

Amalgamation

An exploratory discussion

Wasaga Beach Minor Hockey
February 2025





Meeting Agenda

- Welcome & Introductions
- WBMHA 2024-2025 Season successes
- Amalgamation/Restructuring - Introduction & Information
- Discussion – Q&A

****No formal vote around Amalgamation will happen tonight****





2024-25 Season Recap

- **Development Clinics** (*36 player clinics & 12 goalie clinics*)
- **Fill-a-Helmet Fundraiser** (*raised over \$11,000*)
- **Hockey for Hunger Campaign** (*over 3000 lbs of donations*)
- **Silverstick Tournaments** (*4 weekends- Increased # of teams*)
- **U7 & U8 & U9 Tournaments/Jamborees** (*Jan/Feb/Mar*)
- **Hosting All Star Games** (*April 5 & 6*)
- **Year End Banquet** (*April 13*)
- **Annual General Meeting** (*April 27*)





Associations Considering Amalgamation

- Collingwood
- Clearview
- Wasaga Beach

- Approx. 1000 players





Amalgamation vs. Reorganization

- AMALGAMATION is when 2 or more associations in close geographical area combine to form **1 new association** to deliver all hockey programming.
- REORGANIZATION is when 2 or more associations combine to form **1 new Representative** entity, while maintaining their current respective Recreational programming (local league).





Amalgamation Advantages

- Players playing at a level that is appropriate for their capabilities.
- Stronger/more competitive teams, larger teams.
- Able to compete at higher levels (A or AA).
- Increased ability to host development clinics.
- Larger pool of parent volunteers (on ice & off ice).
- Larger pool of qualified coaches.





Amalgamation Disadvantages

- Lose individual identity- history, legacy.
- Start up costs – uniforms, legal, etc.
- Potentially higher registration fees.
- Increased travel for practices/games.
- Increased competition (because of increased talent pool).





Reorganization Advantages

- Players playing at a level that is appropriate for their capabilities.
- Stronger/more competitive teams, larger teams.
- Able to compete at higher levels (A or AA).
- Able to keep identity -Wasaga Stars- for LL





Reorganization Disadvantages

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Considerations

- Since the pandemic registration numbers have been lower across Ontario- not just WBMHA.
- Many associations have reorganized/amalgamated – due to low enrollment, rising costs.
- WBMHA registration is strong in U5-U8, anticipated to keep rising. (Possibly reduced registration fees this coming year).
- Premium ice time available to meet the needs of WBMHA association –in a much desired, beautiful, new facility.
- Potential loss of grant from the Town -ice cost savings





Considerations

- WBMHA is in a position to see increased registration over the next several years- new housing, 2 high schools coming, open borders, Costco & more development opportunities-will bring families to the area.
- WBMHA has a long & positive relationship with the Town and the entire community
- Collingwood Minor Hockey has reported to the media their dire need for ice time- using outdoor rink and early mornings to meet practice needs for current teams.





Question & Answer

- This is a public discussion, not a debate.
- We value and respect all perspectives.
- We are at the exploratory phase; nothing has been decided.
- Actively listen and seek clarity to understand.
- Everyone is encouraged to participate.
- Only one person at a time may speak, please be brief, clear and to the point.
- No one person should dominate the discussion, let others have an opportunity to speak.





Where to go from here?

- Does WBMHA want to continue discussions of amalgamation/reorganizing?
- **Yes-** need to survey/vote. Meet with Clearview & Collingwood OR other neighbouring associations?
- **No-** continue to develop our programs and promote the development of WBMHA.

