



NORTH WEST ZONE HOCKEY ASSOCIATION BANTAM HOCKEY

To: NWZ, WWHA, HAC 2017-2018 Bantam Players and Parents of those Players

On behalf of the Hawks Athletic Club (HAC), Whitemud West Hockey Association (WWHA) and the North West Zone Hockey Association (NWZHA), this letter is to inform you that effective this upcoming season, all EFHL (Edmonton Federation Hockey League) Bantam teams within the NWZ area will be NWZ teams. This change is being made to align with the other 4 Operating Districts ("Zones") in the City of Edmonton which currently all have zone-wide Bantam teams for all tiers. Having a larger pool of players from which NWZ Bantam teams will be formed should result in more players having the opportunity to play in the tier that best suits their abilities and should also result in more balanced teams. As President of the NWZHA, I would like to thank WWHA and HAC for the many years they have done a great job of running Bantam hockey teams and for their support for the change to zone-wide Bantam teams.

What does this mean to Bantam-aged players who live within the NWZ boundaries? The primary change is that since all Bantam teams will be NWZ teams, Bantam players who either do not try out for CAC Bantam AAA/AA or who do try out for CAC teams but are released, will play for a NWZ Bantam team. Similar to this past season, the NWZ will ice at least one Bantam A and one Bantam B team (who are eligible for Provincials), and as many tier 1 to 6 Bantam teams as are necessary to accommodate the number of players we have.

Registration: All NWZ players who wish to try out for CAC Bantam AAA/AA should register directly with CAC (<http://cac-hockey.com/content/registrations>) for more information. If you intend to try out for CAC, do NOT register with the NWZ. If you are released from CAC, CAC will inform the NWZ and the NWZ will ensure that you get registered directly with the NWZ. (This means that WWHA and HAC will no longer process Bantam registrations.) Registrations will likely start in July (exact dates to be determined). Please refer to the NWZ website for more details (<http://nwzhockey.com>). If you have related questions or concerns, please e-mail the NWZ Registrar, Lorraine Toth @ admin@nwzhockey.com or Myles Diamond @ mdiamond@live.ca.

Thank you to our HAC, WWHA and NWZ graduating Peewee and returning Bantam players and families for your commitment to the great game of hockey. For those entering Bantam from HAC or WWHA Bantam or Peewee teams, welcome to NWZ hockey! All three organizations are working together to ensure that the new NWZ Bantam program is a success. We will provide updates on registration dates, Bantam evaluation schedules and Bantam Conditioning Camp dates and registration periodically between now and the start of the 2017/2018 season. Please visit the NWZ website regularly to keep up to date on our progress. The Conditioning Camp is not mandatory - it is designed to help players get into game shape and ready for evaluations and the upcoming season - the Conditioning Camp is NOT part of the evaluation process.

We hope that everyone has a great summer and are ready to play some hockey come September!

Sincerely,

Myles Diamond - **President, North West Zone Hockey Association (NWZHA)**
Troy Housworth - **President, Whitemud West Hockey Association (WWHA)**
Darren Hutton - **President, Hawks Athletic Club (HAC)**