



**What is a Zone team?**

- The Tier 1 Zone team is a VIAHA Regional Team. This is an Island wide VIAHA program, with a Zone team in each region and has been in existence for many years. Within each Region/Zone is a group of associations that work together to provide top level Rep hockey for players on Vancouver Island.
- T1 Host Teams are needed to up-keep our Districts level of competitiveness and the host MHA's are determined fairly, based on geography and demographics. Typically these regional/zone teams are hosted by the largest association in the Zone.
- Players from each of the associations within the same region can try out for the T1 Zone team, regardless of what Tier their association is categorized as. (T2, T3 or T4)

Traditionally these have been the VIAHA Regions and Host teams:

<p>North</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tri-Port MHA</li> <li>• Campbell River MHA</li> <li>• Comox Valley MHA — Host Association</li> <li>• Powell River MHA</li> <li>• Gold River MHA</li> </ul>	<p>Mid</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alberni Valley MHA</li> <li>• Oceanside MHA</li> <li>• Nanaimo MHA — Host Association</li> <li>• Cowichan Valley MHA</li> <li>• Lake Cowichan MHA</li> </ul>
<p>CRD East</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Peninsula MHA</li> <li>• Victoria Racquet Club MHA — Host Association</li> </ul>	<p>CRD Mid</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Victoria MHA — Host Association</li> </ul>
<p>CRD West</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kerry Park MHA</li> <li>• Sooke MHA</li> <li>• Juan de Fuca MHA — Host Association</li> </ul>	

**What is the benefit of the Regional/ Zone Teams?**

Players get to practice and play with similar skill levels, which allows them to develop at an appropriate pace pertaining to their skill.

The hockey landscape continues to change with new leagues and teams popping up each year. To continue to provide the best hockey experience for our members, it's important that we continue to evolve as well.

The goal is to get better representation from each regional/zone teams in Island League, improve player development and provide a viable hockey season option to keep players at home (vs leaving to play at academies or other leagues).

### **What is the North Island Tier 1 Zone Team Program?**

As mentioned, the VIAHA Regional teams an Island wide VIAHA program, and the North Island Tier 1 team has traditionally been hosted in Comox. The North Island Zone team has been in existence for many years, with numerous Campbell River based players playing for the T1 team every year. Historically CVMHA has been a T1 association, (which is calculated based on a three year average number of players), and has always been the host of the North Island T1 teams.

At the VIAHA President's meeting this past Spring, the VIAHA board asked the North Island Zone associations to form a North Island Zone committee and work together to ensure that the T1 Zone team continues to thrive.

As such, for the 2024-25 season, the North Island MHA's have been working closely together to help further develop the T1 program in the U13, U15, U18 age groups. The committee is comprised of representatives from all 4 North Island Minor Hockey Associations (TPMHA, PRMHA, CRMHA, CVMHA).

The change for this season is that the program will be based out of different areas arenas depending on the final team player composition (where majority of rostered players reside), ice availability and other factors to facilitate optimal involvement, which means that Comox MHA will not necessarily be the base location for all of the Tier 1 teams.

### **North Island Tier 1 Zone Team details:**

Unfortunately, questions regarding team ice times, host locations, travel schedules, and costs are questions that are somewhat difficult to answer at this time. Without knowing the composition of the roster, and where the host team will end up being, the ice allocators and coaches are understandably unable to provide definitive answers. However this is what we expect:

1. Practice locations – It is expected that the T1 teams will be practicing in both Campbell River and Comox. This will be determined once we know how many rep teams there will be, which is based on tryout numbers and number of house teams.
2. Costs – The North Island Zone committee is working out potential budgets, though it will be similar to what parents are used to from previous years
3. Coaches – Coaches have been selected for the T1 teams by the North Island Committee and will be announced shortly. They are all non-parent coaches, who will be paid in accordance with the Comox Valley coaching structure.
4. Tryouts – T1 tryouts will be held in Comox, as they have ice already allocated. Tryout dates have been announced and are in line with the other T1 Zone teams on Vancouver Island.

## How do I sign up!?

1. Registration with CRMHA is mandatory to tryout for rep regardless of your intention to try out for the zone team or the CRMHA Tyee Rep teams.
2. The deadline for declaring an intention to tryout for Tier 1 Zone team is **July 31<sup>st</sup>**,
3. A **completed VIAHA Application form must be provided before July 31<sup>st</sup>**. The form is available here: [2024 REQUEST FORM TO ATTEND T1 TRYOUTS](#)

Once completed, the form must be emailed to [info@crmha.ca](mailto:info@crmha.ca) **PRIOR to the July 31<sup>st</sup> deadline**. Although the form says differently (that you must send \$150 directly to Comox, and that the host location is Comox) you do NOT need to send \$150 directly to Comox - CRMHA will make that payment on your behalf as you have paid it during your online registration.

4. Tryouts for Tier 1 Zone team will be in Comox August 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> – the schedule is currently posted on our website and facebook
5. Please be advised that if you choose to not tryout for the Tier 1 team, you will not be able to affiliate to that team during the season.

## What about the traditional Campbell River Tier 2 Tyees?

Nothing has changed for the CRMHA Tyee Program. The Program is entirely intact and will continue as it has been done in previous seasons. CRMHA is a Tier 2 association, which is decided on by BC Hockey.

Numerous factors are in play every season on how many Tyee Teams that CRMHA can roster. Registration numbers, available goalies and coaches, and how many players and teams will remain in recreation hockey for example. There is never a guarantee of each division being able to field a Tyee Team. The registration numbers always fluctuate and it is extremely difficult to predict until our final numbers are in, which is not until September. CRMHA has every intention each year to roster a Tyee Team in U18, U15 and U13 should it be possible.

To tryout for the CRMHA Tyee rep team, please choose the Rep Tryout option during online registration. There is also a questionnaire to be completed at the time of registration in which you can choose CRMHA Tyee Tryouts only.

Tier 2 tryouts in Campbell River starting September 3<sup>rd</sup>. You will be contacted by email with further details on tryout dates and times. The Tryout fees paid at the time of registration cover the costs of tryouts for both Tier 1 and 2.