

# Carstairs Minor Hockey Association

Box 773 Carstairs Alberta  
T0M 0N0



## Pre-Hockey, U7 and U9 Update

It's been a few days and it turns out that lots can happen!

Following our evaluation process, the Association unfortunately lost three players from the U9C team, leaving that team with only 10 players and not meeting the Association's ideal numbers for the U9 Age Division. The Board met tonight, September 25<sup>th</sup>, to review options and create a path forward to resolve this deficiency. The results of those discussions which impacts the Pre-Hockey and U7 programming is contained below.

The Board has decided that it would be unfair to look at redoing the team selections in U9 and asking players that have already been announced on the U9A or U9B team to move to an alternative team. As such, the Board has determined to look to draw two (2) players from the U7 age division, that demonstrate a strong skillset, and to offer those player's parents the opportunity to register as a U9 player. This is how that will work:

- 1) In collaboration with the U7 coaches, the evaluation committee will evaluate U7 players to determine which players would be able to play at the U9C level.
- 2) The Evaluation Committee will approach the parents of those players and offer them the opportunity to register as a U9 player for the 2024/25 season.
- 3) The parent will be required to pay the appropriate U9 registration fee rates and will immediately become part of the U9C team.
- 4) In the event that those parents are not supportive of moving their player, the Evaluation Committee will move on to the next U7 player on the evaluation list.

To ensure that U7 numbers remain appropriate, and due to lower than usual pre-hockey registration numbers, the Board has also decided to permit for any pre-hockey parents that would like to register their player as a U7 player in the 2024/25 season to do so. This is how that will work:

- 1) Pre-Hockey players that wish to register as U7 players can make the request to [registrar@carstairsminorhockey.ca](mailto:registrar@carstairsminorhockey.ca). The parent will be required to pay the appropriate U7 registration fee rates and will immediately become part of the U7 Age Division.
- 2) These players would be able to enjoy two practices per week and participate in their applicable U7 games and events, just like any other U7 player.
- 3) Any parent that would prefer to keep their player in pre-hockey instead of transitioning to U7 will be welcome to do so. These players will reap the benefit of getting to join the U7 practice times twice per week (Tuesdays and Thursdays 4:15-5:05pm). These players will not be invited to participate in U7 games or other U7 events.
- 4) The Evaluation Committee will attempt to keep the remaining U7 teams intact as much as possible to lower the impact on those established groupings, but does note that additional changes may be needed to ensure that the skill level of both teams is equivalent.

I can appreciate that some folks might not agree with the decision, but I hope you can all respect that this situation is not ideal and has left the Board in a difficult position. We have done our best given the extenuating circumstances and have tried to keep the interests of all players in the U5, U7

# Carstairs Minor Hockey Association



**Box 773 Carstairs Alberta**  
**TOM ONO**

---

and U9 age groups in mind. U11 parents thanks for hanging around to read about the drama, hope you had your popcorn in hand!

As always, if you have questions on this update, please do not hesitate to reach out.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. Atchison".

Christofer Atchison  
President  
[president@carstairsminorhockey.ca](mailto:president@carstairsminorhockey.ca)  
587-436-4136