

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Why Amalgamate?

Amalgamation means:

All players playing at a level that is appropriate for their capability.

Rep and LL teams at all age divisions with appropriately placed players.

Greater opportunities for improvement and expanding capabilities of players at the local level.

Increased ability for organization to host specialized development clinics (e.g., goalie clinics, power skating, skills and drills)

Larger pool of parent volunteers for tournament hosting, coaching clinics, & certification clinics.

Most importantly - children enjoying playing hockey with peers, and children and learning and developing at an appropriate level.

Frequently Asked Questions

What will the new association be called?

If the vote is yes, a subcommittee will be created to handle the submission of ideas for names and logos. Both centres are very open to having the membership make recommendations which can be considered.

Is the amalgamation happening automatically?

No. The decision to amalgamate or not to amalgamate is the responsibility of each voting member of both Belmont and Aylmer Minor Hockey.

How does amalgamation happen?

Both Belmont and Aylmer Minor Hockey Association would need a majority vote of 67% or greater from their respective members to proceed with the amalgamation.

If the vote is yes to amalgamate, when does it start?

We would aim to be officially amalgamated for the start of the 2023-2024 season.

If the vote is no then what happens?

If either organization has less than the required yes votes (67% of the vote) the opportunity to restart or continue amalgamation talks is lost for a minimum of 2 years (per OMHA regulations).

Who can vote?

One vote is allowed per registered family unit that has a player whose home centre is Belmont or Aylmer. In the case of a split family only the parent at the registered address of the player can vote.

Where will my player have practice?

Throughout a season teams will have to rotate which arena they practice and have games at. Depending on the number of teams in an age division, each team would take turns playing in both centres for a period of time during the season.

What will the centre point be for the new organization?

TBD

Q. What if I am in a right of choice area according to the new centre point?

A. Right of choice will open up for any member within the designated area to re-sign or leave the new organization. Once a right of choice player signs onto the organization they are considered a life time member.

Q. If the Partnership is approved, where will my Rep child be playing?

A. The New Minor Hockey Association will be working towards a fair and balanced allocation of Rep Teams amongst the two centres, so that all communities share in being able to host Rep Team games and practices. The specific assignment of ice time for Rep Teams will depend upon ice scheduling availability, the size of the ice pad, and the age/division of the particular team. This could involve Rep teams being based out of a specific arena for the season, or a rotation of ice times among the facilities throughout the season.

Q. If the Partnership is approved, where will my Local League child be playing?

A. One of the primary goals of this Partnership is to maintain the same high quality Local League experience for our community based recreational teams. This means that the Local League Teams continue to play out of their community arenas as part of their traditional Local League teams.

Q. Will representative play Shamrock or Southern Counties?

A. TBD.

Q. Why amalgamate with our neighbouring centres?

A. As each centres demographics continue to change; we're looking for ways to offer the best solutions that will allow hockey to continue to thrive in our communities. Amalgamation would help each association offer a hockey program that maximizes player development and fun in part by fielding teams comprised of players with consistent ability at every level.

Q. Will the new centre have its own Board of Directors?

A. Yes, the amalgamated centre will have a Board comprised of an equal number of Directors from each centre.

Q. How will coaches be selected?

A. Initially coaches will be selected by a committee comprised of people from each centre, until such time the boards are completely integrated together.

Q. How will rep teams be selected?

A. The teams will be selected by the Coach plus unbiased, independent evaluators.

Q. Will there be a fixed number of Players from each Association on each Rep team?

A. No, it is not realistic to set fixed player numbers from each Association. Player selection will be based on player ability/skill. This ensures consistency in talent/skill amongst selected player groups and provides for strong/competitive team structures that are fun and exciting to play within.

Q. When will we find out if the Amalgamation is approved?

A. The proposed Amalgamation will eventually be presented to the OMHA when all the requirements are completed to provide the best quality application