



MEMORANDUM

DATE: April 20, 2017

TO: Minor Hockey Associations
Club Teams

FROM: Michelle Skilnick
Manager, Hockey Operations

SUBJECT: Unregistered Programs and Non-Sanctioned Hockey Leagues

Hockey Alberta delivers the best development programming to the province's hockey community, and works with Hockey Canada and its Member Branches to invest significant resources in the development of officials, coaches, administrators and players.

However, there are organizations operating outside of the Hockey Canada structure. Hockey Alberta would like to inform our membership about three unregistered programs and/or non-sanctioned hockey leagues that are planning to offer various levels of amateur hockey programming.

- Calgary Hockey Development Centre (www.calgaryhdc.ca)
- PX3 AMP (<http://www.px3amp.org>)
- Alberta Elite Hockey League (<http://aehl.ca/>)

Because these unregistered programs / non-sanctioned leagues operate outside of our structure, Hockey Alberta has no way of ensuring the:

- implementation of fundamental safeguards inherent in Hockey Alberta programs;
- use of the same Playing Rules that Hockey Canada and Hockey Alberta have implemented to protect player safety;
- provision of adequate insurance for their participants; and
- level / quality of play matches the level advertised.

Hockey Alberta respects the right of every individual to choose between participating in minor hockey with a Hockey Alberta member minor hockey association / organization or an unregistered program / non-sanctioned league. However, it is important to note that Hockey Canada has implemented a policy pertaining to unregistered programs / non-sanctioned leagues and there are consequences in place for those participating in such programs. Should an individual choose to participate in an unregistered program / non-sanctioned league after September 30 of the current season, the following shall be applied:

- 1) Loss of all privileges with Hockey Alberta and Hockey Canada for the remainder of that season, and, subject to paragraph (2) below, may only apply for the reinstatement of those privileges after the end of the season (this includes, but is not limited to, registration with a team and participation in Hockey Alberta / Hockey Canada camps and high performance programs).
- 2) Notwithstanding the consequences listed in paragraph (1), anyone who participates in an unregistered program / non-sanctioned league after September 30 is entitled to seek early reinstatement of their privileges within Hockey Canada by appealing to Hockey Canada's Non-Sanctioned Hockey Reinstatement Committee, which may grant early reinstatement if it is satisfied that special circumstances exist.



MEMORANDUM

Hockey Alberta members are not to be supporting unregistered programs / non-sanctioned leagues in any capacity. "Supporting" includes, but is not limited to, assisting an unregistered program / non-sanctioned league directly or indirectly through advertisement, promotion, ticket sales, volunteer activities, assigning officials, sharing resources or enabling such an organization to participate in Hockey Alberta or Hockey Canada sanctioned activities. Where such support occurs, Hockey Alberta will deem the member minor hockey association or club team to be a "member not in good standing" revoking membership privileges and restricting them from operating and/or participating in any and all sanctioned events.

As a member minor hockey association or club team, this memorandum is intended to make you aware of the existence of unregistered programs and non-sanctioned leagues as well as to inform you about the policies pertaining to them. Participants and their families will not necessarily understand the difference between these programs and that of a registered, sanctioned and insured program under Hockey Canada's governance. Hockey Alberta is asking that you use this memorandum to help inform the participants in your area so that they can make informed decisions.

NOTE: The consequences for an individual or a minor hockey association or club team will remain in effect even if the unregistered program / non-sanctioned league folds, or the Participant is released, suspended or fired from the unregistered program / non-sanctioned league.

If you have any questions regarding the Hockey Canada policy or how it is implemented in Alberta, please do not hesitate to contact the Hockey Alberta office.

Thank you.