



RETURN  HOCKEY

COVID-19 RESPONSE

Safety Guidelines

Version 1.3 | Revised October 30, 2020



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Preface

In Canada and around the world, COVID-19 transmission is increasing. In response, some jurisdictions are decreasing gathering sizes and suspending activities such as sports to help control the spread of the virus.

To date, Saskatchewan residents have done a good job following public health orders to help manage transmission of COVID-19 in the province. However, positive case numbers are increasing in some communities and there is concern community transmission is starting to take place as we move into the winter season.

If COVID transmission continues to increase in the province, increased public health measures may need to be implemented. This may include limiting gathering sizes in communities or regions that are at higher risk, as well as potentially limiting the size of mini-leagues or suspending play altogether, if necessary.

To ensure a successful 2020-21 hockey season – from beginning to end – it is the responsibility of every player, coach, team official and spectator to ensure they are following the public health measures and doing their best to control the spread of COVID-19.



Purpose of Document

The purpose of this document is to support Saskatchewan Hockey Association (SHA) member programs by assisting the development of plans to guide the cautious step-by-step safe Return to Hockey during this pandemic. These guidelines provide information on numerous topics and includes links to additional information and resources that can further support decision making and communication with boards, minor hockey associations, regions, leagues, and sporting members.

- The Safety Guidelines were developed in conjunction with the Saskatchewan Government;
- This is a fluid situation and the guidelines will be subject to ongoing review as the season progresses; and
- The Safety Guidelines apply to anyone who wants to be a member of the SHA and play hockey under the auspices of the SHA.

Legal Disclaimer

The information contained in this document is not intended as a substitute for professional medical prognosis, recommendations, or treatment. The Saskatchewan Hockey Association makes no representation and assumes no responsibility regarding the information concerning COVID – 19 due to the constant updates, and any information on COVID – 19 should be obtained from the Saskatchewan Health Authority



Terms of Reference

SHA: Referring to the Saskatchewan Hockey Association

Inter-Provincial Travel: Travel outside the province of Saskatchewan

Intra-Provincial Travel: Travel within the province of Saskatchewan

Activity: Any SHA sanctioned training, practice, exhibition game or league game

Phase: Period or stage in the process as it pertains to Return To Hockey

Face Covering: Medical or non-medical mask which covers the mouth and nose. The material can be cloth or other material.

Minor Hockey Association: A local association which administers hockey in their center (also referred to as MHA)

Exhibition Game: A game which typically takes place prior to League Games. All Exhibition Games must be approved and sanctioned by the Saskatchewan Hockey Association.

League Game: A game which takes place as part of a sanctioned league with results recorded for standings

Training: Any hockey related activity in a team environment (such as practice or dryland)

Mini-League: A grouping of teams that are permitted to play against each other within a Saskatchewan hockey league.



Phased Approach

The Saskatchewan Hockey Association (SHA) is implementing a phased in approach for minor hockey in the province. The 'Return to Hockey' plan will include five (5) phases which must be reviewed and accepted by the Chief Medical Officer before proceeding to the next.

Each phase within the Saskatchewan Hockey Association's Safety Guidelines is subject to approval. Dates, procedures and protocols may change as deemed necessary by the Government of Saskatchewan and/or Saskatchewan Hockey Association.

CURRENT PHASE: EVALUATION AND TRAINING

Phase #1: Evaluation and Training

- Start Date: **October 8, 2020**

Phase #2: Exhibition Games (Within a Mini-League)

- Start Date: **October 17th, 2020**

Phase #3: League Games (Within a Mini-League)

- Start Date: **November 1st, 2020**

Phase #4: League Games (Within an Expanded Mini-League)

- Tentative Start Date: **January 18th, 2020**

Phase #5: Playoffs / Provincials

- Tentative Start Date: **TBD**

*Phase #2 and #3 start dates do not apply to Under-7, Under-9 and Under-11 age groups (see 'Age Specific Timetable' on following page)



Overview

	Phase #1	Phase #2	Phase #3	Phase #4	Phase #5
	Evaluation and Training	Exhibition Games	League Games	League Games (Expanded Mini-League)	Playoffs / Provincials
Evaluations	●	●	●	●	●
Training	●	●	●	●	●
Exhibition Games		●	●	●	●
League Games			●	●	●
Provincial Playoffs				●	●
League Playoffs					●
Number of Teams / Players in a Mini-League	N/A	4 Teams or 50 Players	6 Teams or 80 Players	8 Teams or 120 Players	TBD
Travel Permits	X	X	X	X	X
Tournaments	X	X	X	X	X

X – Denotes that this activity will **NOT** be permitted during the 2020-21 season.

Age Specific Timetables

Age Division	Exhibition Games	League Games	Provincial Playoffs	League Playoffs
Under-7	N/A	December 1, 2020	N/A	N/A
Under-9	N/A	November 15, 2020	N/A	TBD
Under-11	N/A	November 15, 2020	N/A	TBD
Under-13	October 17, 2020	November 1, 2020	February 1, 2021	TBD
Under-15	October 17, 2020	November 1, 2020	February 1, 2021	TBD
Under-18	October 17, 2020	November 1, 2020	February 1, 2021	TBD
Junior	October 17, 2020	November 1, 2020	N/A	TBD
Senior	October 17, 2020	November 1, 2020	February 1, 2021	TBD

** Dates are subject to approval at all phases of the Return to Hockey plan



Phase Approval

NOTE: Considerations for the Chief Medical Health Officer to approve moving between phases will include:

- Positive COVID-19 cases in Saskatchewan plateauing or declining over a period of at least four weeks.
- There are no major outbreaks or COVID transmission in the province.
- There are no major outbreaks or COVID transmission related to hockey games or facilities in Saskatchewan.
- There are no major outbreaks or COVID transmission related to hockey games or facilities in other provinces.
- Positive COVID-19 cases do not increase in the three weeks following major events or holidays where people will gather in the province (e.g. back to school, elections, Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's).

Phase #1: Evaluation and Training

Past Phase

- Max number of participants in a group during one (1) sessions: **30 PARTICIPANTS**
 - Includes players, coaches, officials, etc.
- Max number of participants in one (1) mini-league: **50 PARTICIPANTS**
 - Includes players, coaches, officials, etc.
- MHAs are encouraged to host tryouts within the current guidelines and form teams.
- **NO** Travel Permits will be issued during the 2020-21 season.
- **NO** Tournaments will be allowed during the 2020-21 season.
- **NO** games (Exhibition or League) will be permitted during Phase #1.
- Inter-squad scrimmages will be allowed.



Phase #2: Exhibition Games (Within a Mini-League)

Start Date: October 17, 2020

- Competition in the mini-leagues can begin with a maximum of **FOUR (4) TEAMS (consisting of the maximum number of players allowed within the SHA regulations) or 50 PLAYERS** per mini-league.
- Teams will be permitted to play in a maximum of **TWO (2)** Exhibition Games during Phase #2.
- Teams will **NOT** be allowed to switch mini-leagues during Phase #2.
- Leagues must notify SHA of which teams are in which mini-leagues.
- Teams are only permitted to participate in **ONE (1)** exhibition game, per day.
- Teams are **NOT** allowed to stay overnight when traveling for exhibition games.
- All Exhibition Games must be approved by SHA for sanctioning.
- Mini-leagues will be created within the existing hockey leagues in Saskatchewan.
- Mini-leagues should be as geographically tight as possible in an effort to minimize travel.
- **Participants may only be a part of one (1) mini-league within a single sports organization at any given time and are encouraged to limit their personal bubbles they are involved with in the interests of their own health, the health of their families and friends and the health of their communities.**
- Coaches and off-ice officials that are able to maintain two metres of physical distancing and are wearing non-medical masks (e.g. cloth or other materials) do not count in the mini-league capacity.
- Coaches and on-ice officials that cannot consistently maintain two metres of physical distancing are considered part of the mini-league numbers. The coaches are required to wear non-medical masks (e.g. cloth or other materials).

NOTE: If transmission levels increase, the size of mini-leagues may have to be reduced or hockey temporarily suspended in regions of the province where COVID-19 is a concern before reducing or suspending play province-wide.



Phase #3: League Games (Within a Mini-League)

Start Date: November 1, 2020

If COVID-19 transmission levels remain manageable within the province and the Chief Medical Health Officer provides approval, mini-leagues would be able to increase to a maximum of **SIX (6) TEAMS (consisting of the maximum number of players allowed within the SHA regulations)** or **80 PLAYERS** per mini-league.

- Leagues must gain approval of the SHA of the creation of their mini-leagues prior to games commencing within them.
- All League Games will require approval from the respective leagues.
- Teams must remain within their assigned mini-league.
- Teams are permitted to play League Games within their region for competition
- Teams are encouraged to schedule back-to-back games with one (1) opponent in a week, followed by a five (5) day break before scheduling the next opponent.
- **Participants may only be a part of one (1) mini-league within a single sports organization at any given time and are encouraged to limit their personal bubbles they are involved with in the interests of their own health, the health of their families and friends and the health of their communities.**
- Mini-leagues can be “reset” if the following measures are taken;
 - Your league has notified SHA of the change and has been approved.
 - Fourteen (14) days transpire since your last Exhibition and/or League game within your mini-league competition.
 - If two (2) or more teams are changing from one mini-league to another, then these teams are permitted to play each other during the fourteen (14) day period.

Additional increases to the size of mini-leagues will depend on COVID-19 transmission levels within Saskatchewan and approval from the Chief Medical Health Officer. The timing for any increases to the size of mini-leagues is to be determined.

EXAMPLE SCHEDULE – 6 TEAMS

We encourage league games to be played on a weekend, and to be home and home with the same team. This will allow four (4) to five (5) days to transpire between games between the two (2) teams.

Weekend #1:	Team 1 v Team 2	Team 3 v Team 4	Team 5 v Team 6
Weekend #2:	Team 1 v Team 6	Team 5 v Team 4	Team 3 v Team 2
Weekend #3:	Team 1 v Team 3	Team 5 v Team 2	Team 6 v Team 4
Weekend #4:	Team 1v Team 5	Team 3 v Team 6	Team 4 v Team 2
Weekend #5:	Team 1 v Team 4	Team 2 v Team 6	Team 3 v Team 5



Phase #4: League Games (Within an Expanded Mini-League)

Tentative Start Date: January 18, 2021

- If COVID-19 transmission levels continue to be manageable and the Chief Medical Health Officer provides approval, mini-leagues would again be able to increase to a maximum of **EIGHT (8) TEAMS (consisting of the maximum number of players allowed within the SHA regulations)** or **120 PLAYERS** per mini-league (at the discretion of the Saskatchewan Hockey Association) beginning on January 18, 2021 (tentative).
- Participants may only be a part of **ONE (1)** mini-league within a single sports organization at any given time and are encouraged to limit their personal bubbles they are involved with in the interests of their own health, the health of their families and friends and the health of their communities.

Phase #5: Playoffs / Provincials

Tentative Start Date: TBD

- Participants may only be a part of one mini-league within a single sports organization at any given time and are encouraged to limit their personal bubbles they are involved with in the interests of their own health, the health of their families and friends and the health of their communities.

Provincial Playoffs

- All minor, female and senior series will be played in a **Modified Best of three (3)** series.
 - The games will be played using Regular Game timing procedures
 - Three (3) twenty (20) minute Stop time periods.
 - If the first game is tied, it will remain tied.
 - If one team wins game 1 and ties game 2, the team with the win will be the series winner.
 - If the teams split the two games, or if the first two games both end in a tie, then a (10 Minute) Mini-Game will be played to decide the series winner regardless of what the score was in the first two games.
- Proximity will be the determining factor in beginning round(s)
- No Provincial Playoffs will be conducted in the U7, U9 and U11 age categories

League Playoffs

- The tournament format will **NOT** be allowed when conducting playoffs
- All series will be played in a **Modified Best of three (3)** series.
 - See 'Phase #4: Provincials' for format



Face Covering Policy

The Saskatchewan Hockey Association's face covering policy has been implemented for all members of minor hockey; including players, coaches, bench staff, on-ice officials, off-ice officials and parents / spectators. The policy will apply to all SHA membership until such a time that it has been deemed safe to remove this policy.

It is the intentions of SHA to have a consistent environment so when players, officials, coaches and spectators are headed to a rink, they will know what to expect.

Face Covering: Non-medical mask which covers the mouth and nose. The material can be cloth or other material). Please refer to the Government of Canada - [How to safely use a non-medical mask or face covering](#) for further instructions.

Players:

- **Players** must be properly wearing a face covering when entering the arenas and continue wearing their face covering until they reach the spot where they will finish getting their skates / equipment on (chair, bleacher, dressing room). **Players** must keep their face covering on until they put their helmet on to head to the ice surface;
- **Players** should promptly put their face covering back on once they get back to their spot and remove their helmet;
- **Players** should exercise physical distancing while entering and exiting arenas and while putting on their skates / equipment;

On-Ice Coaches:

- **On-Ice Coaches** must be properly wearing a face covering when entering the arenas and continue wearing their face covering until they reach the spot where they will put their skates on (chair, bleacher, dressing room). **On-Ice Coaches** must keep their face covering on until they put their helmet on to head to the ice surface;
- **On-Ice Coaches** are not required to wear a face covering while on the ice. They should have one on their person for any instances where they will need to be closer than six feet from a player or fellow coach (injury, equipment issue, etc.);
- **On-Ice Coaches** should promptly put their face covering back on once they get back to their spot and remove their helmet;
- **On-Ice Coaches** should exercise physical distancing while entering and exiting arenas and while putting on their skates;

Bench Coaches/Staff:

- **Bench Coaches/Staff** must be properly wearing a face covering when entering / exiting the arenas and continue properly wearing their face covering at all times - including while on the bench during games;
- **Bench Coaches/Staff** should exercise physical distancing while entering and exiting arenas;



On-Ice Officials:

- **On-Ice Officials** must be properly wearing a face covering when entering the arenas and continue wearing their face covering until they reach the spot where they will put their skates on. **On-Ice Officials** must keep their face covering on until they put their helmet on before heading onto the ice surface;
- **On-Ice Officials** are not required to wear a face covering while on the ice;
- **On-Ice Officials** should promptly put their face covering back on once they get back to their spot and remove their helmet;
- **On-Ice Officials** should exercise physical distancing while entering and exiting arenas and while putting on their skates;

Off-Ice Officials (timekeepers / scorekeepers):

- **Off-Ice Officials** must be properly wearing a face covering when entering / exiting the arenas and continue properly wearing their face covering at all times - including while working in the timekeeper's box / area;
- **Off-Ice Officials** physical distancing should be exercised in the timekeeper's box as much as possible;
- **Off-Ice Officials** should exercise physical distancing while entering and exiting arenas;

Parents / Spectators:

- **Parents / Spectators** must be properly wearing a face covering when entering / exiting the arenas and continue properly wearing their face covering at all times;
- **Parents / Spectators** should exercise physical distancing while entering and exiting the arenas and while sitting or standing inside the arena;

Exceptions:

The following groups are not required to wear a face covering. Consult with your physician for more appropriate options:

- Children under the age of two (2);
- Anyone who has diagnosed respiratory, neurologic or mental health condition that precludes safe mask wearing; or
- Anyone who is unconscious, incapacitated or otherwise unable to remove the mask without assistance.

All teams will be required to have a **Covid-19 Communications Representative** that will be responsible for keeping their teams informed of all applicable protocols and other pertinent information that comes out as the season progresses.

If SHA is made aware of any teams not complying with the face covering Policy, it will work with the local Minor Hockey Association of the team to ensure that all teams adhere. If a team refuses to comply, sanctions may include the removal of ice time / suspensions to team officials.

Minor Hockey Association

Checklist to Success

Review & Follow



- Saskatchewan Government and Saskatchewan Health Authority Guidelines
- Review Hockey Canada: Safety Guidelines
- Review Saskatchewan Hockey Association: Safety Guidelines
- Review local and provincial facility guidelines

Plan



- As per Hockey Canada Safety Guidelines, assign a person from your Association to be the COVID Representative (MHA)
- As per Hockey Canada Safety Guidelines, have each team assign a Team Official to be the COVID Representative (TEAM)
- Speak with your facility regarding; hygiene requirements, physical distancing, dressing rooms, entrance/exit, washrooms, spectators, concessions, etc. (see 'Facilities' section)
- All registered MHA Executive members, Team Officials and On-Ice Officials must complete the 'Planning A Safe Return to Hockey' online course
- Ensure that all members are aware and following Safety Guidelines

MHA COVID Representative

The assigned Minor Hockey Association (MHA) COVID Representative is responsible for;

- Notify SHA by **October 15th, 2020** of your MHA's COVID Representative
- MHAs must submit their facility guidelines to their respective league(s) by **November 1st, 2020**
- Communicate all safety measure and facility guidelines with all Team Safety Personal within your MHAs
- Notify SHA of any positive COVID test within your membership.
- The primary liaison with the local municipality for COVID-19 health and safety matters at each facility.
- Stay up to date on any changes to the Provincial Health Guidelines or SHA Safety Guidelines

Team Safety Person

Each team will have a designated “Safety Person” that will be the person responsible for ensuring guidelines and protocols are followed. In addition, this person will be responsible for;

- Organizing a pre-season meeting with all parent/guardians to go over the following;
 - Hockey Canada Safety Guidelines
 - SHA Safety Guidelines
 - Local facility Guideline(s)
 - SHA Face Cover Policy
- Notify your MHA COVID Representative of any positive test within your team.
- Ensure record of attendance is kept at the arena. (see ‘Contact Tracing’)
- Communicate with your MHA COVID Representative any issues with regards to safety procedures

Team Hygiene

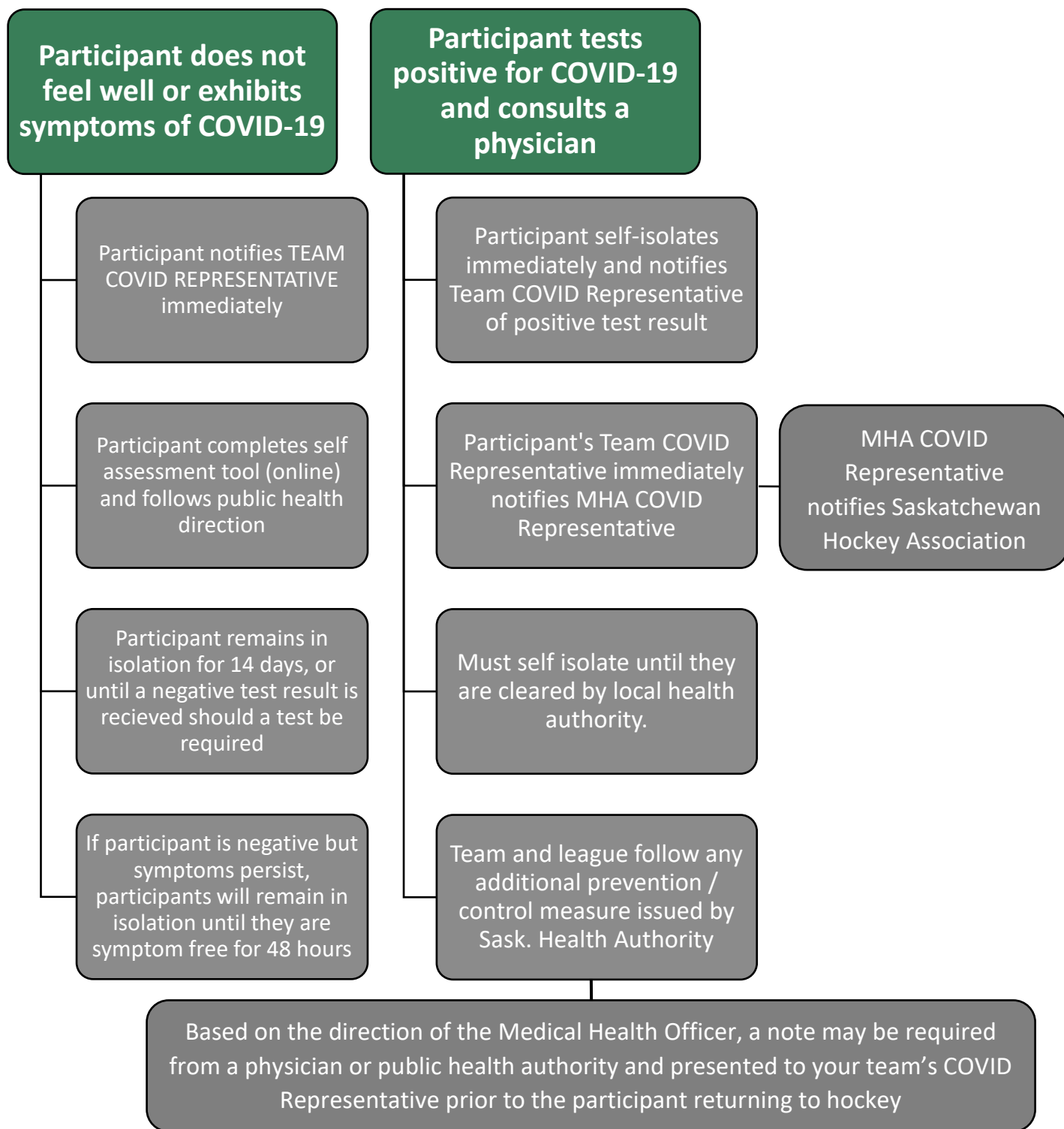
Equipment

- Equipment such as water bottles and towels should not be shared.
- Players should label water bottles with their names.
- Water bottles should be filled at home.
- Water bottles should be cleaned thoroughly before and after each event.
- Equipment such as jerseys, pant shells, socks, bandanas/skull caps and compression gear should be washed after each event.
- Equipment that is shared (pucks, pylons, etc.) must only be handled by the owner of the equipment.

