



STONEY CREEK MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

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Stoney Creek Minor Hockey Association in conjunction with the Hamilton Huskies Hockey Club are pleased to announce by way of support of the Ontario Minor Hockey Association and the Minor Hockey Alliance of Ontario the following merger of these two historic organizations as it relates to hockey participation and eligibility for representative hockey for the upcoming season. Effective immediately, all residential restrictions between the two Associations will be lifted. There will be complete freedom of movement for ALL eligible participants that fall into the shared boundaries of these two Associations.

The Stoney Creek Minor Hockey Association and the Hamilton Huskies Hockey Club have been the advocates for change within the City of Hamilton to ensure the foundation is set for long term growth and development for all hockey participants within the City of Hamilton. We have been striving for this ground breaking moment since 2016 and are extremely excited about what the future will potentially hold for both organizations. We are both honoured to have been identified as Associations of choice to begin to build the future of hockey within the City of Hamilton.

Stoney Creek Minor Hockey Association and the Hamilton Huskies Hockey Club although working in collaboration will still maintain and operate under each group's independent structures. This is not an amalgamation but rather a working partnership to combine resources, knowledge, participants, volunteers and support systems as we begin to formulate that future of hockey within the City of Hamilton.

We would like to ensure we thank both the OMHA and Alliance Hockey for their continued support and faith in our Associations in allowing us the privilege of working on our collective vision of the future. As well, we would also like to congratulate and show our support behind the other Associations that have recently released announcements of their own pilots. We wish you all the best of luck.

Shared Boundary Announcement

As many are aware there have been many updates in the media and our websites regarding proposed changes to the structure of Hamilton Hockey and efforts to ease and eliminate residential boundaries. This process started in October 2016. Following considerable efforts and discussions together with the City of Hamilton, Ontario Minor Hockey Association and the Minor Hockey Alliance of Ontario, the boards of the Hamilton Huskies Hockey Club ("Huskies") and Stoney Creek Minor Hockey Association ("Stoney Creek") are pleased to announce a collaborative agreement to enter into a partnership to "pilot" a shared boundary initiative for the 2018-2019 season. Should the pilot prove to be successful we have the option to continue the pilot for the 2019-2020 season. The Huskies and Stoney Creek would like to thank the City and our Member Partners for supporting the initiative and we would further like to thank Dundas and the Flamborough Hockey Association for the dedication and commitment towards implementing change in the hockey structure in Hamilton.

The "pilot" initiative sees the elimination of residential boundary restrictions between the 2 centers and allows for freedom of player movement and access to programming for the membership of either association without the need of administrative documentation or NRP limits. These changes will allow any player the freedom of choice and movement to play at the Representative level in either center of their choice starting at the AA or A level and continuing to the AE or MD Level. The pilot being presented is with the intent to reduce some of the stress identified by the two associations as it relates to lack of competitiveness, a declining participant base, lack of choice, and proximity of Stoney Creek and the Huskies. The shared boundary permits the retention of community identity, sponsorship and pride in their respective communities. We believe that by removing the restrictions of boundaries will encourage more kids to come out to play and thereby increase the number of families in our programs which will help sustain hockey in our respective communities.

The Shared Boundary tryouts will begin in the following sequence:

AA – Hamilton Huskies (will start May 1st) – Will play in the Alliance Seeded League.

A – Stoney Creek (will start after the AA tryouts) – Will play in the Niagara District Hockey League.

AE and MD – Hamilton Huskies and Stoney Creek will run concurrently. Hamilton Huskies will play in the Alliance MD League (Non-Contact at Bantam level) and Stoney Creek will play in the Niagara District Hockey League.

The Shared Boundary team is also committed to work with the Hamilton Hockey Council to grow and support Recreational Hockey in Stoney Creek.

We understand and acknowledge the short notice of this announcement and that there will be some growing pains in administering the “pilot” initiative, however we ask for patience, cooperation and understanding though this time. Over the next few days more information will be announced including registration and tryout times.

Thank you and we look forward to the implementation of a successful shared boundary initiative.

The Board of Directors of the Hamilton Huskies Hockey Club and Stoney Creek Minor Hockey Association.



Steven Johnson

President

Stoney Creek Minor Hockey



Yoshi Kitamura

President

Hamilton Huskies