their placement. The "A" Group are like tier 1 or 2 players, the "B" Group are like tier 3 or 4 players and the "C" Group would be like tier 5 and 6 players. If you are unsure then the team should be declared upwards in the groups. The groups will then be placed into a geographic division for play.
- HCR Rosters – the CAHL will accept one (1) HCR roster for all the U9 Players you want in League play. It is Ok to add all the U7 players who may affiliate to the U9 teams as you wish. Then you can let us know what your team lists will be and those are the teams we would schedule. Players can be used as you wish after that and teams can use any of the players listed on the HCR Roster you have provided.

Thank you for your support and patience while we work through this transition. Please see our meeting minutes for all the discussions we have had around this - http://cahlhockey.net/page.php?page_id=98340. As always please feel free to contact the U9 Governors or Vice President if you have any questions, concerns or comments.

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