Dressing Room Protocols

- Participants must follow facility guidelines and enforce physical distancing in dressing rooms.
- Only team personnel will be allowed in dressing rooms (coaches, medical staff, and players).
 - If a parent is required, only one parent per player will be permitted. No additional family members will be allowed in dressing rooms.
- Hand sanitizer approved by Health Canada (DIN or NPN) should be available for players.
- Sharing food or drink is not permitted.
- Individuals may not share clothing, soap, shampoo, or other personal items such as razors and towels.
- Spitting is prohibited.

Symptoms or Positive COVID Test





Pre-Activity Screening

All Players, On-Ice Officials, Off-Ice Officials and Team Officials will be required to complete the Government of Saskatchewan's Self-Assessment Tool (online) prior to each hockey activity. The link to the self-assessment tool is provided [HERE](#).

Contact Tracing

All teams will be required to maintain a record of attendees. All players, spectators, staff and volunteers must be accounted for upon arrival and identified with their full name and phone number. See example, Appendix #1 – Contact Tracing (page 25). These records must be kept for a total of **30 days** for contact tracing purposes.

Officials

- Officials are **NOT** allowed to affiliate and travel between provinces in their role as officials.
- Officials will not shake hands with coaches or players before or after the game.
- Officials should communicate with off-ice officials through the gate as opposed to using the hole in the box.
- The linesperson who picks up the puck should drop the puck, avoid extra hand offs, this includes in the 4-official system. Referees will **NOT** drop the puck at any time, that includes the start of periods or after goals.
- Officials should position themselves six feet away from the players benches when possible.
- When reporting penalties, do not speak through the hole in the glass – work from a distance or communicate with off-ice officials through an open door from a distance.
- Officials are directed to not pick up any equipment that may be on the ice (broken/dropped stick, neck guards, mouthguards, gloves etc.)
- Officials should have personal hand sanitizer and disinfectant wipes or spray and may also take a small bottle with them on the ice or leave a bottle in the penalty box.
- Officials can help reduce the number of time players spend in proximity to each other by quickly blowing the whistle if the puck is not moving with multiple players engaged.
- Officials are encouraged to utilize their whistle to stop play earlier and potentially prevent unnecessary scrums and altercations.
- If an official sees a player spit or spit water onto the ice surface, they shall notify the head coach of the offending player's team at the next available stoppage of play. Coaches will be advised to address such instances with their team and reinforce that it is not acceptable.
 - If a team has been notified two times within a game and a third occurrence occurs, officials may assess the offending player an Unsportsmanlike Conduct minor penalty under Rule 9.2(a). After informing the coach once again, state any further instances by any player will now be assessed as misconduct penalties and reported to the league on the game report or incident report.

NOTE: See 'Game Protocols' (page 21) for additional information.

Off-Ice Officials

- Timekeepers and Penalty Box Attendants must wear a face covering in the penalty box area.
- Timekeepers and Penalty Box Attendants must wear a face covering while entering/exiting the facility.
- Officials should communicate with off-ice officials through the gate as opposed to using the hole in the box.
- Timekeepers and Penalty Box Attendants should remind players in the penalty boxes to physically distance as much as possible.
- Off-ice officials should not enter the officials dressing room.

Facilities

Spectator Capacity

- The following guidelines apply to attendance at hockey arenas/rinks in Saskatchewan:
 - For **Senior, Junior and Minor hockey games**, attendance will be under the following conditions:
 - Maximum capacity is 150 provided there is enough room to maintain two metres of physical distancing between extended household groups – side to side and front to back.
 - Members of extended households must sit together, with a minimum of two metres between extended household groups.
 - All facilities must determine a way to establish fixed/static seating, even where there is no individual seating or seat numbers available. For example, seating/standing areas could be taped or cordoned off.
 - Spectator visiting, moving around and congregating is **strongly discouraged**.
 - Spectators should not be within two metres of players as they enter/exit the ice surface or dressing rooms.
 - All players, coaches, team officials and spectators are **strongly encouraged** to use the Government of Canada's proximity tracking app.
 - Approval is granted by local public health.



Practice

- Players should stagger entering the ice surface from the dressing room.
- Players and coaches should observe physical distancing recommendations while on the ice.
- Coaches should minimize chalk talk sessions or time at the board where athletes are required to congregate.
- Coaches should be aware of physical distancing and should speak to athletes from at least two metres away.
- Utilize station-based skill development practice plans and have players/coaches spread out to maintain physical distancing.
- Avoid drills that require players to stand in line or groups for a long period of time.
- If using the full-ice, utilize flow drills that allow for maximum spacing of athletes on the ice.
- Avoid the use of contact or battle drills that do not allow for physical distancing. Hockey Canada has put together COVID - 19 safe drills and practice plans, which will be available on the Hockey Canada Network App for members to access. Download the app hockeycanadanetwork.com/.
- When leaving the ice, coaches should excuse players one-by-one in an orderly fashion to ensure athletes are given appropriate time to exit the ice surface without congregating. Adequate time should be planned within the practice to ensure this can be done.
- Spectators should remain in the stands until all individuals have left the ice to avoid crowds around the gates.

Game Protocols

- Each team will be permitted to have a maximum **THREE (3)** Team Officials on the bench during a game.
- It is the responsibility of everyone to reduce the amount of time spent in proximity to others.
 - Once the whistle is blown to stop play, players are expected to immediately leave the area and physically distance on the ice where possible.
- Hockey Canada encourages coaches to promote that participants refrain from spitting at any time during any on-ice activities. This would also include spitting water on the ice or in the bench area.
- It is recommended that all players and the official remain distanced at the top, bottom or to the side of the face-off circle until the official blows the whistle and then move to their appropriate positions for the puck drop.
- All participants (including coaches/staff and officials) should **avoid handshakes, fist bumps, hugs or any physical contact, including goal celebrations.**
- Players will not shake hands following a game. Teams may line up on respective blue lines and raise their sticks.
- Benches, including penalty boxes, should be sanitized between each use by facility staff.
- Hand sanitizer approved by Health Canada (DIN or NPN) should be available on the bench provided by each team.
- All participants are asked to maintain social distancing practices while on the bench or in the penalty box as much as possible.
- It is recommended that the same person open/close the gates and wear gloves.
- If the facility has gates between the time-keeper box and penalty boxes, they should remain closed at all times during the game.
- Timekeepers should remind players in the penalty boxes to physically distance as much as possible.
- Officials are encouraged to utilize their whistle to stop play earlier and potentially prevent unnecessary scrums and altercations.
 - Once the whistle is blown to stop play, players are expected to immediately leave the area and physically distance on the ice where possible.
 - Officials are encouraged to assess appropriate penalties to players causing scrums or altercations rather than verbal warnings if those players have not appropriately abided by the whistle and direction from the officials to leave the area.

Travel

The following restrictions will be placed on travel for SHA sanctioned activities;

- Teams will **NOT** be permitted to travel outside the province.
- Teams will **NOT** be permitted to travel outside the country.
- No out of province team will be allowed to play within Saskatchewan.

Transportation (Bus)

If a bus or motor coach is to be used please ensure the following guidelines are in place:

- Ensure physical distancing so players are not sitting next to each other.
- The bus should be professionally cleaned and disinfected prior to each trip. It is recommended to discuss with the bus company what their cleaning procedures are.
- Discuss with the bus company the importance of following all public health authority guidelines.
- Players and staff should wash their hands prior to boarding the bus.
- Players and staff should clean and disinfect their seat and surface area with provided disinfectant wipes after each stop and prior to each departure.
- Hand sanitizer and disinfectant wipes should be available as players board and disembark.
- Players and staff should wash their hands as they disembark.
- Have proper waste disposals on the bus to discard used disinfectant wipes.
- If physical distancing is not possible on the bus, it is recommended all passengers wear a cloth mask.
- Teams should request increased air circulation on the bus.

Hotel

If staying at a hotel, consider the following recommendations:

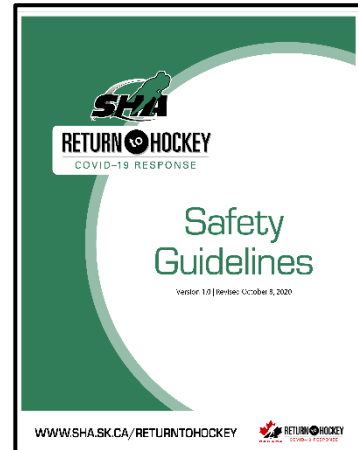
- Ask hotel to remove glasses in rooms and replace with plastic wrapped cups or bring some.
- Bring plates and cutlery.
- Eliminate team buffets. Individual meals should be considered.
- Remember physical-distancing requirements prior to considering any type of meal.
- If eating at a restaurant, follow applicable public health authority guidelines.
- One family per room.

Communication Strategy

Safety Guidelines Document

The Saskatchewan Hockey Association's Safety Guidelines document for 'Return to Hockey' will be a fluid document as restrictions are lifted or imposed by the Provincial Government and/or Saskatchewan Hockey Association. The document will be the primary source for all updates to the guidelines as new information becomes available. The most recent document will be identified with "Version #.#" with the revised date listed.

This document will be sent out via email to all Minor Hockey Associations (MHA) and Leagues, posted on social media and housed on the SHA website in multiple places including but not limited to; SHA's ['Return to Hockey'](#) page.

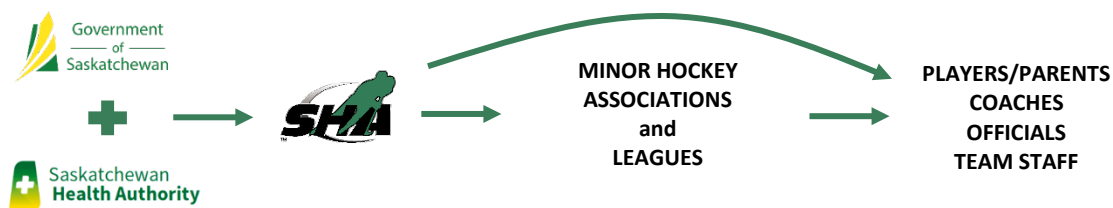


To ensure an effective communication strategy, the Saskatchewan Hockey Association has identified key channels which we feel will properly communicate the most up-to-date guidelines to our membership.

Our focus is to reach all membership, which includes; Players, Parents / Guardians, Coaches, Officials and Team Staff with this multi-facet approach.

Email Communication

The email communication strategy will be our most direct line to the membership. Through our internal contact list of approximately 200 Minor Hockey Associations and 30 Leagues, this contact list will be important to ensure the MHA and League's Presidents are aware of any changes to the guidelines as they come about. Additionally, the Saskatchewan Hockey Association has access to the Hockey Canada Registry, a database where all participants of SHA are listed with current contact information. The registry includes all teams, players, coaches, team staff and officials that participate as members.

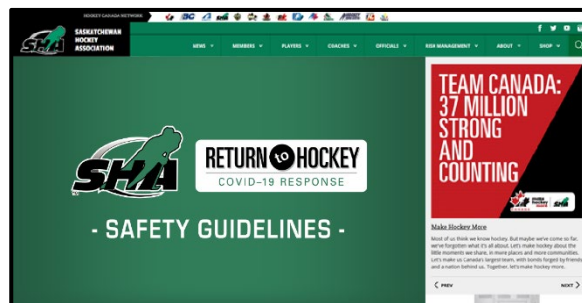




Return to Hockey Webpage

The Saskatchewan Hockey Association's 'Return to Hockey' webpage was launched on August 28th, 2020. This digital space will be the hub for any news bulletins/updates and to view/download the most recent Safety Guidelines from our website.

The homepage will display a permanent link to the 'Return to Hockey' page to ensure it won't be missed by any site visitor. Note, all Minor Hockey Associations have been made aware of the webpage and have been encouraged to post this on their own websites to inform membership.



Social Media Awareness

Utilizing the Saskatchewan Hockey Association's social media channels ([Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#)) will be a key resource in relaying information and updates to membership and their extended parent groups. All content sent-out will include the SHA Return to Hockey graphic and suggested messaging for the Minor Hockey Associations and Leagues to post on their channels.

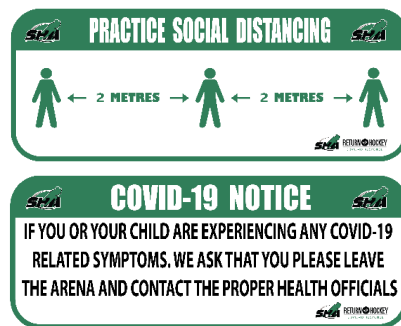
We have already begun circulating digital assets to our Minor Hockey Associations and Leagues to allow these groups the opportunity to post organically if they wish OR they can simply re-share/re-post from any of our channels. Additional awareness campaigns such as highlighting key components of the Safety Guidelines and encouraging members to download the COVID Alert Proximity Tracking App can be seen throughout the season.



ARENA SIGNAGE

In accordance with any key messaging that is required for display at facilities, the Saskatchewan Hockey Association will create print-ready templates for Minor Hockey Associations and Leagues to source locally for display in their arena(s).

Artwork provided as example (final artwork pending approval from Saskatchewan Government)



Additional Resources



Government of Saskatchewan – Re-Open Saskatchewan:

<https://www.saskatchewan.ca/government/health-care-administration-and-provider-resources/treatment-procedures-and-guidelines/emerging-public-health-issues/2019-novel-coronavirus/re-open-saskatchewan-plan>



Government of Saskatchewan – COVID-19:

https://www.saskatchewan.ca/covid-19#utm_campaign=q2_2015&utm_medium=short&utm_source=%2F covid-19



Government of Saskatchewan – Self-Assessment Tool:

<https://www.saskatchewan.ca/government/health-care-administration-and-provider-resources/treatment-procedures-and-guidelines/emerging-public-health-issues/2019-novel-coronavirus/covid-19-self-assessment>



Hockey Canada – Safety Guidelines:

https://cdn.hockeycanada.ca/hockey-canada/Exclusive/return-to-hockey/downloads/HC_RTH_Safety-GUIDELINES_EN.pdf



Hockey Canada – Officiating Guidelines:

https://cdn.hockeycanada.ca/hockey-canada/Exclusive/return-to-hockey/downloads/HC_RTH_Officiating_Guide_EN.pdf



Hockey Canada – Seasonal Structure:

https://sha.sk.ca/public/images/NEWS/HC_RTH_SeasonalStructure_ENG.pdf



Appendix #1 – Contact Tracing

SHA Team Activity Attendance Form

Team Name: _____ Minor Hockey Association: _____ Date: _____

Under the Covid-19 Return to Hockey Protocol, all minor hockey teams are required to keep a record of those who attend any team activities (practice, game, dryland training session). These records must be kept for 30 days minimum for contact tracing purposes.

