

Carstairs Minor Hockey Association

Box 773 Carstairs Alberta
T0M 0N0



Hockey Alberta Changes + More!

Getting down to the last couple of months now and we can almost see summer... Here are a few notes for you heading into the weekend!

Saturday February 8th 2025 – U17AAA Avalanche Game

We are excited to host the U17AAA Avalanche Game tomorrow beginning at 7:30 pm with a couple of our own Carstairs Minor Hockey alumni participating in the game. For those that don't know, the Avalanche are based out of Airdrie and offer elite hockey programming for their catchment area which includes Carstairs. Come on down to the rink for some great hockey and to support our Carstairs kids!

Hockey Alberta Changes Regarding Registration

In later 2024 and into early 2025, Hockey Alberta communicated to members that changes were upcoming to hockey registration which effectively removes the need for existing Minor Hockey Association boundaries; these changes have now been approved. We have spent countless hours reviewing the proposed changes and were specifically asked to participate with 7 other associations on a focus group prior to approval.

What changes are being made?

- When families go to register for hockey for the first time, parents can choose where they register their player. Important to note that the Association you are seeking to go to will still need to agree to accept you.
- All current players (except for those that have joined CMHA from other Associations) will remain tied to Carstairs MHA / Renegades MHA until they seek a release through the Player Movement Process.
- All players that have joined CMHA from other Associations will 'be returned' back to their previous Minor Hockey Association in advance of the 2025/26 season. If they wish to return, a player movement form is required to be filled out. If accepted, the player would then have the CMHA/RMHA as their 'home association' in perpetuity until another player release is requested and approved.

For most members these changes will mean very little to your player's hockey journey, so don't spend too much time stressing out about it. Your player has played in CMHA for their entire life and will look to move into the Renegades system once they hit the U13 age and likely play out their hockey career there. For those that have joined us from other Associations, it means one more year of player movement requests and then you get to remain in our Association as long as you wish. What it does allow is more flexibility for players to jump associations which does create some risks and opportunities for our association as we constantly battle ice availability, team number predictability and other operational challenges. As such, I appreciate your patience as we work through the finer details in advance of the 2025/26 season.

If you have any questions on your particular situation, reach out!

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Didsbury Minor Hockey / Renegades Minor Hockey

I continue to be impressed with our members response to the Didsbury Arena situation. I recently met with the presidents of both of these associations and have confirmed that they will require assistance until the end of our season. Their members have asked that I pass along their gratitude for sharing dressing rooms and ice times to help keep their kids on the ice this season.

U11 Playoffs

Our U11 teams are heading into their last weekend of regular season games before their playoff series start up on February 21st 2025. In a CAHL Meeting this week, the Board has noted that these schedules will likely take until the Family Day weekend to generate as they work through any sub-tier playoff brackets, so stay tuned for that but be ready to go the following weekend. We are hoping for long playoff runs for all of our teams!

U9 Tournaments

The U9A team hosted a very successful tournament on January 24th to 26th 2025. A huge thank you to all of the parents that helped make that event a memorable experience for the players.

The U9 B/C Tournament is coming up February 14th to 16th 2025. See you at the rink for our last raffle table of the year!

That's it for now! We are getting close to the end of the season and I would like to thank you all for your continued support of the Association.

Christofer Atchison
President

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