



Hello U13 Hockey Families,

North Okanagan Minor Hockey (NOMHA) and Salmon Arm Minor Hockey (SAMHA) are excited to announce our intentions to work together in the U13 Division in the upcoming 2021-2022 hockey season. Over the past few months, the two associations along with input from OMAHA have been collaborating to develop a model that we feel will provide the best opportunities for all players in our associations in the U-13 age group.

After reviewing the registration numbers from the 2020/2021 season we expect that between our two associations we will roster six U13 teams next year. The model we have developed would consist of the following:

NOMHA would host 1 recreation team

SAMHA will host 3 recreation teams and 2 Rep Teams

By working together, we feel we can provide our players the best opportunity to play at the most appropriate level and be competitive and successful at those levels.

Here is a list of some of the key point we have addressed during our meetings:

- By working together, we can ensure we are able to host 2 Rep teams and have a competitive A and B team without affecting the strength and number of our recreation programs
- One of the most important points discussed and presented by both associations is the ability for players to be able to be AP'd to the various teams. We have confirmed with OMAHA that all players from both associations would be able to be AP'd from the recreation teams to the "B" for practice and possible games. Players from the "B" would be eligible to be AP'd to the "A" team.
- Hosting both rep teams out of Salmon Arm offers best way to make this model successful and limit the number obstacles that would occur with trying to host 1 in each association
- Although the Rep teams will be hosted out of Salmon Arm the practices will be shared between Salmon Arm and North Oak for both teams. Each team will have 1 evening practice in Salmon Arm and 1 evening Practice in Enderby per week
- Interested coaches for team A and B will be required to apply and applications will be reviewed by a joint committee consisting of board members from both associations. The goal will be to have representation from both associations on each team if possible.

We would like to invite all parents from both associations to attend a virtual town hall meeting in which the 2 associations will go through the plan and have a Q and A session. We would like to have parents submit questions prior to the session via email to their association president to help with the difficulties of doing this virtually and ensure the questions are answered as best as possible.

Town Hall Meeting April 15 at 7:30pm (a link to the meeting will be sent out to all parents)

Sincerely,

Joel De Boer President SAMHA

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