First Name	Last Name	Phone Number
John	Smith	###-###-####
Jane	Doe	###-###-####

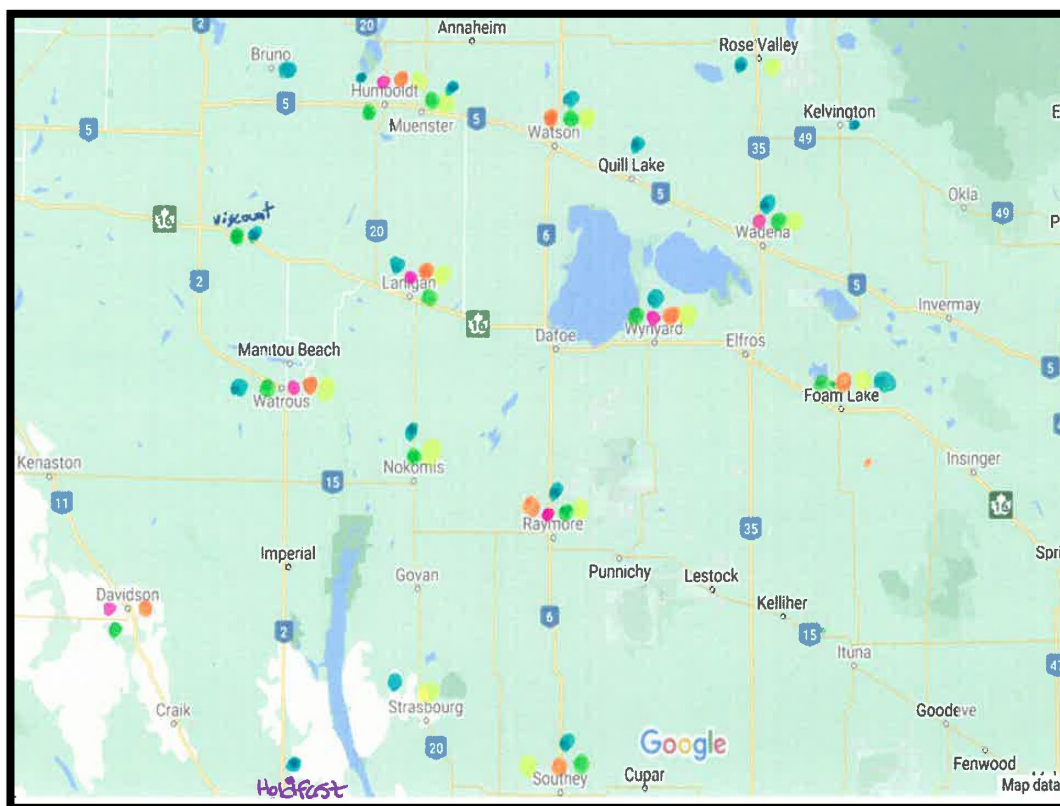


Appendix #2 - League Maps

Based on 2019-20 Season

East Central Minor Hockey League

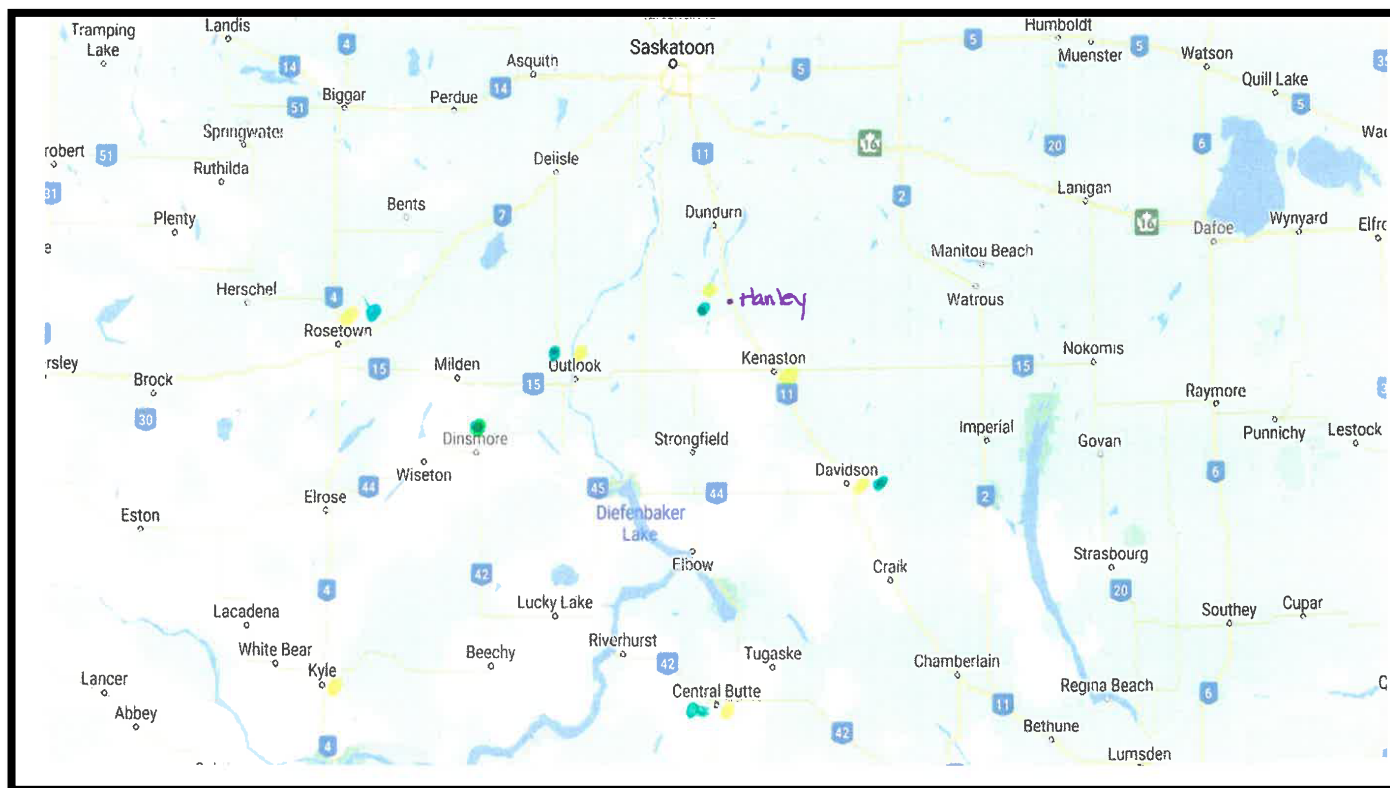
East Central Minor Hockey League				
U9	U11	U13	U15	U18
Bruno	Foam Lake	Davidson	Cupar/Southey	Davidson
Foam Lake	Humboldt	Drake/Nokomis	Davidson	Humboldt/Vico
Holdfast	Muenster	Foam Lake	Foam Lake	Muenster/Lanigan
Humboldt	Rose Valley	Humboldt	Humoldt	Raymore/Strasbourg
Kelvington	Wadena	Lanigan	Lanigan/Vico	Wadena
Lanigan	Watson	Muenster	Muenster/Watson	Watrous
Muenster	Wynyard	Raymore	Raymore/Strasbourg	Wynyard
Nokomis	Drake/Nokomis	Southey	Watrous	
Quill Lake	Lanigan	Vico	Wynyard	
Raymore	Raymore	Wadena		
Rose Valley	Southey	Watrous		
Southey	Strasbourg	Watson		
Strasbourg	Watrous	Wynyard		
Viscount				
Wadena				
Watrous				
Watson				
Wynyard				





Fertile Valley Minor Hockey League

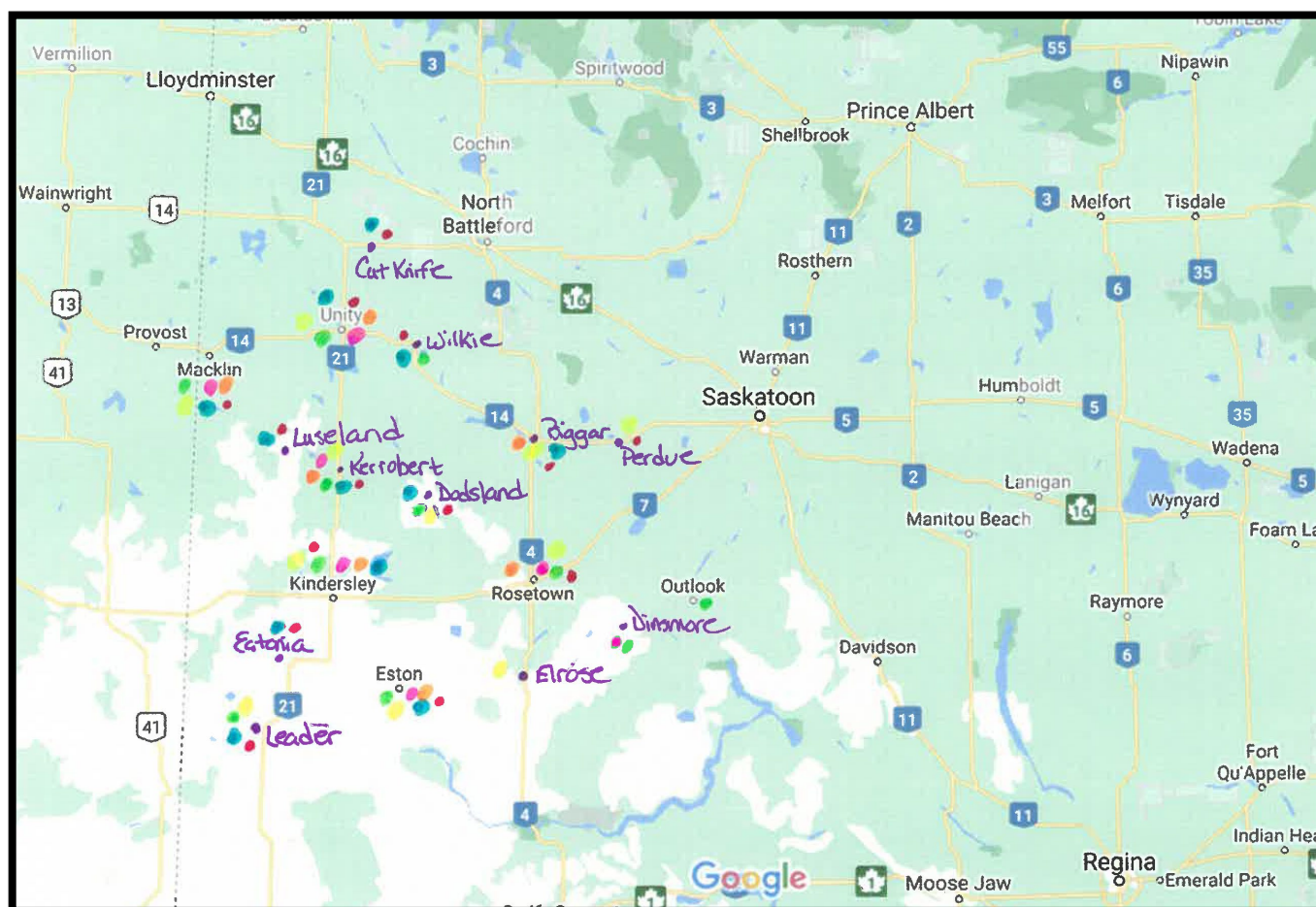
Fertile Valley Minor Hockey League				
U9	U11	U13	U15	U18
Central Butte	Central Butte			
Davidson	Davidson			
Hanley	Kyle			
Outlook	Hanley			
Dinsmore	Kenaston			
Rosetown	Outlook			
	Rosetown			





Highway 14 Minor Hockey League

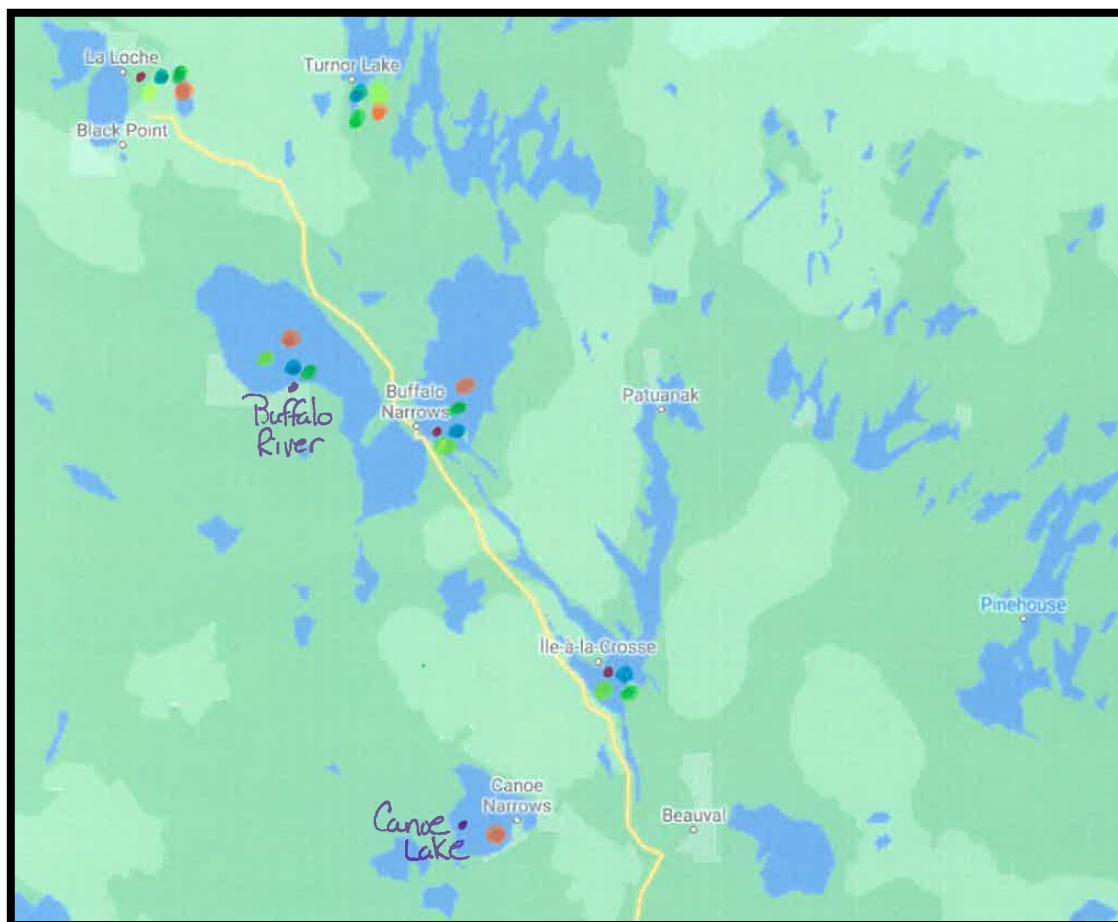
Highway 14 Minor Hockey League					
U7	U9	U11	U13	U15	U18
Biggar	Unity	Macklin	Macklin	Unity	Eston
Perdue	Cutknife	Kindersley	Kindersley	Macklin	Macklin
Kindersley	Macklin	Kerrobert	Eston	Eston	Dinsmore
Macklin	Wilkie	Unity	Outlook	Kerrobert/Luseland	Kindersley
Wilkie	Leader	Biggar	Dinsmore	Rosetown/Elrose	Rosetown
Eston	Eatonia	Doddsland	Kerrobert	Kindersley	Unity
Kerrobert	Kindersley	Leader	Wilkie	Biggar/Wilkie	KDL Midget
Unity	Eston	Eston	Unity		
Cut Knife	Kerrobert	Elrose	Rosetown		
Eatonia	Biggar	Rosetown	Doddsland		
Leader	Doddsland	Perdue	Leader		
Rosetown	Luseland				
Luseland					
Doddsland					





Highway 155 League

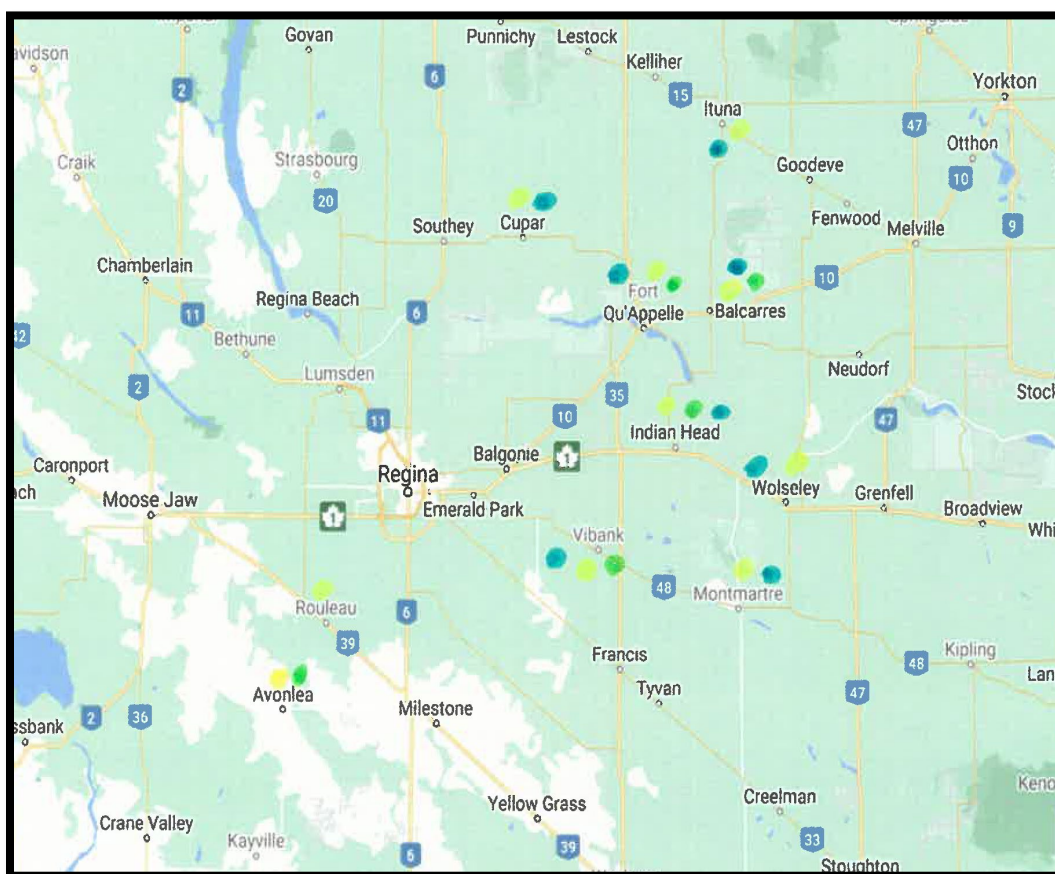
Highway 155 League					
U7	U9	U11	U13	U15	U18
La Loche	La Loche	La Loche	La Loche	La Loche	
Buffalo Narrows	Buffalo Narrows	Buffalo Narrows	Buffalo Narrows	Buffalo Narrows	
Ile a la Cross	Buffalo River	Buffalo River	Buffalo River	Buffalo River	
	Ile a la Cross	Ile a la Cross	Ile a la Cross	Canoe Lake	
	Turnor Lake	Turnor Lake	Turnor Lake	Turnor Lake	





Mainline Minor Hockey League

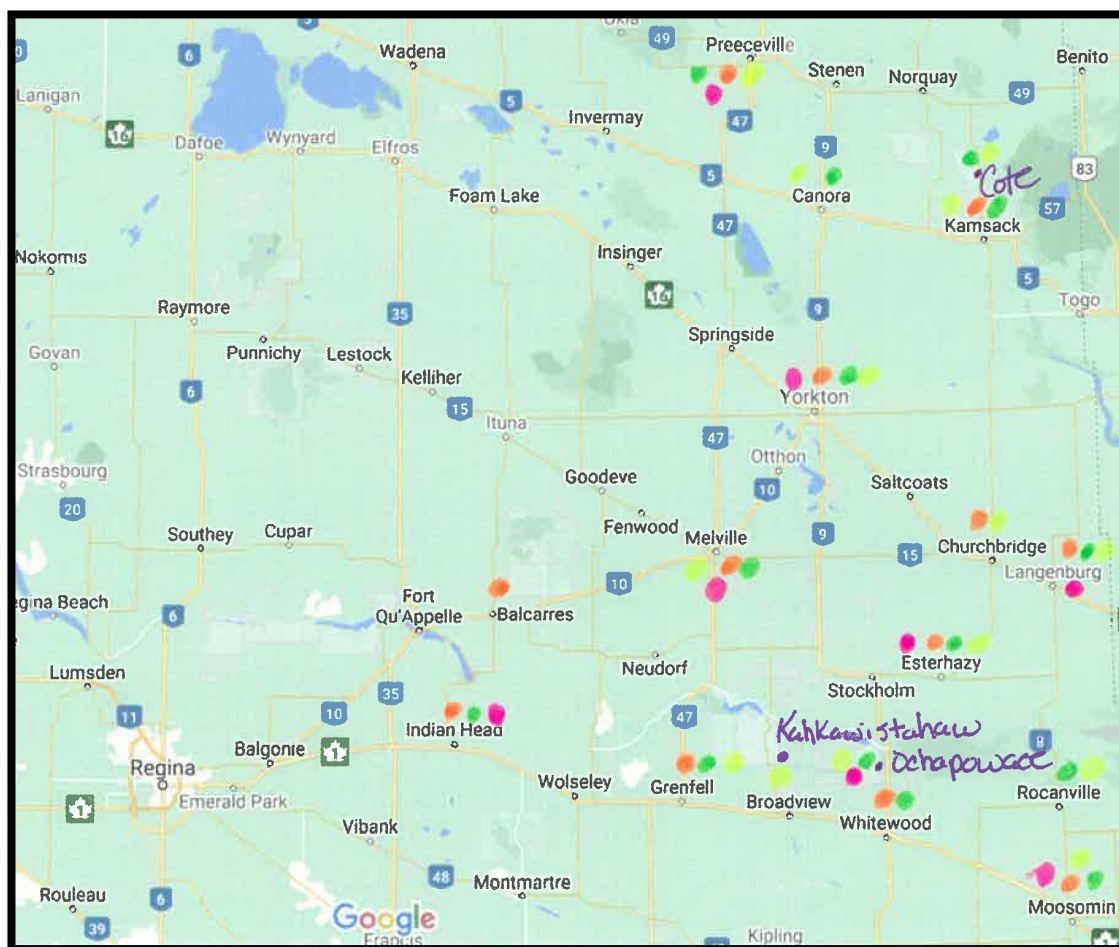
Mainline Minor Hockey League					
U7	U9	U11	U13	U15	U18
	Balcarres	Avonlea	Avonlea		
	Cupar	Balcarres	Balcarres		
	Fort Qu'appelle	Cupar	Fort Qu'appelle		
	Indian Head	Fort Qu'appelle	Indian Head		
	Ituna/Kelliher	Indian Head	Quad Town		
	Montmartre	Ituna/Kelliher			
	Quad Town	Montmartre			
	Wolseley	Quad Town			
		Rouleau			
		Wolseley			





