

InfoBulletin

Reorganization of the U10-U18 Rep Programs of Oro Minor Hockey and Orillia Minor Hockey

Oro Minor Hockey and Orillia Minor Hockey will each host a vote to reorganize within their organizations.

Orillia Minor Hockey

Sunday January 19, 2025 Rotary Place

6-7pm Question and Answer

7-9 pm Vote

Oro Minor Hockey

Monday January 20, 2025 Oro Arena

6-7pm Question and Answer

7-9pm Vote

Oro/Orillia U10-U18 Rep Reorganization Information

This Information bulletin is not to persuade you to vote yes to the Reorganization. It is to provide you with relevant information so you can make an informed decision.

The landscape of Minor Hockey in Ontario is constantly evolving, this past month more than ever as the OHF declared Open Borders for all of Ontario. Programming for the 2025-26 season will be drastically different and Oro and Orillia must adjust to maintain the best experience for our local players.

The Oro/Orillia Rep reorganization intends to proceed for the upcoming 2025-26 season with AA and A tryouts this Spring. The new Association would encompass all U10-U18 Rep programming. All Local League, House League, Select and U9 MD would remain in their current organizations.

WHY REORGANIZE?

- 1) Improved opportunities for local Orillia and Oro players
- 2) Stronger teams with local players
- 3) All players playing at a level that is appropriate for their capability
- 4) Rep, HL and LL teams at all age divisions with appropriately placed players.
- 5) Greater opportunities for improvement and expanding capabilities of players at the local level
- 6) Increased ability for organization to host specialized development clinics (e.g., goalie clinics, power skating, skills and drills)
- 7) Improved coaching/training
- 8) Improved experiences will lead to better player retention
- 9) Better and more appropriate competition
- 10) Larger pool of parent volunteers for tournament hosting, coaching clinics, & certification clinics
- 11) OHF has removed borders which will lead to more mergers and reorganizations

Challenges of Reorganization:

- 1) Identity Loss/Colour and Logo Changes
- 2) Slightly Longer Drives as ice divided between centres
- 3) New teammates

Recent Organizational Mergers (just a few of them):

- 1) YSMHL
 - a. South Simcoe
 - b. Upper York
 - c. King
- 2) Georgian Bay
 - a. Penetang/Midland
 - b. South Muskoka
- 3) AAA
 - a. North Shore Whitecaps
 - b. Hamilton Steel
 - c. Windsor/Sun County
 - d. Ajax-Pickering
- 4) AA/A
 - a. Glancaster
 - b. West Niagara
 - c. Haldimand
 - d. Talbot
 - e. South Oxford
 - f. Brant
 - g. Saugeen
 - h. East Elgin

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What will the new association be called?

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

Is the reorganization happening automatically?

No. The decision to reorganize or not is the responsibility of each voting member of both Orillia and Oro Minor Hockey.

How does reorganization happen?

Both Orillia and Oro Minor Hockey Association would need a majority vote of 2/3 or greater from their respective members to proceed with the reorganization.

If the vote is yes when does it start?

We would aim to be officially reorganize for the start of the 2025-2026 with tryouts in the Spring of 2025.

If the vote is no then what happens?

If either organization has less than the required yes votes (2/3 of the vote) the opportunity to restart or continue reorganization 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 center is Orillia or Oro Minor Hockey

In the case of a split family only the parent at the registered address of the player can vote.

If the reorganization is approved, where will my Rep child be playing?

The New Minor Hockey Association will be working towards a fair and balanced allocation of Rep Teams amongst the two centers, 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, 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.

If the reorganization is approved, where will my LL/HL/U9 child be playing?

One of the primary goals of this Reorganization is to maintain the same high-quality House League and Local League experience for our community based recreational teams. This means that the House League, Local League, U9MD and Select Teams continue to play out of their community arenas as part of their traditional Organizations.

Why reorganize

As each centre's demographics continue to change; we're looking for ways to offer the best solutions that will allow hockey to continue to thrive in our

with our neighbouring centers?

communities. Reorganization 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.

Will the new center have its own Board of Directors?

Yes, the reorganized center will have a Board comprised of an equal number of Directors from each center.

How will coaches be selected?

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

How will rep teams be selected?

The teams will be selected by the Coach and additional unbiased, independent evaluators.

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

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.

When will we find out if the reorganization is approved?

The proposed reorganization will be accepted by the OMHA when the votes are complete.

