



Dear Parents and Guardians of the Almaguin Minor Hockey Association,

This season AMHA will be promoting our Select Program in replacement of a Representative program. Select is a representative alternative allowing Almaguin to play at a more competitive level at events of their choice. Statistically our teams performed more competitively this past year at the Local League than any other year in the past.

Representative hockey in the Muskoka-Parry Sound League will not look the same. The MPS league has been combined with the Georgian Triangle League. We would be playing in a league that would consist of significant amount of travel added to the year. Some of the travel would be 2-3 hrs for a game.

In 2021-22 Almaguin piloted a Select program at the U11 age with great success. Our hope is that this style of program will help build back success and skill development across all our programs and ages. Therefore, helping more players have a positive hockey experience in Almaguin. From the feedback received last year, it was a great success.

This system does take more coordination because there is no structured league. A select program would be offered at any age group with large numbers of players registered and available to play at those age groups. If we are able to ice 2 Local League teams, they would be able to support having a select team at that level. The select team will be composed of top players from the 2 Local league teams. A select program will be an additional cost to those who are selected to look after exhibition games and tournaments. One major benefit of a select program for our association is that all players within those age groups with two local league teams and a select team would have two practices a week with no additional cost to the players or the association.

In consultation with neighboring associations there is a push for a Select style program within MPS to provide top local league players additional opportunities. Along with numerous tournaments within the OMHA & NOHA that have Select specific divisions. The executive is confident that the Select style of programming will be a huge benefit to the players and the association and we look forward to this season. There will be more Select specific information provided as it becomes available to all families.

The executive is willing to put forward the effort to create the best possible hockey for our teams. This being said, our executive is very limited and very busy. We will need the support of the coaching staff, parents, and guardians to help us achieve this new style of programming.

Below is the definition by the OMHA of what Select hockey consists of.

4.4 Select

- a) A Select Team is a team comprised of players selected from affiliated House League or Local League teams in a Centre. All players must be eligible by age.
- b) All teams must be registered on an electronic roster.
- c) Teams may roster a maximum of nineteen (19) players with the exception of all U21s which may roster twenty-five (25) players as per Regulation 4.1a).
- d) Select Team rosters must be submitted to the Regional Director or his designate for approval prior to participation.
- e) Players are not eligible to be registered with more than one "Rostered" Select Team in a Centre in a season. Regulations 121
- f) The number of exhibition games allowed is three (3) per month and the number of tournaments allowed is three (3) per season. Any adjustments or amendments in excess of these numbers must be approved in writing by the Regional Director or OMHA appointed Convenor.
- g) Permission to participate in exhibition games within the OHF must be obtained via the OMHA Portal and approved by the Regional Director, appointed OMHA Area Convenor or designate.
- h) Permission to participate in exhibition games outside the OHF must be obtained from the OMHA Executive Director via the OMHA Portal. The application will not be approved until the Centre has submitted the applicable fee.
- i) Permission to participate in tournaments within the OMHA must be obtained via the OMHA Portal and approved by the Regional Director, appointed OMHA Area Convenor or designate.
- j) Permission to participate in tournaments outside the OMHA must be obtained from the OMHA Executive Director via the OMHA Portal. The application will not be approved until the Centre has submitted the applicable fee.
- k) Participation on a Select Team is not considered an OMHA affiliation.
- l) A Select Team may not affiliate players.
- m) Players rostered to a higher age division team in House/Local League are allowed to be rostered to the Select team in their own age division, provided the rostering team is not eligible for OHF, Provincial or Regional Championships

Thank you,
Rebel Kennedy
AMHA President