Major Minor Hockey League

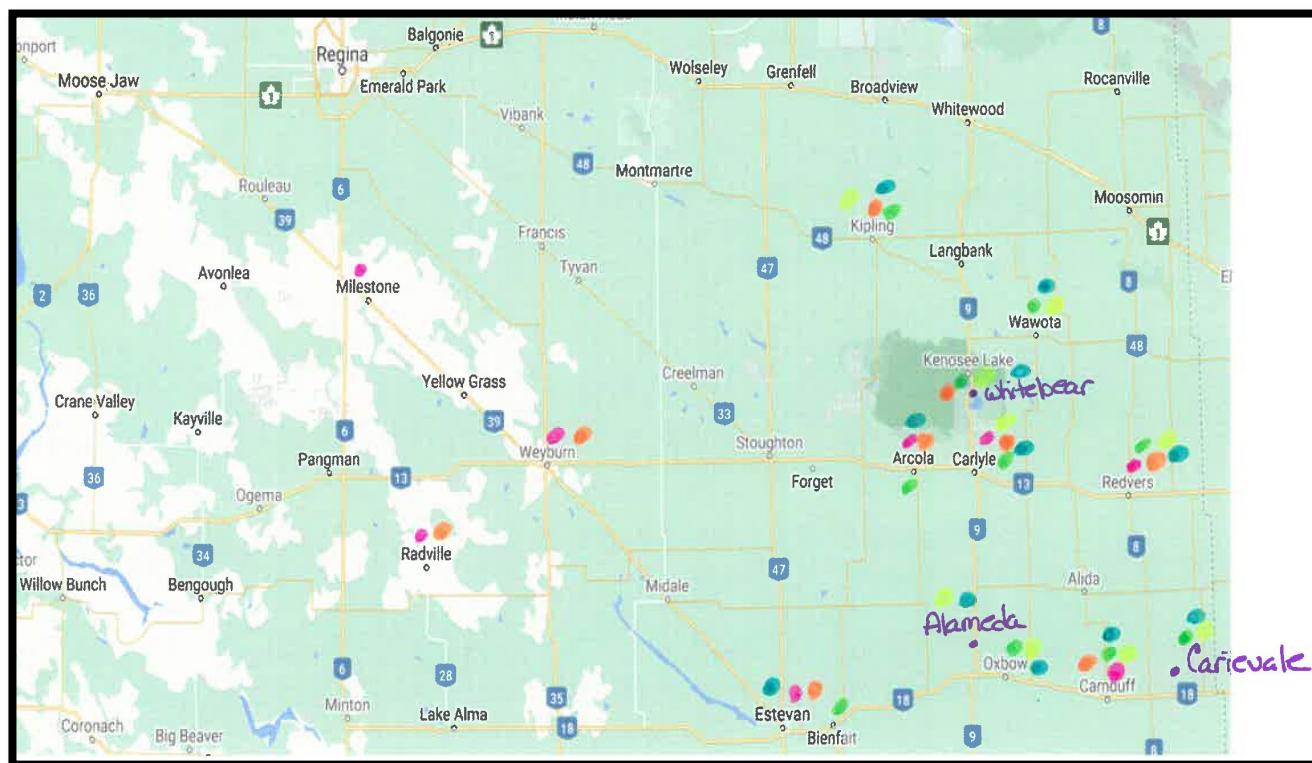
Major Minor Hockey League					
U7	U9	U11	U13	U15	U18
		Canora	Langenburg	Balcarres	Ochapowace
		Churchbridge	Esterhazy	Melville	Langenburg
		Cote	Canora	Indian Head	Indian Head
		Kamsack	Moosomin	Preeceville	Esterhazy
		Langenburg	Yorkton	Yorkton	Yorkton (2)
		Preeceville	Indian Head	Moosomin	Preeceville
		Yorkton	Rocanville	Whitewood	Moosomin
		Esterhazy	Kamsack	Esterhazy	Melville
		Grenfell	Grenfell	Churchbridge	
		Kahkawistahaw	Preeceville	Langenburg	
		Melville	Ochapowace	Grenfell	
		Moosomin	Cote	Cote	
		Ochapowace	Whitewood		
		Rocanville	Melville		





Moose Mountain Minor Hockey League

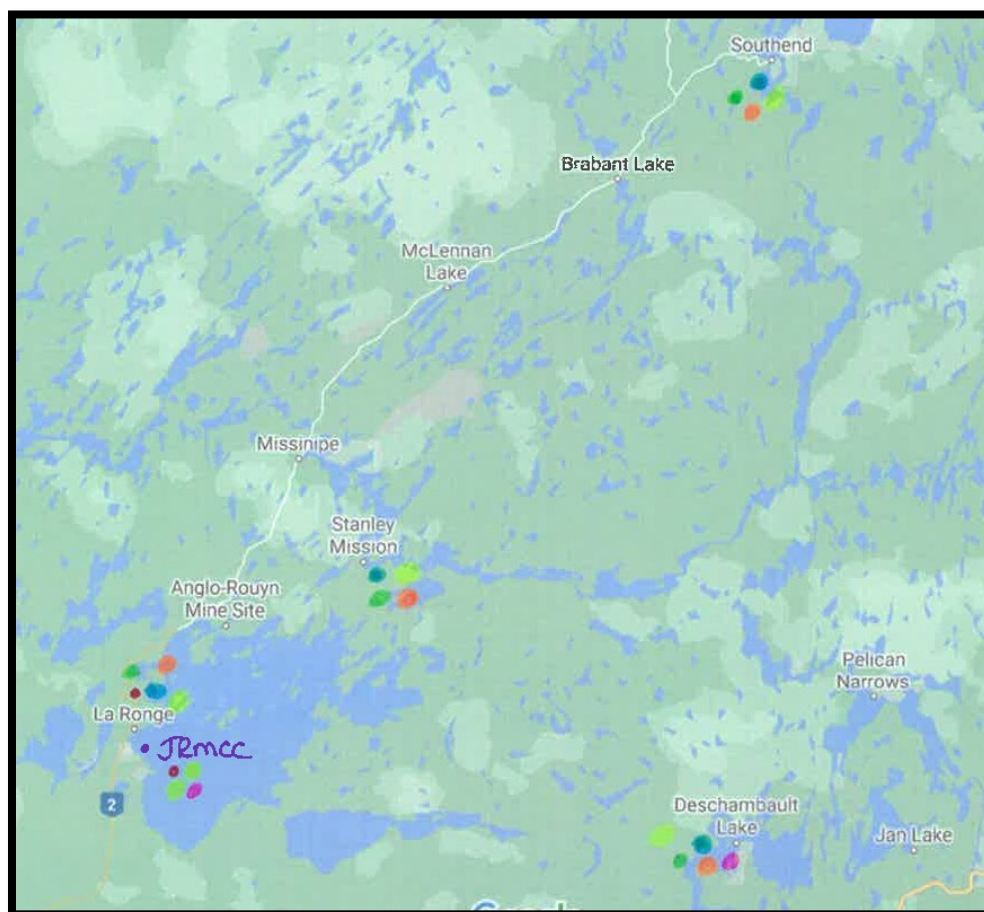
Moose Mountain Minor Hockey League					
U7	U9	U11	U13	U15	U18
	Estevan	Carievale	Wawota	Radville	Redvers
	Carlyle	Redvers	Redvers	Carnduff	Carnduff
	Redvers	Wawota	Carlyle	Kipling	Arcola/Lampman
	Kipling	Alameda/Lampman	Oxbow	Carlyle	Carlyle
	Wawota	Carnduff	Carievale	Estevan	Milestone
	Carnduff	Kipling	Kipling	Redvers	Radville
	Oxbow	Carlyle	Carnduff	Arcola/Lampman	Estevan
	Arcola	Oxbow	Whitebear	Weyburn	Weyburn
	Whitebear	Whitebear	Lampman/Bienfait	Whitebear	
	Carievale		Arcola		
	Alameda/Bienfait/Lampman				





North Central Minor Hockey League

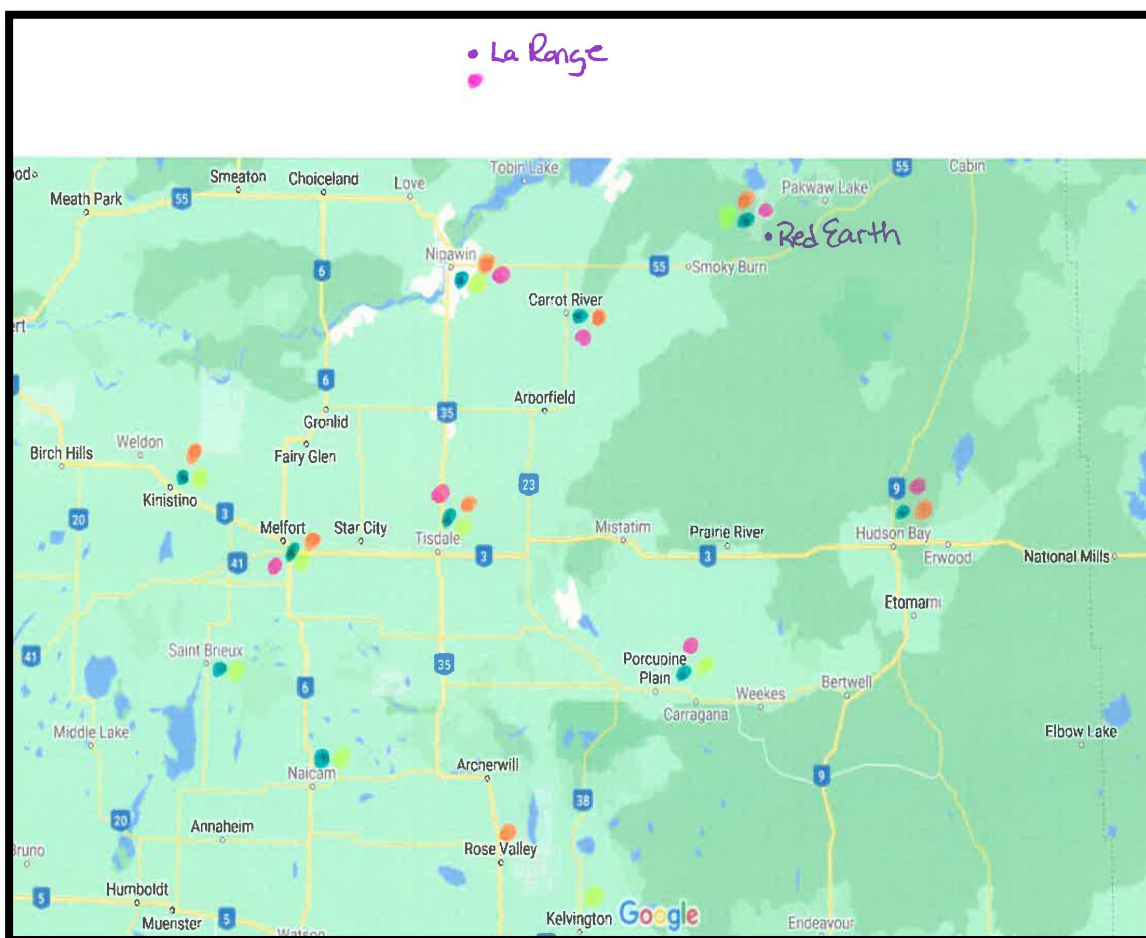
North Central Minor Hockey League					
U7	U9	U11	U13	U15	U18
JRMCC	Southend	Southend	Southend	Southend	JRMCC
La Ronge	Stanley Mission	Stanley Mission	Stanley Mission	Stanley Mission	Deschambault
	La Ronge	La Ronge	La Ronge	La Ronge	
	Deschambault	Deschambault	Deschambault	Deschambault	
		JRMCC (2)			





North East Minor Hockey League

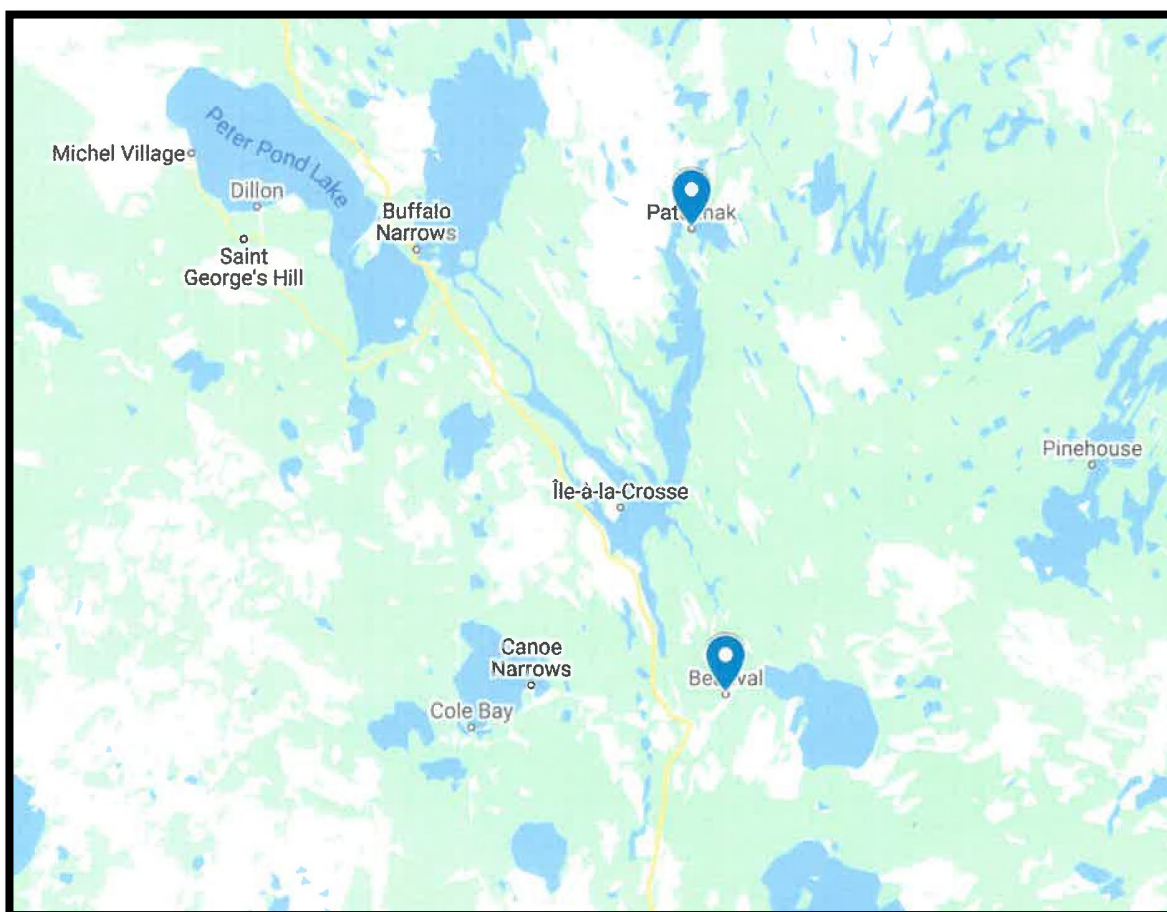
North East Minor Hockey League					
U7	U9	U11	U13	U15	U18
	Kinistino/Birch Hills	Tisdale	Melfort	Melfort	Melfort
	Melfort	St. Brieux	Red Earth	Nipawin	Hudson Bay
	Tisdale	Red Earth	Kinistino/Birch Hills	Carrot River	Nipawin
	Nipawin	Nipawin	St. Brieux/Naicam	Hudson Bay	Tisdale
	Red Earth	Melfort	Carrot River	Tisdale	Porcupine Plain
	Naicam	Naicam	Tisdale	Rose Valley/Archerwill	Carrot River
	Hudson Bay	Kinistino/Birch Hills	Nipawin	Kinistino/Birch Hills	La Ronge
	St. Brieux	Kelvington	Hudson Bay	Red Earth	Red Earth
	Carrot River	Porcupine Plain	Kelvington/Rose Valley		
	Porcupine Plain	Hudson Bay			
		Carrot River			





Northwest Saskatchewan Minor Hockey League

Northwest Sask. Minor Hockey League					
U7	U9	U11	U13	U15	U18
					Beauval
					Patunak

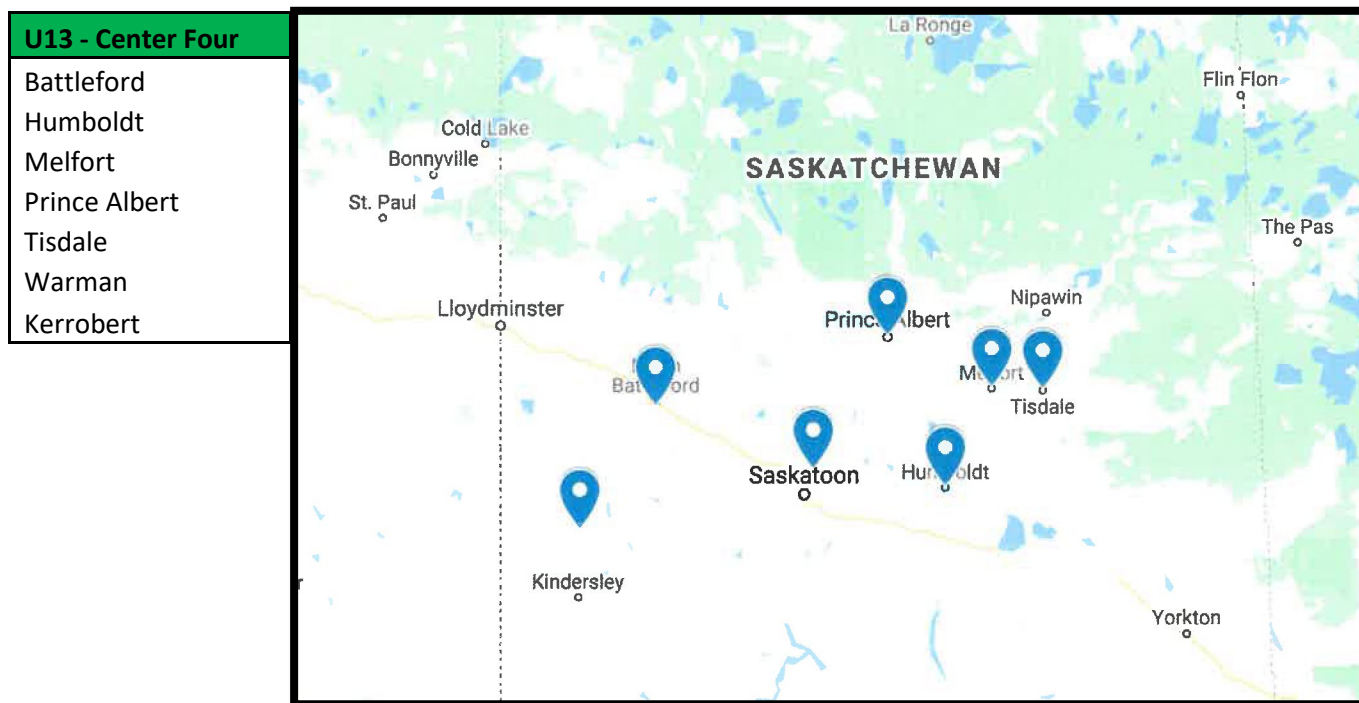




Saskatchewan “AA” Minor Hockey League (SMHL)

