



MEMORANDUM 17

2022-23

June 29, 2023

To: Minor Hockey Associations
From: Hudson Kelly, Coordinator, Elite Male Hockey

AA Hockey – U13 AA Player Signings

At the request of AA Recruitment Area Host MHAs, the AA Committee recently met to discuss the potential for U13 AA teams to offer players roster spots in advance of tryouts, as a measure to assist recruitment and retention of capable players to the U13 AA model of hockey. These measures would be similar to the recently implemented U15 and U18 AAA policy permitting clubs to offer up to 6 roster spots to deserving players following Spring Identification Camps.

The AA Committee recognizes the competitive environment U13 AA hockey operates within and the presence of alternate programs that compete to recruit players with U13 AA teams. The Committee also recognizes the diversity of programs and consumers within the U13 AA Model and that what works for one program may not work for another to recruit and retain players.

As such, the AA Committee will not be implementing any set parameters on the number of players a U13 AA team can offer rosters spots to in advance of the season, nor will the committee prevent U13 AA teams from offering roster spots in advance of the season. The Committee will instead allow U13 AA teams to manage their own player selection process and to offer the number of roster spots they see fit prior to tryouts in order to assist with recruitment and retention while still conducting a fair and transparent tryout process in the fall.

The AA Committee expects the principles of the AA Model to be upheld throughout the player selection process and requires that all AA teams hold an open selection process where players may only be released in the fall. Releases must occur within the time period outlined for tryouts in the AA Hockey Model to ensure players are given adequate opportunity to develop over the summer following any Spring identification camps or other programming.

For questions or clarification, please contact:

Hudson Kelly
Email: hkelly@hockeyalberta.ca



Hockey Alberta
120 College Circle - Room 201
Red Deer, AB T4N 5H5

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