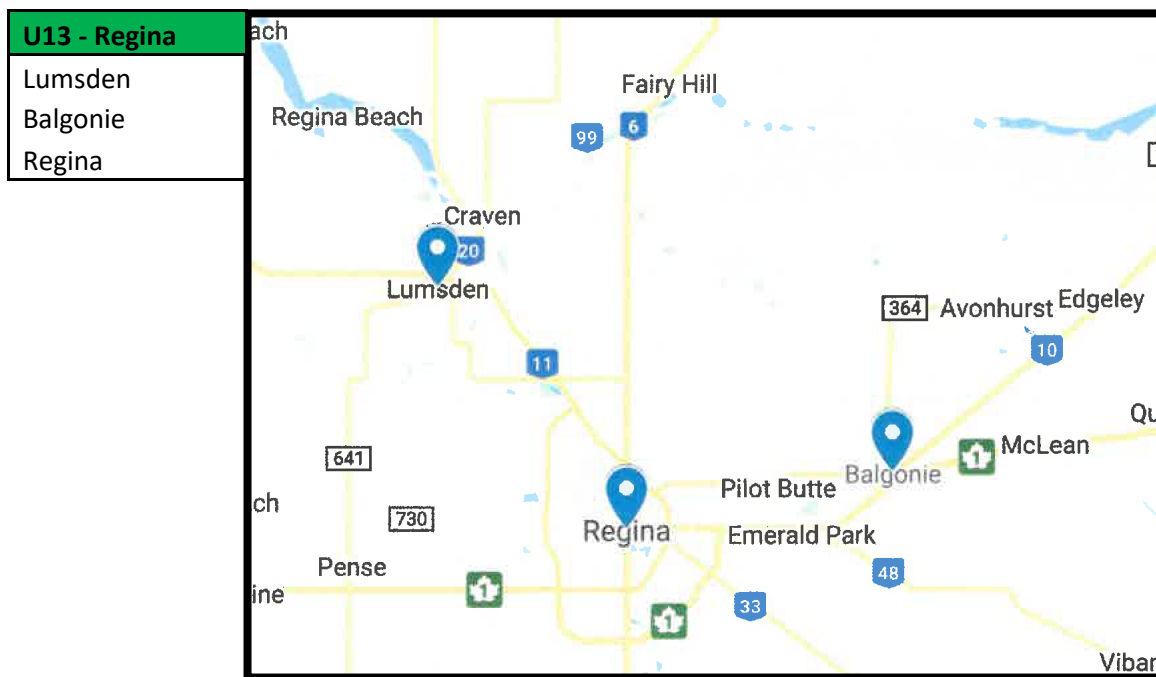
Sask AA Minor Hockey League											
U7	U9	U11	U13 - Center Four	U13 - Regina	U13 - Saskatoon	U13 - South Sask	U15 - North	U15 - South	U18 - Center Four	U18 - South Sask	
			Battleford	Lumsden	Martensville	Estevan	Battlefords	Estevan	Battlefords	Estevan	
			Humboldt	Balgonie	Saskatoon	Melville	Humboldt	Melville	Humboldt	Lumsden	
			Melfort	Regina		Moose Jaw	Martensville	Moose Jaw	Martensville	Melville	
			Prince Albert			Swift Current	Melfort	Notre Dame	Tisdale	Moose Jaw	
			Tisdale			Weyburn	Prince Albert	Balgonie	Prince Albert	Notre Dame	
			Warman			Yorkton	Saskatoon	Regina	Saskatoon	Balgonie	
			Kerrobert				Warman	Swift Current	Unity	Regina	
							Tisdale	Weyburn	Warman	Swift Current	
								Yorkton		Weyburn	
										Yorkton	

SMHL: U13 “AA” Centre Four League

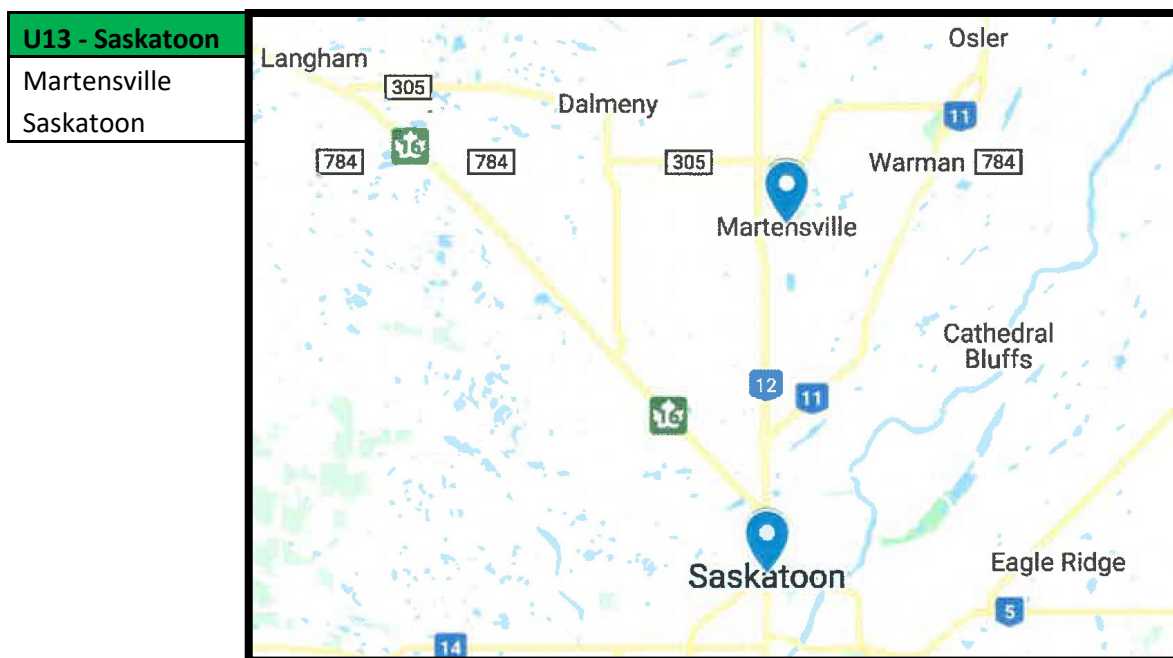




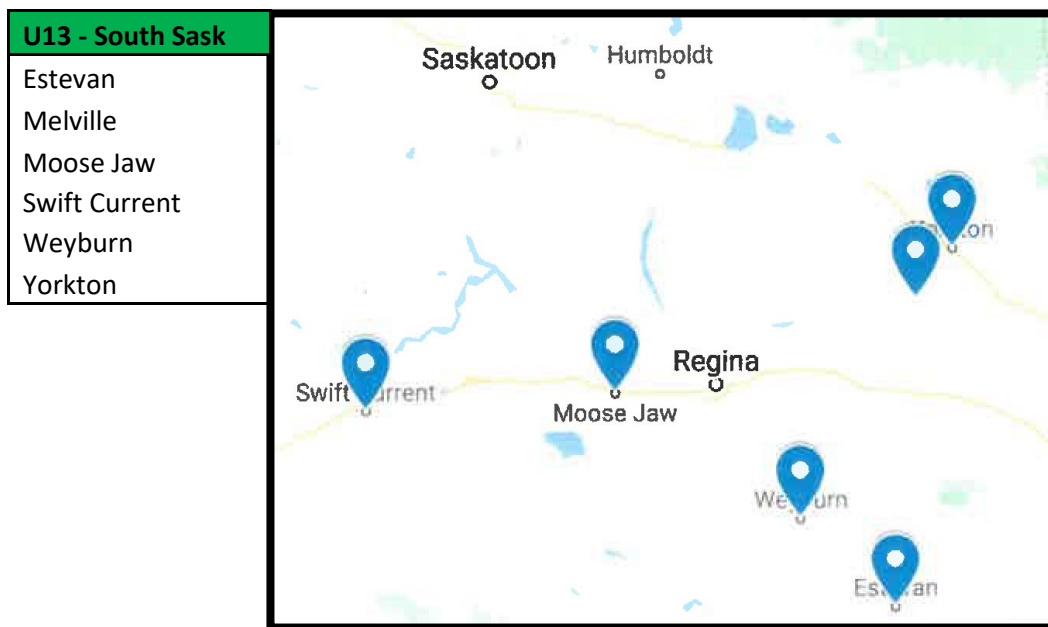
SMHL: U13 “AA” Regina Division



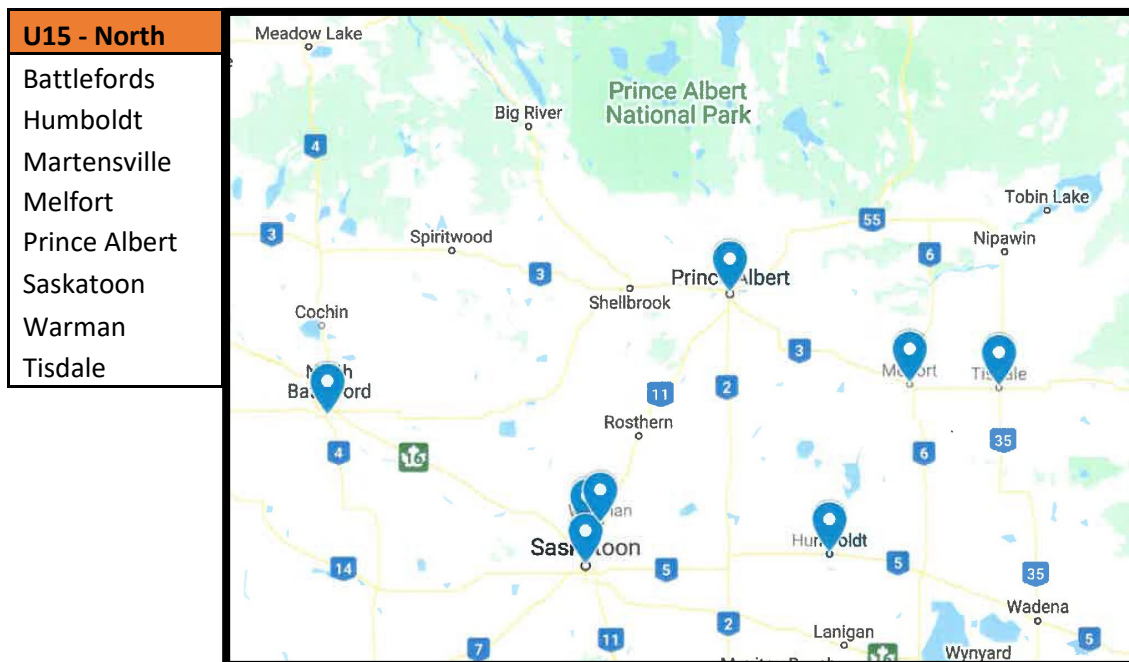
SMHL: U13 “AA” Saskatoon Division



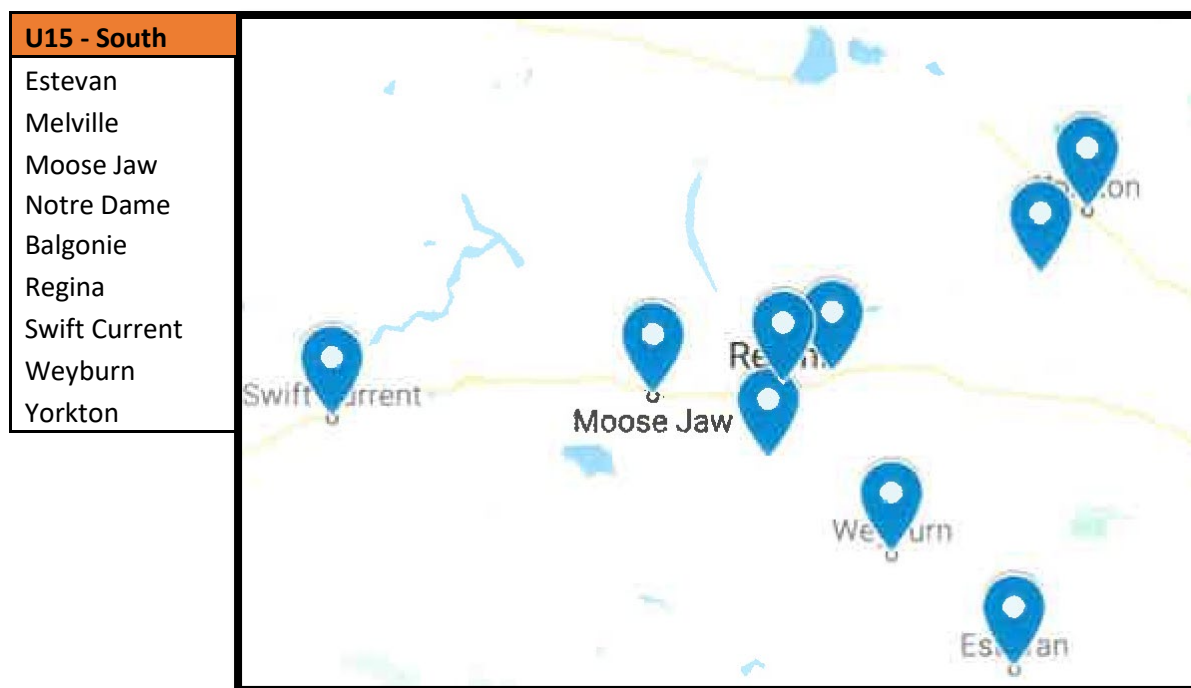
SMHL: U13 “AA” South Saskatchewan Division



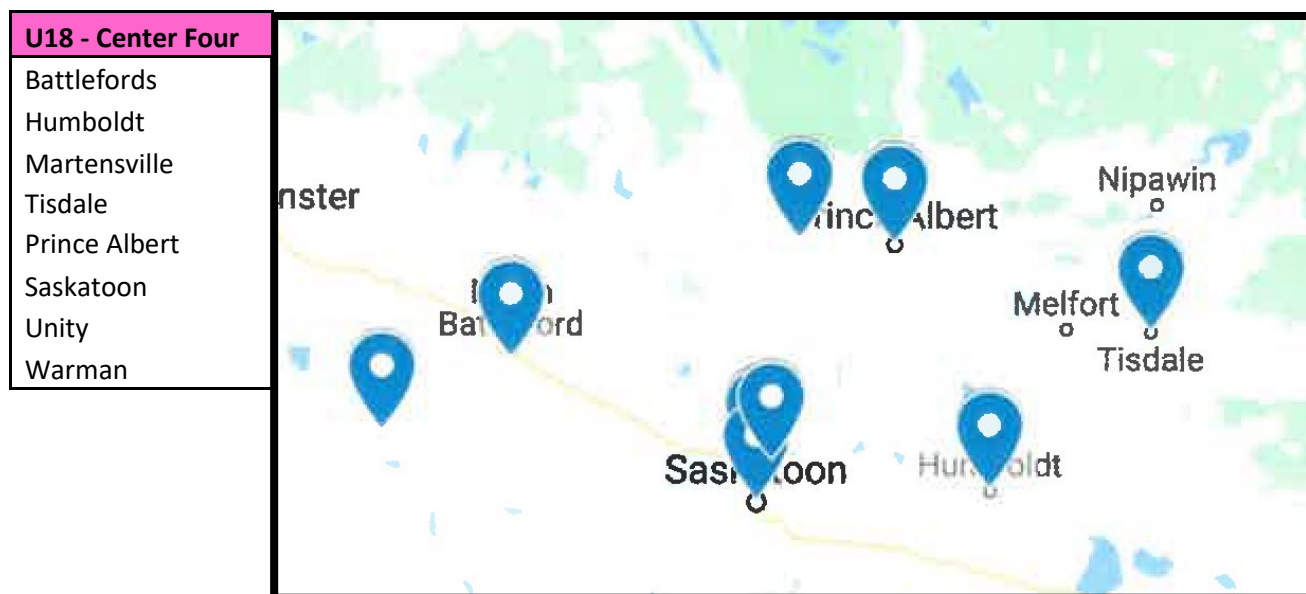
SMHL: U15 “AA” North Saskatchewan Division



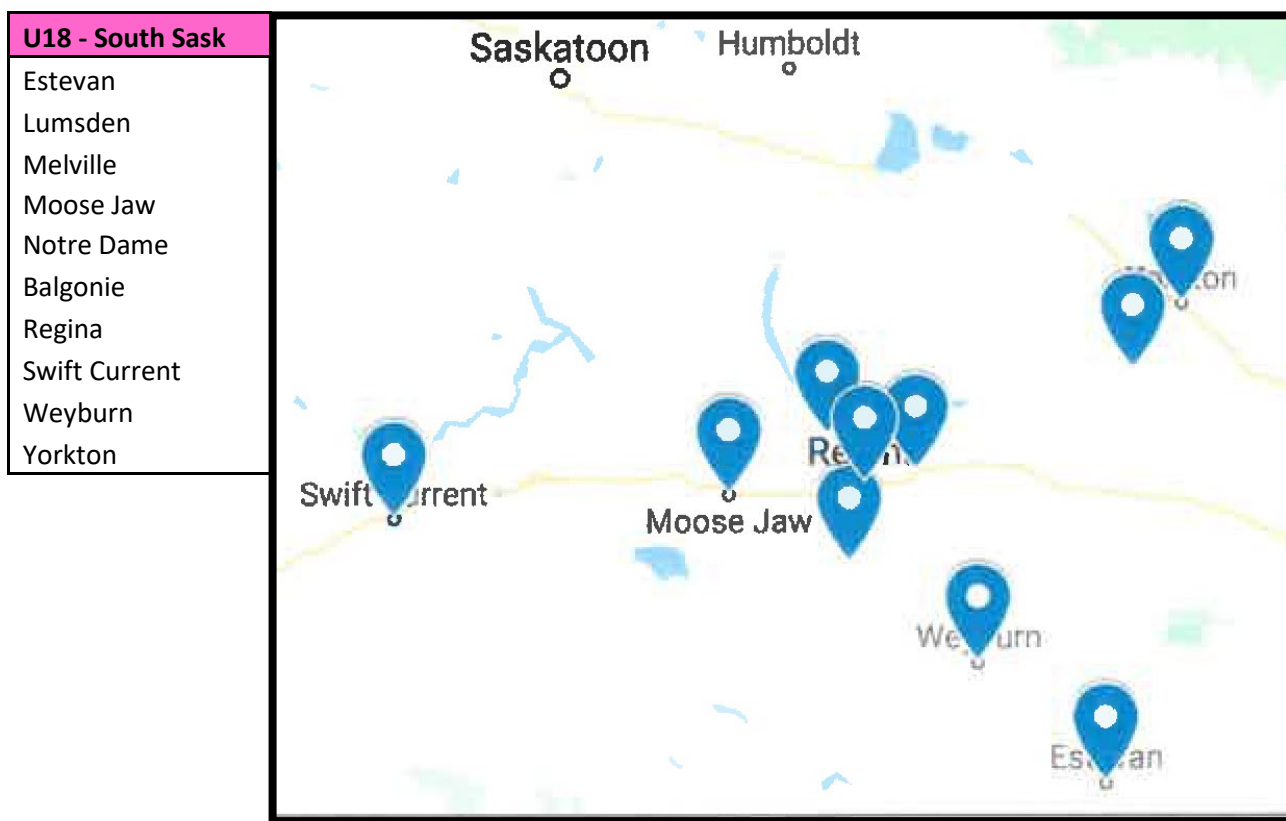
SMHL: U15 “AA” South Saskatchewan Division



SMHL: U18 “AA” Centre Four



SMHL: U18 “AA” South Saskatchewan



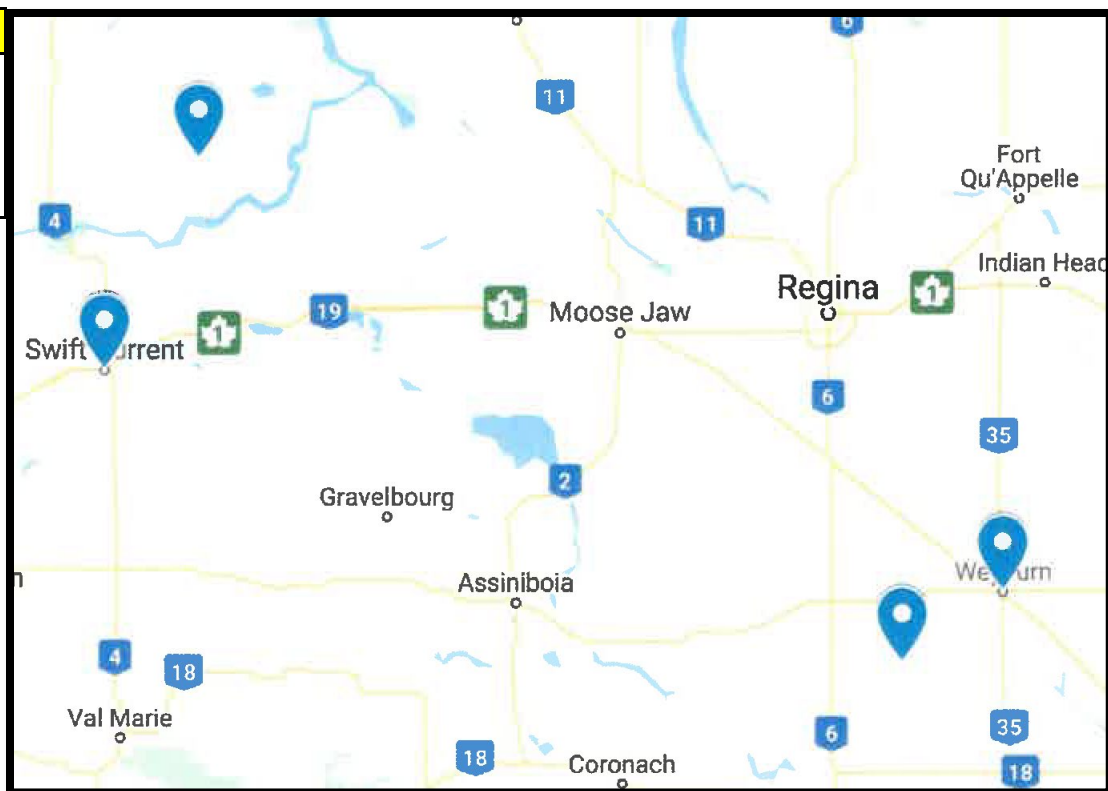


Saskatchewan Female Minor Hockey League (SFMHL)

Sask Female Minor Hockey League										
U7	U9	U11	U13 - North	U13 - South	U15 A - North	U15 A - South	U15 AA	U18 A	U18 AA - North	U18 AA South
		Radville	Battleford	Balcarres	St. Gregor	Balcarres	Battleford	St. Gregor	Tisdale	Notre Dame
		Swift Current	St. Gregor	Estevan	Melfort	Estevan	Prince Albert	Moose Jaw	Battleford	Regina
		Beechy	Tisdale	Moose Jaw	Prince Albert	Milestone	Regina	Prairie Storm	Prince Albert	Melville
		Weyburn	Lashburn	Melville	Saskatoon	Ochapowace	Saskatoon	Regina	Saskatoon	Midale
			Prince Albert	Weyburn	Warman	Melville	Weyburn	Saskatoon	Warman	Swift Current
			Kindersley	Swift Current		Balgonie	Swift Current	Weyburn	Elrose	
			Dinsmore	Wood River		Regina	Warman	Gull Lake		
						Swift Current		Wood River		

SFMHL U11

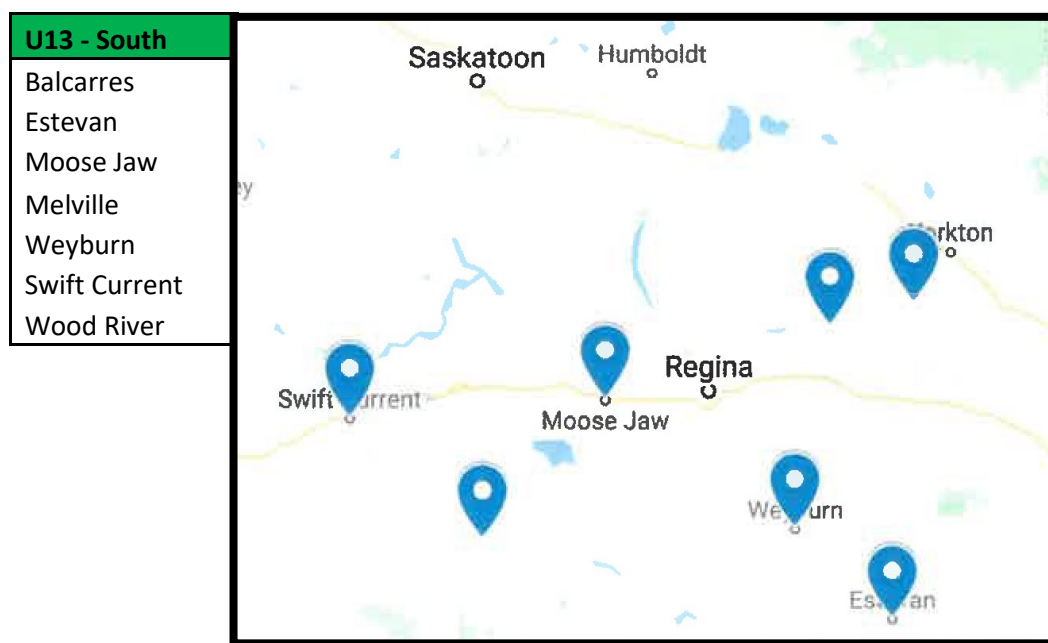
U11
Radville
Swift Current
Beechy
Weyburn



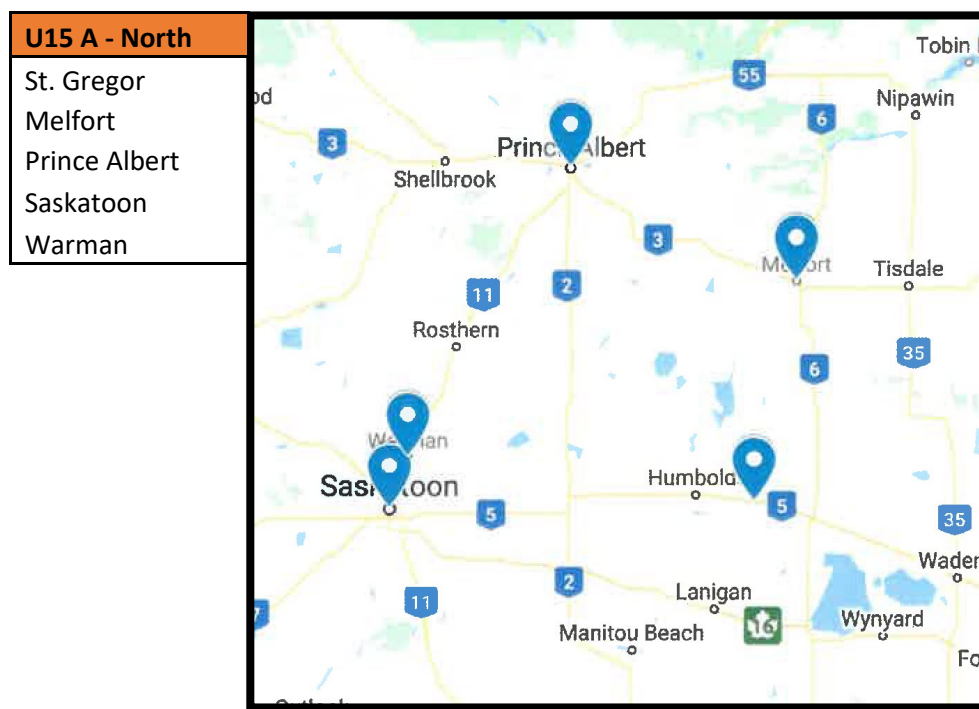
SFMHL U13 North Division



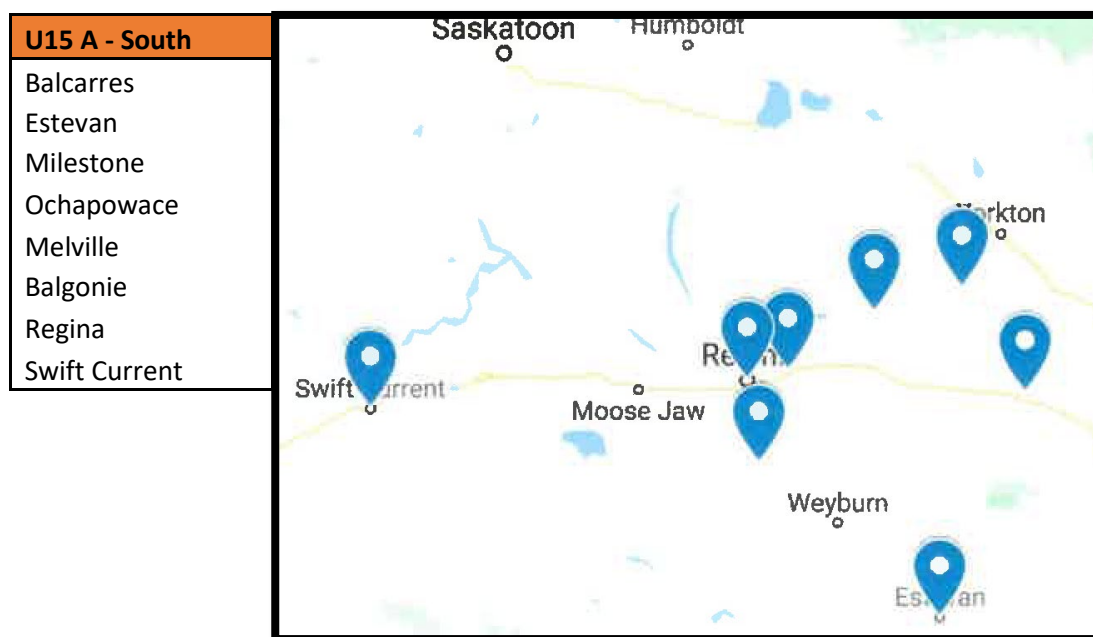
SFMHL U13 South Division



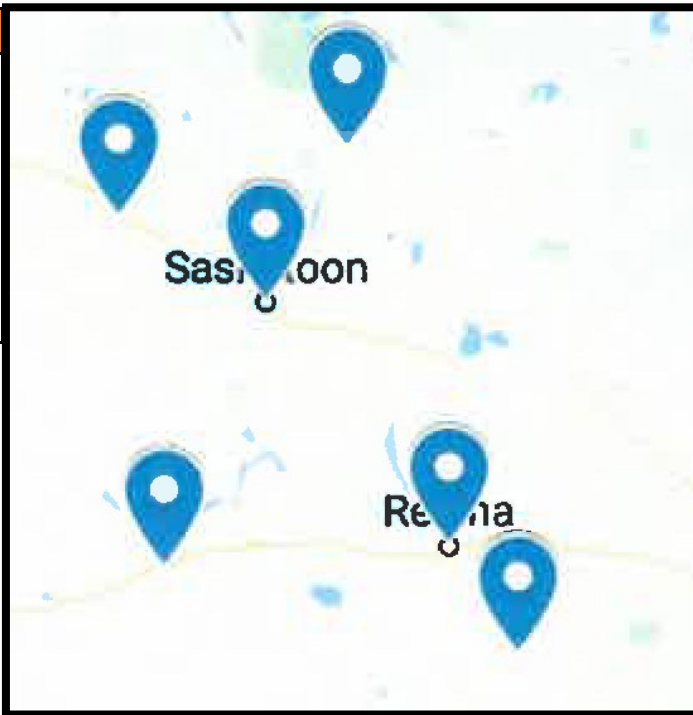
SFMHL U15 "A" North Division



SFMHL U15 "A" South Division



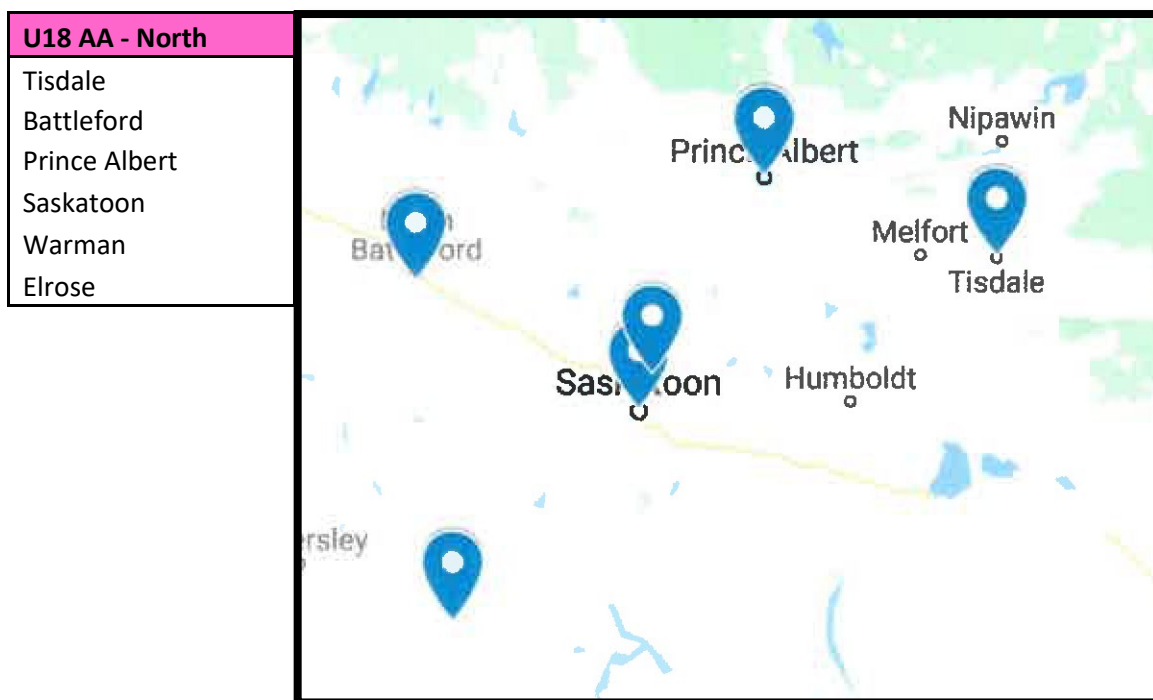
SFMHL U15 "AA"

U15 AA	
Battleford	
Prince Albert	
Regina	
Saskatoon	
Weyburn	
Swift Current	
Warman	

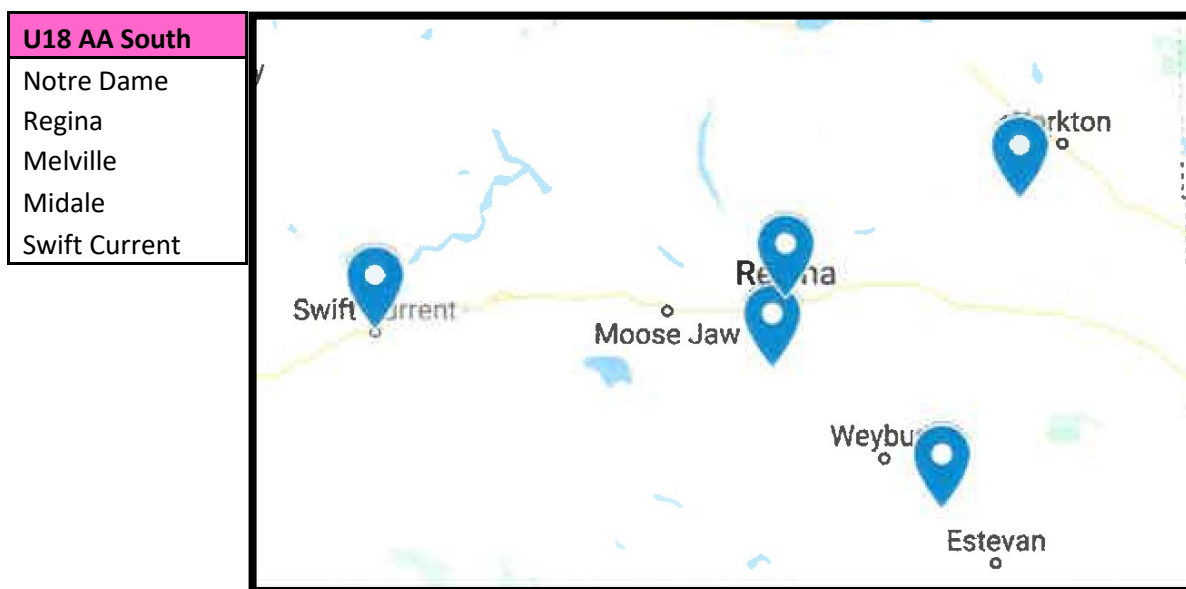
SFMHL U18 "A"

U18 A	
St. Gregor	
Moose Jaw	
Prairie Storm	
Regina	
Saskatoon	
Weyburn	
Gull Lake	
Wood River	

SFMHL U18 “AA” North Division



SFMHL U18 “AA” South Division





Sask. Valley Minor Hockey League

Sask Valley Minor Hockey League					
U7	U9	U11	U13	U15	U18
	Delisle	Hague	Waldheim	Prince Albert	Cudworth
	Dalmeny	Waldheim	Dundurn	Hague	Prince Albert
	Dundurn	Dalmeny	Wakaw	Aberdeen	Rosthern
	Waldheim	Langham	Hague	Shellbrook	Shellbrook
	Hague	Rosthern	Aberdeen	Waldheim	Hague
	Cudworth	Delisle	Beardy's		Beardy's
	Wakaw	Dundurn	Cudworth		
	Hepburn	Aberdeen	Rosthern		
	Rosthern	Radisson	Radisson		
	Beardy's	Wakaw			
	Aberdeen	Cudworth			
	Radisson				





Saskatchewan Female U18 “AAA” Hockey League

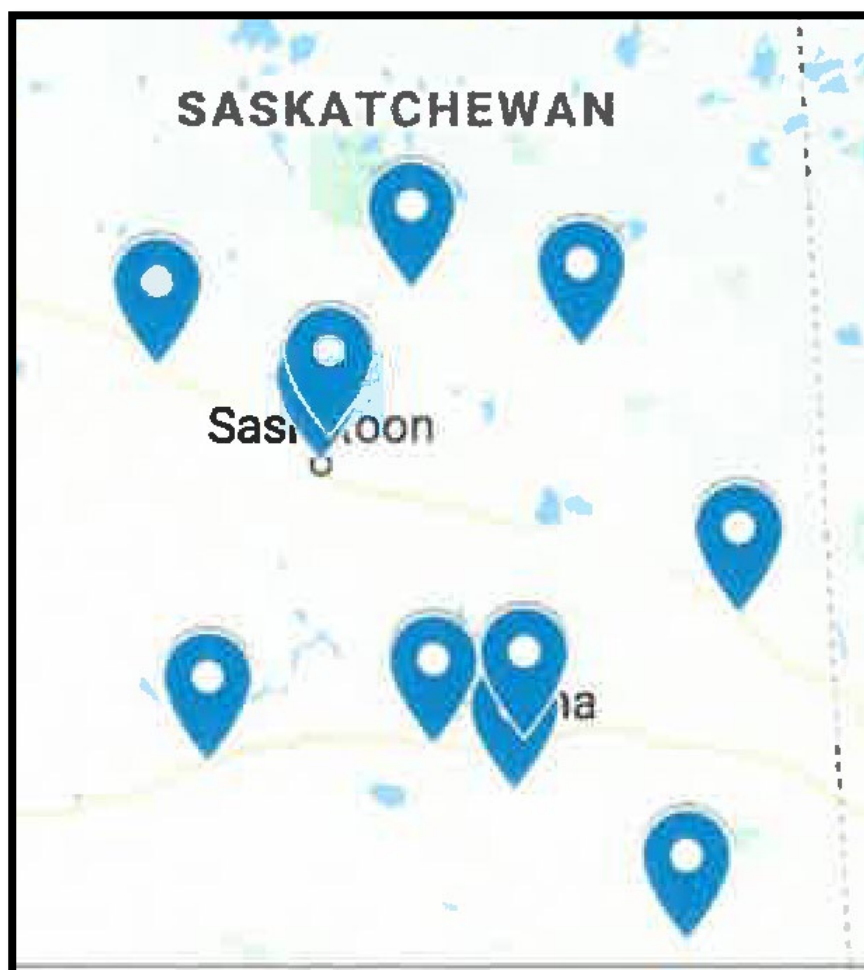
SFU18AAAHL Minor Hockey League					
U7	U9	U11	U13	U15	U18
					Battlefords
					Notre Dame
					Prince Albert
					Regina
					Saskatoon
					Swift Current
					Weyburn





Saskatchewan Male U18 “AAA” Hockey League

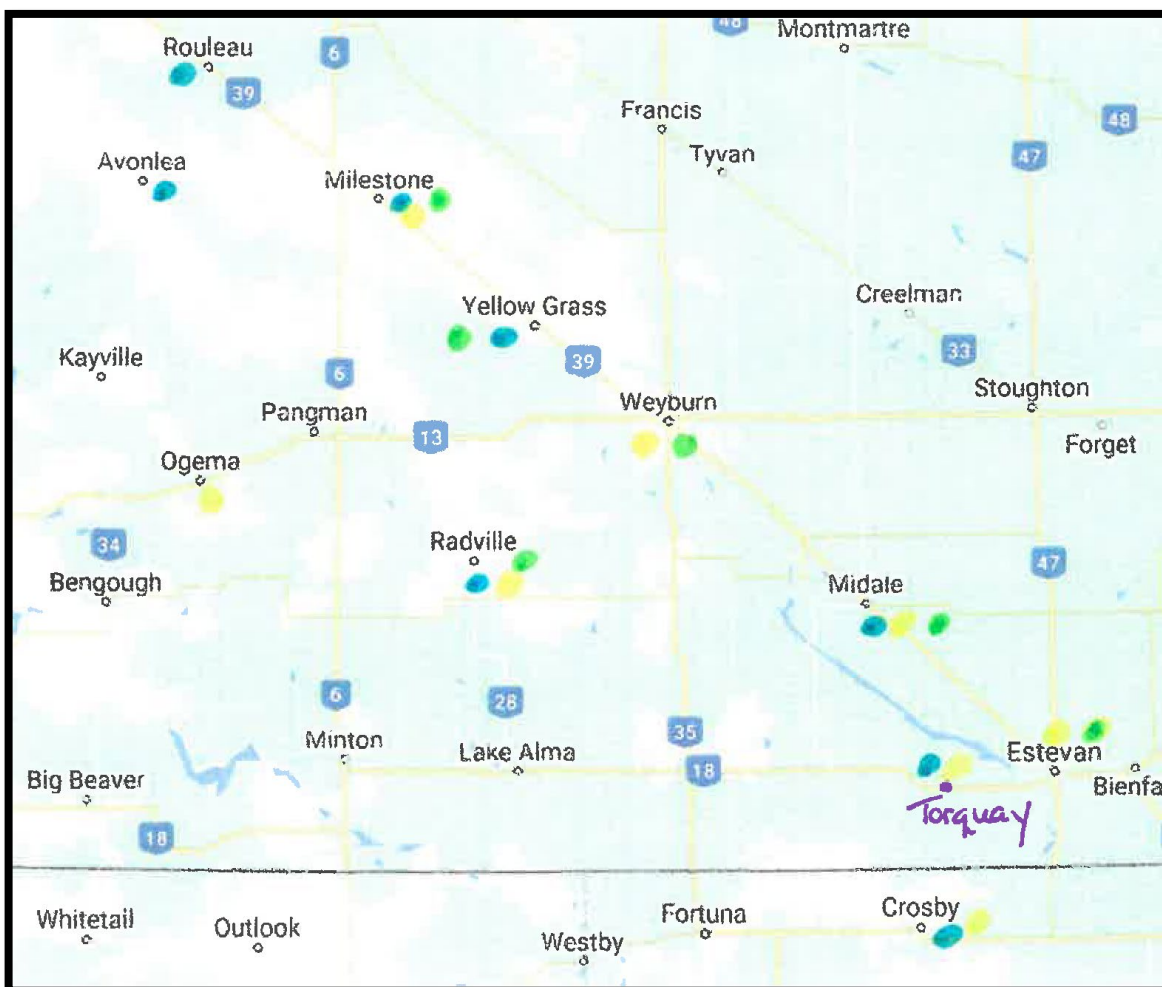
SMAAAHL Minor Hockey League					
U7	U9	U11	U13	U15	U18
					Battlefords
					Moose Jaw
					Notre Dame
					Prince Albert
					Regina
					Saskatoon
					Swift Current
					Tisdale
					Yorkton





Southeast Minor Hockey League

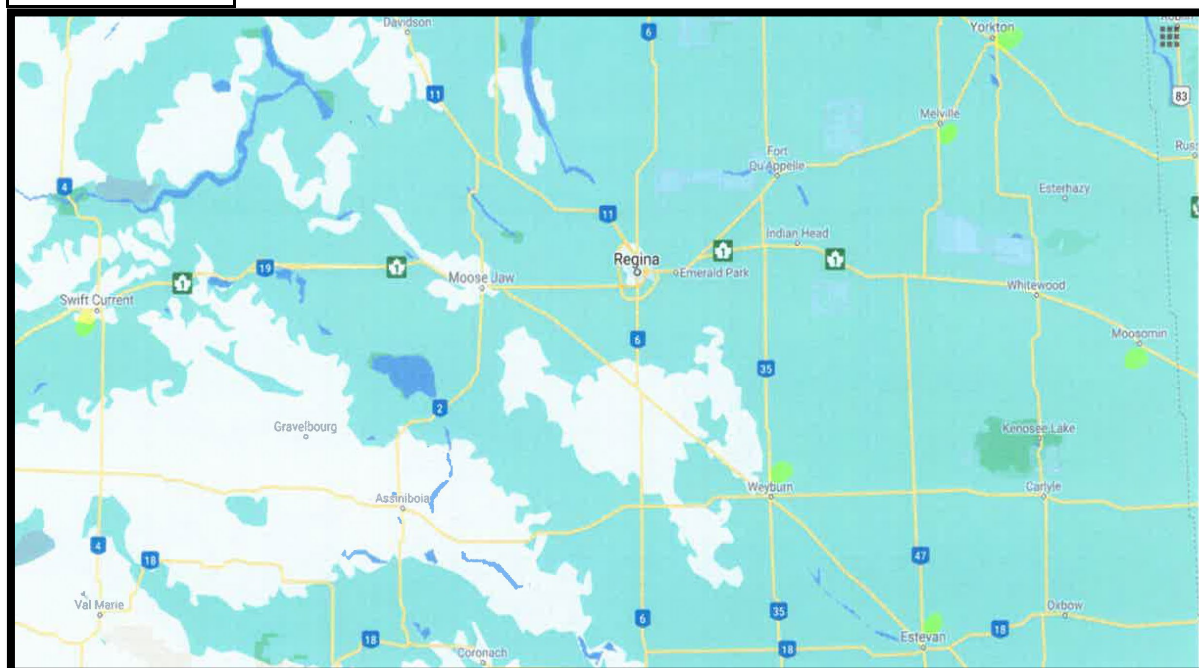
Southeast Minor Hockey League						
U7	U9	U11	U11 - Tier 1	U13	U15	U18
			Estevan			
			Melville			
			Moosomin			
			Swift Current			
			Weyburn			
			Yorkton			



Southeast Minor Hockey League U11 – Tier 1

U11 - Tier 1

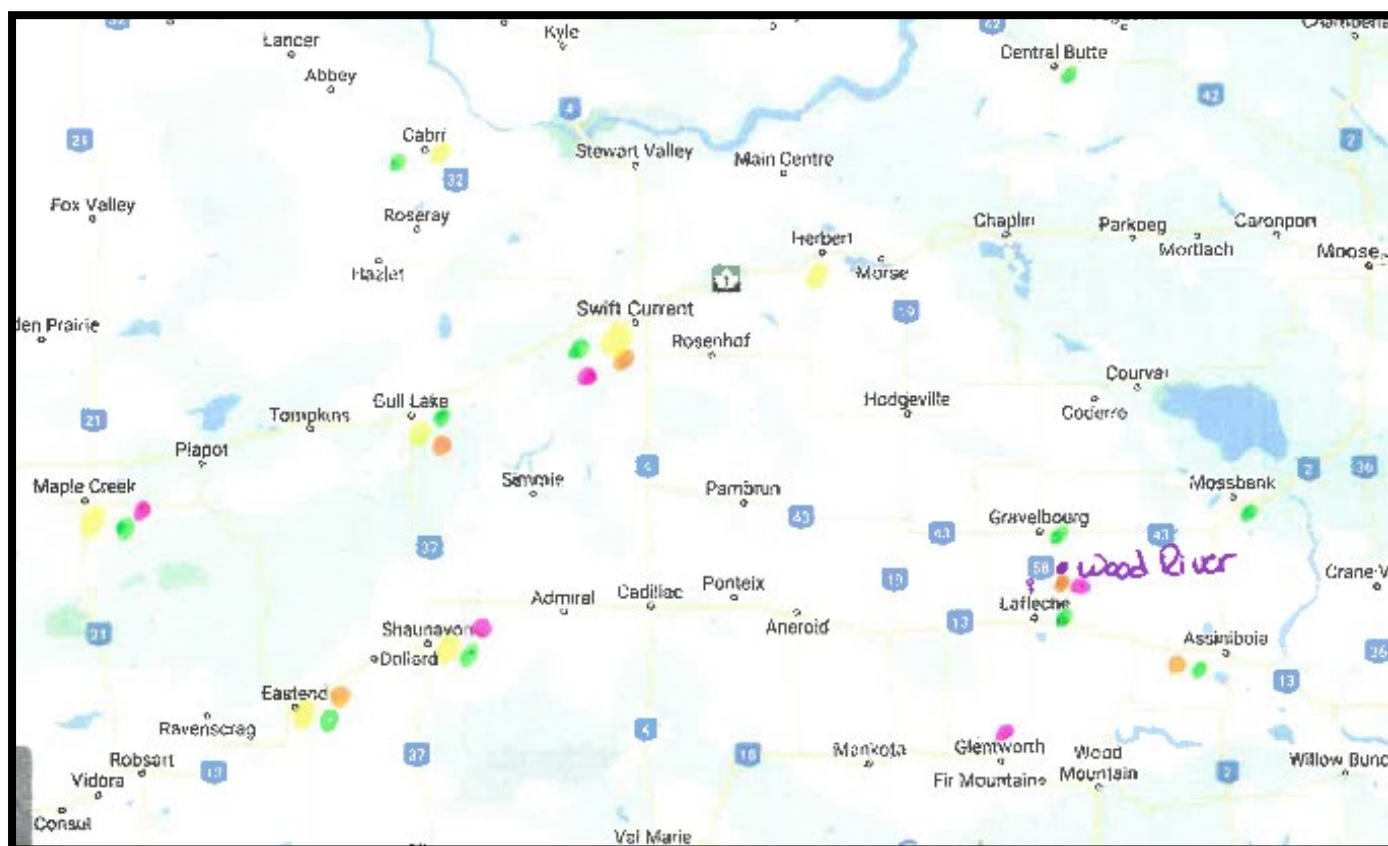
Estevan
 Melville
 Moosomin
 Swift Current
 Weyburn
 Yorkton





Southwest Minor Hockey League

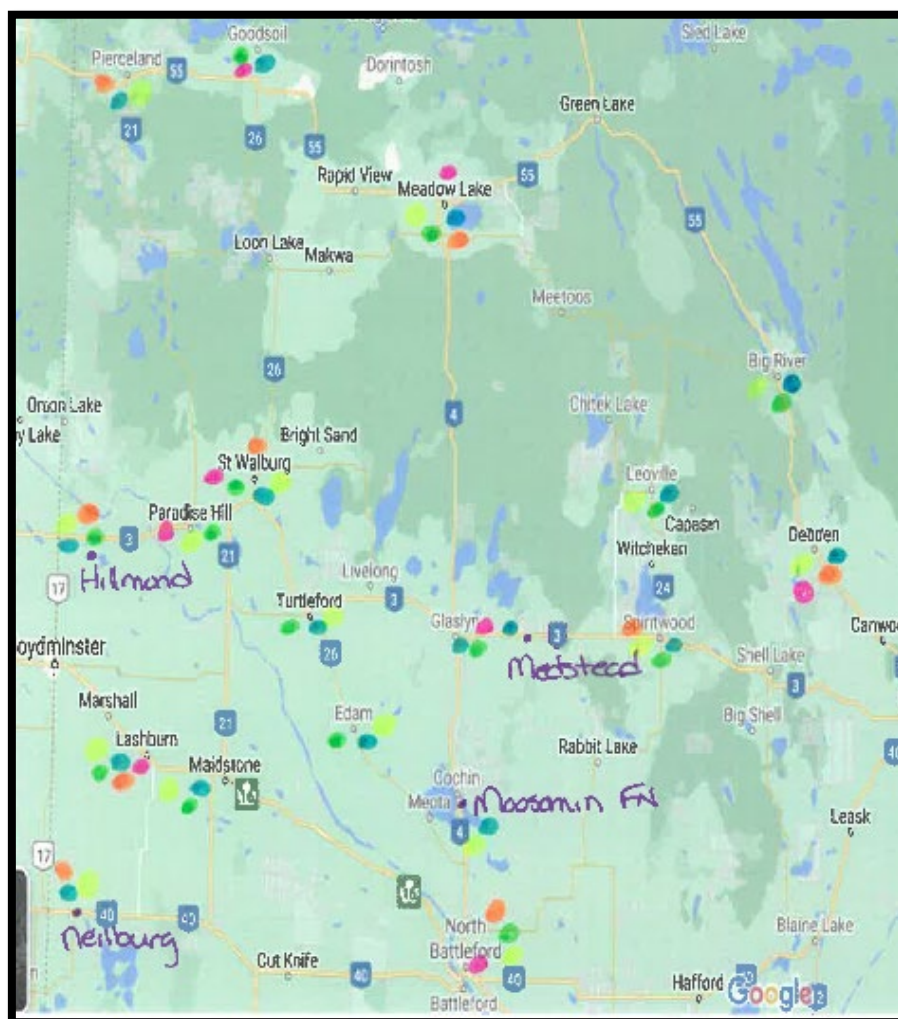
Southwest Minor Hockey League					
U7	U9	U11	U13	U15	U18
		Eastend	Cabri	Assiniboia	Swift Current
		Cabri	Eastend	Eastend	Glentworth
		Gull Lake	Gull Lake	Gull Lake/Maple Creek	Maple Creek
		Herbert	Maple Creek	Swift Current	Shaunavon
		Maple Creek	Shaunavon	Wood River	Wood River
		Shaunavon	Swift Current		
		Swift Current	Assiniboia		
			Central Butte		
			Gravelbourg		
			Lafleche		
			Mossbank		





STEP Minor Hockey League

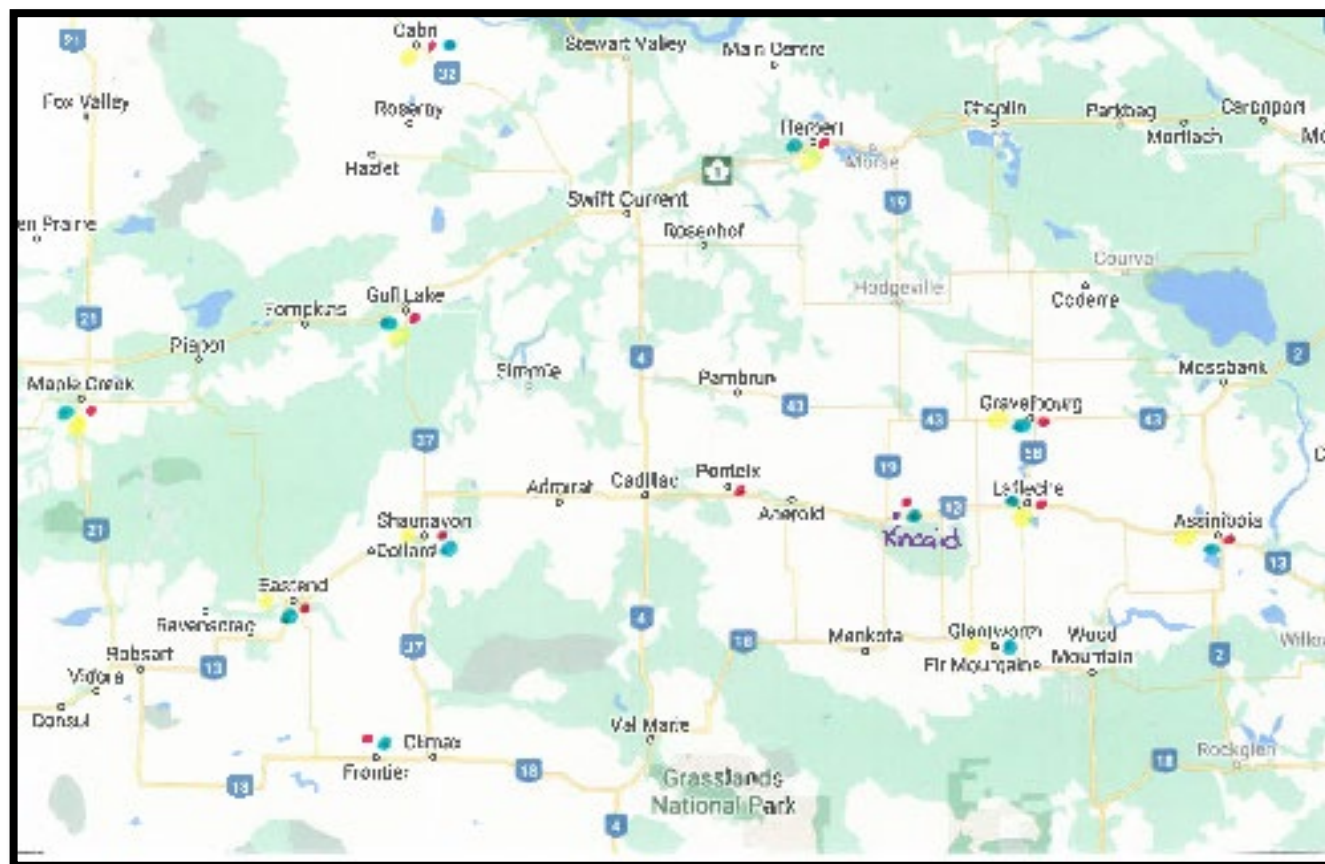
STEP Minor Hockey League					
U7	U9	U11	U13	U15	U18
	Big River	Big River	Battleford	Battleford	Battleford
	Debden	Debden	Big River	Debden	Debden
	Leoville	Leoville	Glaslyn	Hillmond	Glaslyn
	Meadow Lake	Meadow Lake	Goodsoil	Lashburn	Goodsoil
	Medstead	Spiritwood	Leoville	Meadow Lake	Lashburn
	Spiritwood	Battleford	Meadow Lake	Neilburg	Meadow Lake
	Edam	Edam	Spiritwood	Pierceland	Paradise Hill
	Glaslyn	Moosomin FN	Edam	Spiritwood	St. Walburg
	Moosomin FN	Paradise Hill	Hillmond	St. Walburg	
	Turtleford	Pierceland	Maidstone		
	Goodsoil	Maidstone	Lashburn		
	Pierceland	St. Walburg	Paradise Hill		
	St. Walburg	Turtleford	St. Walburg		
	Edam	Hillmond	Turtleford		
	Hillmond	Lashburn			
	Lashburn	Neilburg			
	Maidstone				
	Neilburg				





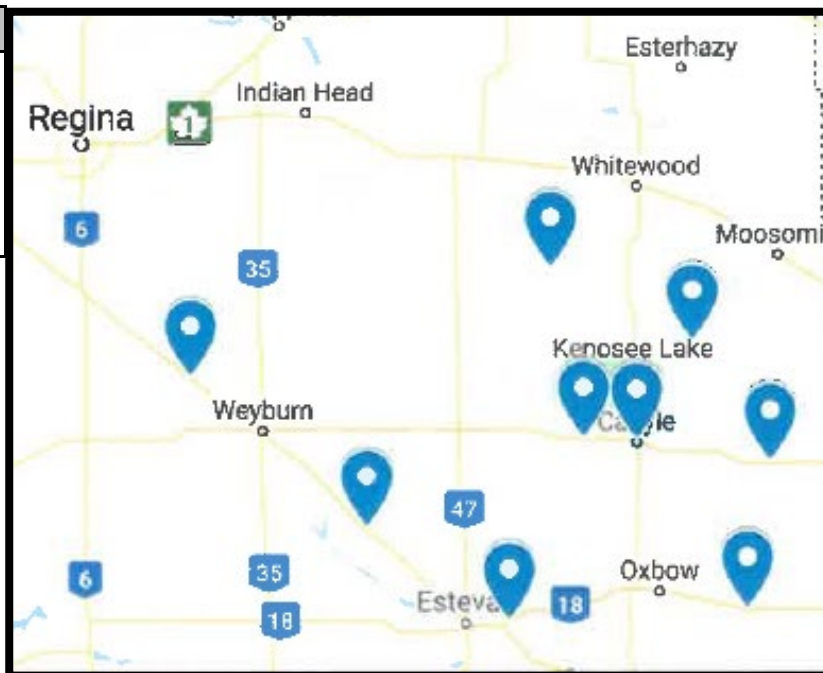
Wood River Minor Hockey League

Wood River Minor Hockey League					
U7	U9	U11	U13	U15	U18
Eastend	Eastend	Eastend			
Shaunavon	Shaunavon	Shaunavon			
Frontier	Frontier	Cabri			
Cabri	Cabri	Lafleche			
Lafleche	Lafleche	Glentworth			
Kincaid	Kincaid	Assiniboia			
Assiniboia	Glentworth	Gravelbourg			
Pontix	Assiniboia	Maple Creek			
Gravelbourg	Gravelbourg	Gull Lake			
Maple Creek	Maple Creek	Herbert			
Gull Lake	Gull Lake				
Herbert	Herbert				



Big Six Senior Hockey League

Noteku Senior Hockey League
Assiniboia
Cornach
Glentworth
Gravelbourg
Hodgeville



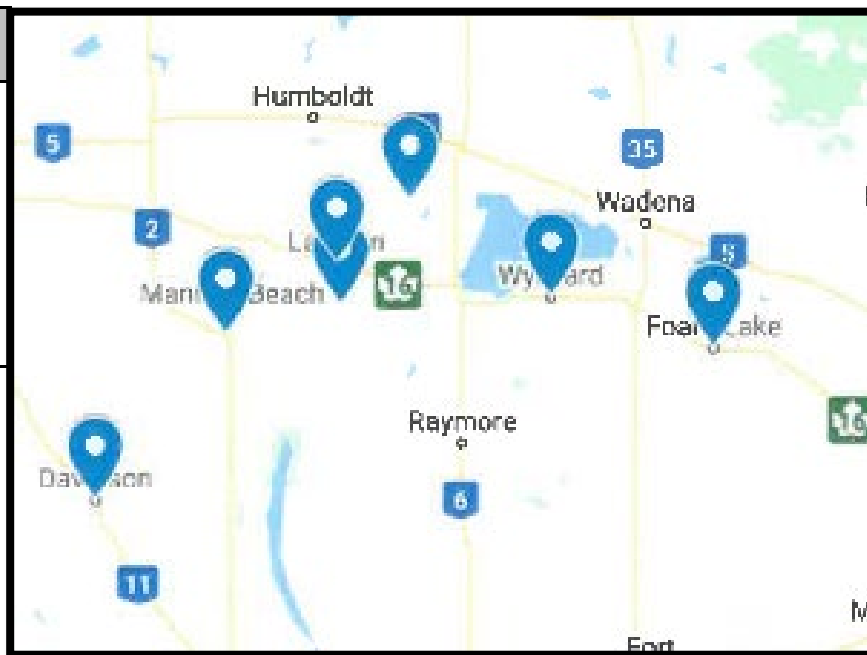
Highway Senior Hockey League

Highway Senior Hockey League
Avonlea
Bethune
Cupar
Lumsden
Raymore
Southey
Strasbourg
Wynyard



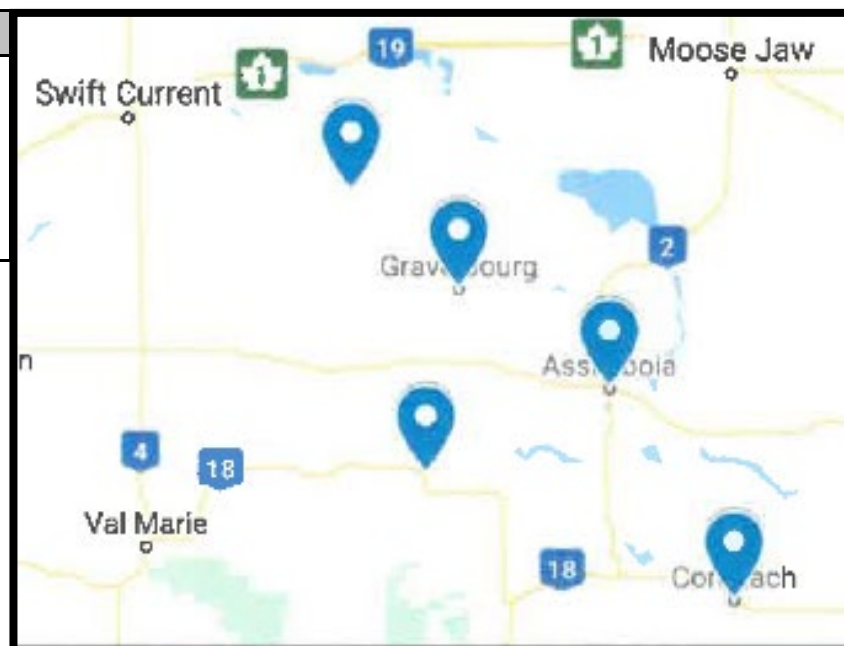
Long Lake Senior Hockey League

Long Lake Senior Hockey League
Davidson
Drake
Foam Lake
Lanigan
Leroy
Watrous
Wynyard

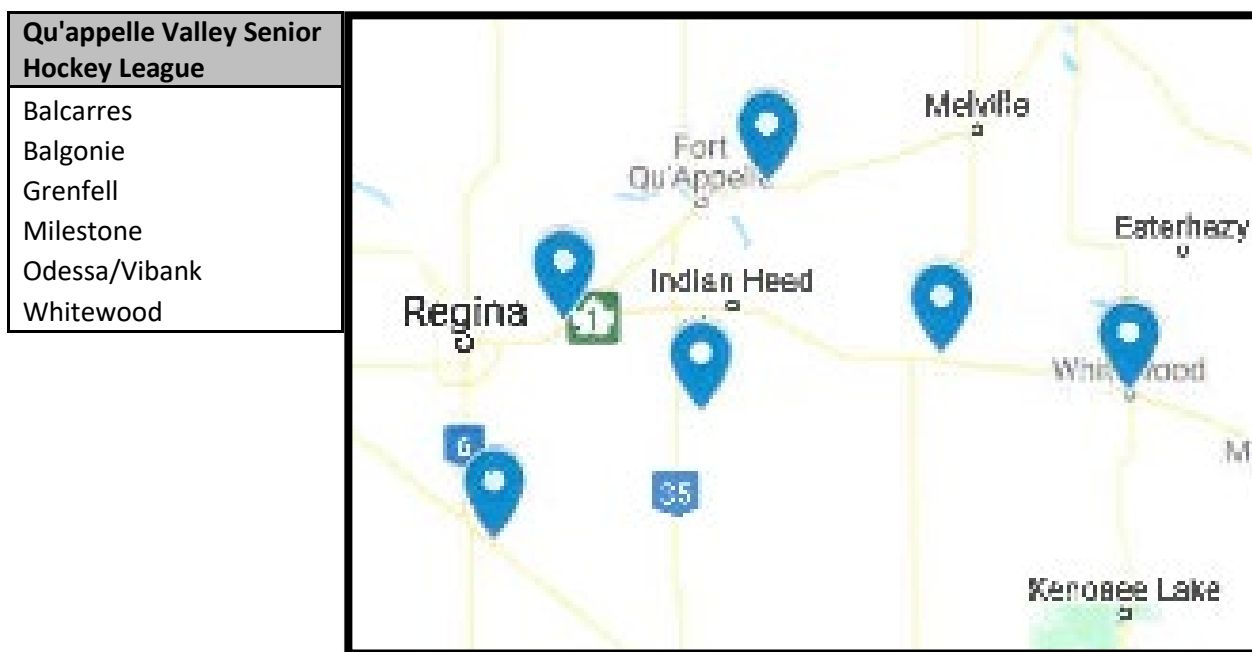


Noteku Senior Hockey League

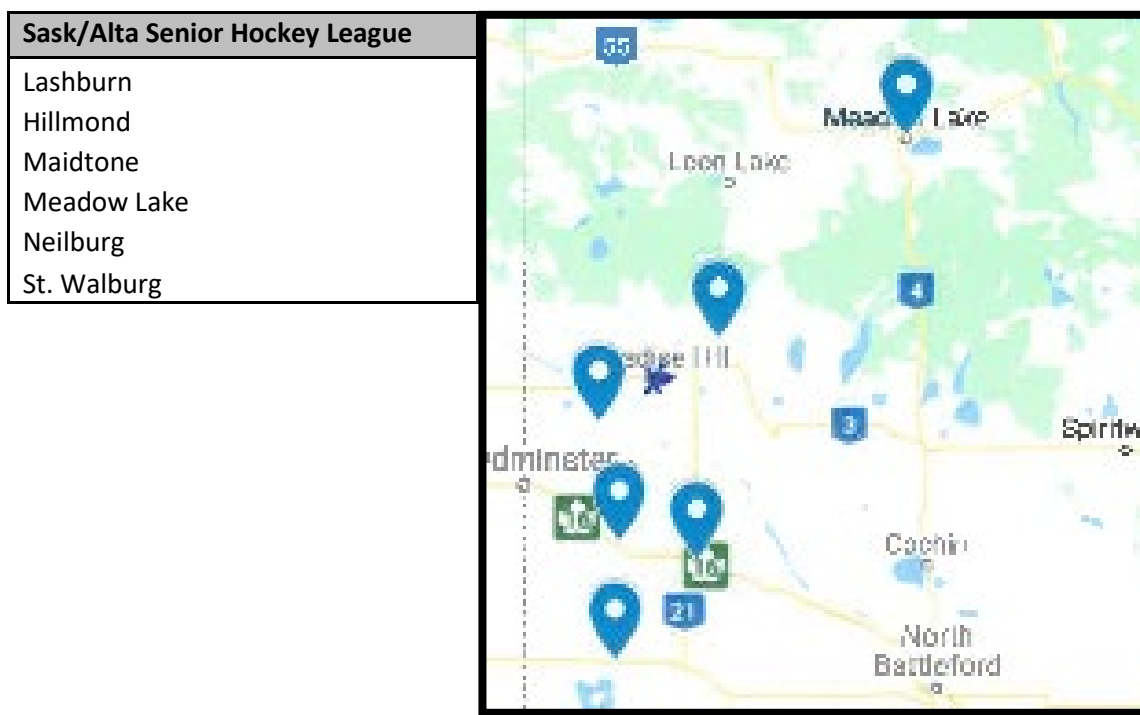
Noteku Senior Hockey League
Assiniboia
Cornach
Glentworth
Gravelbourg
Hodgeville



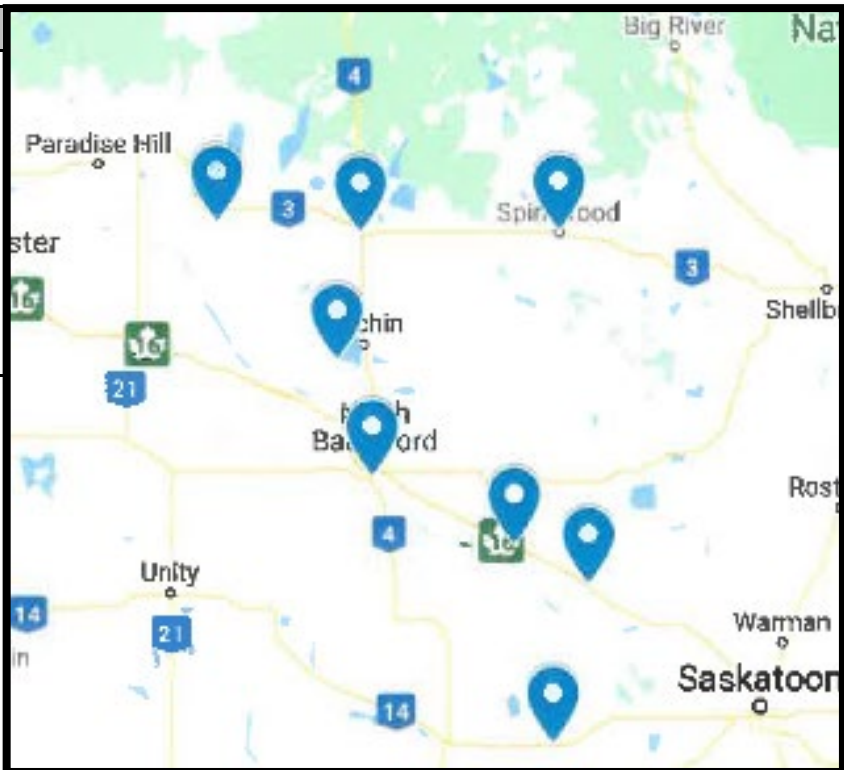
Qu'appelle Valley Senior Hockey League



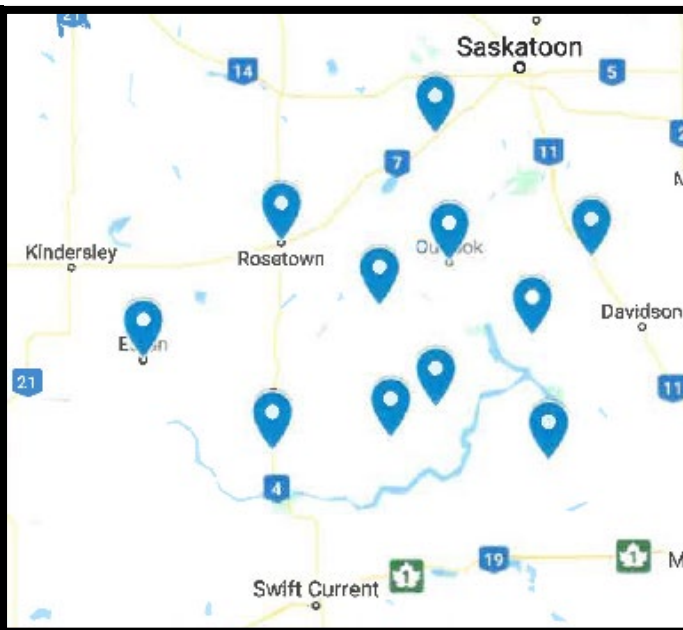
Sask/Alta Senior Hockey League




Sask Prairie Senior Hockey League

Sask Prairie Senior Hockey League	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Battleford Galslyn Maymont Meota Perdue Radisson Spiritwood Turtleford 	

Sask Valley Senior Hockey League

Sask Valley Senior Hockey League	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Beechy Central Butte Delisle Dinsmore Eston Kenaston Kyle Loreburn Lucky Lake Outlook Rosetown 	

Sask West Senior Hockey League

Sask West Senior Hockey League	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Biggar Eatonia Edam Hafford Kerrobert Kindersley Luseland Macklin Unity Wilkie 	

Triangle Senior Hockey League


Triangle Senior Hockey League	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bredenbury Ochapowace Theodore Esterhazy Hudson Bay 	

Twin Rivers Senior Hockey League



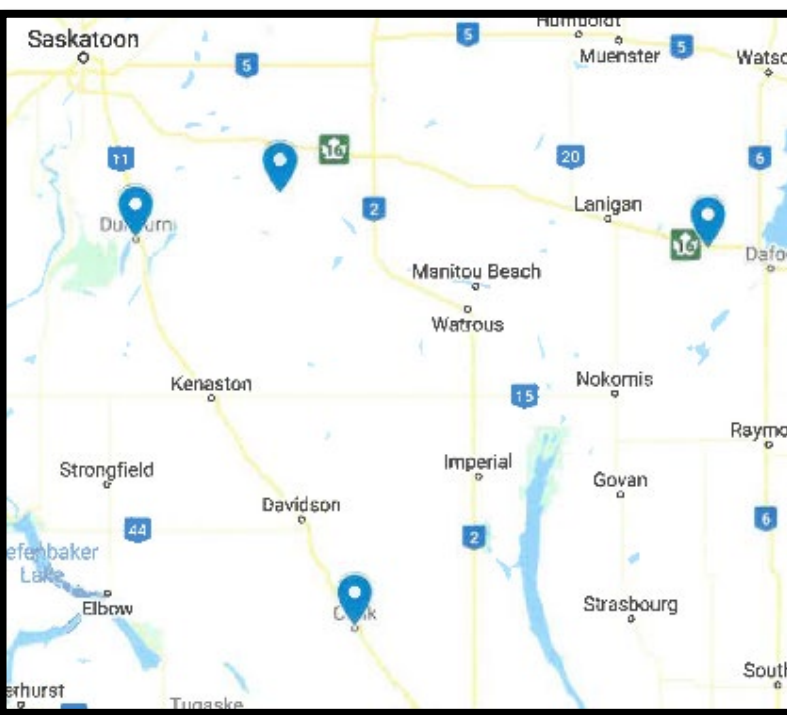
Wheatland Senior Hockey League – North Division

Wheatland Senior Hockey League	
North Division	
Kinistino	
Naicam	
Porcupine Plain	
Tisdale	
Wadena	

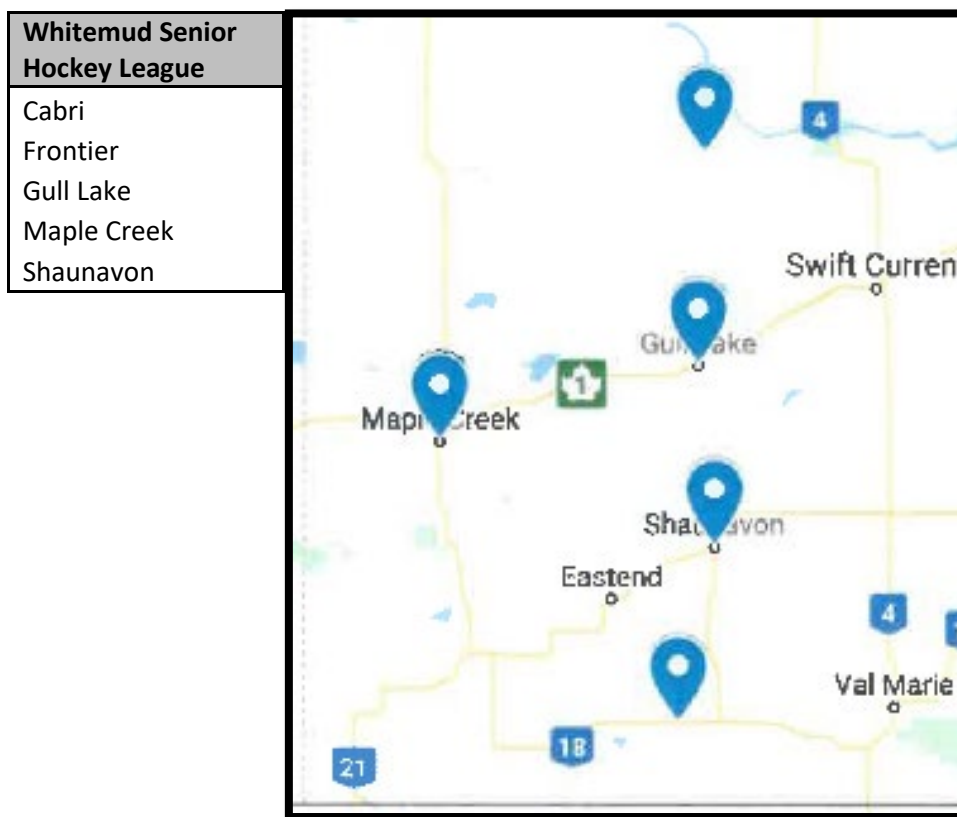


Wheatland Senior Hockey League – South Division

Wheatland Senior Hockey League	
South Division	
Allan	
Craik	
Dundurn	
Jansen	



Whitemud Senior Hockey League



Saskatchewan Junior Hockey League (Junior A)

Sask Junior Hockey League	
Battleford	
Estevan	
Flin Flon (MB)	
Humboldt	
Kindersley	
La Ronge	
Melfort	
Melville	
Nipawin	
Notre Dame	
Weyburn	
Yorkton	

Prairie Junior Hockey League (Junior B)

Prairie Junior Hockey League	
Regina	
Pilot Butte	
Fort Qu'Appelle	
Assiniboia	
Carrot River	
Delisle	
Prince Albert	
Saskatoon	
Kerrobert	

Qu'Appelle Valley Junior Hockey League (Junior C)

