



## ELITE SOUTHERN OPPORTUNITIES FOR HOCKEY NORTH PLAYERS

May 17, 2011

### 1.0 BACKGROUND

As there are no opportunities to play elite (AA, AAA) hockey within the Hockey North Branch players must move to southern branches to pursue their hockey goals. Generally, Hockey Canada does not encourage the free movement (does not include the relocation of a family) of players between branches but will consider a request under justified circumstances. Hockey North has established informal agreements with some branches, to allow a limited number of elite northern players to transfer south – if they are selected to play at the AAA level (only).

### 2.0 THE PROCESS

The “application to transfer” process involves the following steps:

- A written application must be submitted to the appropriate host branch contact listed below by July 1<sup>st</sup> preceding the playing season.
- The application should include:
  - A short profile (resume) of the player including relevant personal information and hockey experience
  - The reason (to pursue elite hockey opportunities) and the rationale (no opportunities in NWT) for the application
  - Reference to the informal transfer agreement between the two branches (attach copy)
  - A letter of support from the President of the Local Hockey North Minor Hockey Association and the President of Hockey North
  - A letter of support from an identified potential southern branch host team and their host association would be very helpful.
- Southern Branch Contacts

Hockey Alberta  
Brad Robbins  
Senior Manager Operations  
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Hockey Manitoba  
Peter Woods  
Executive Director

145 Pacific Avenue  
Winnipeg, MB R3B 2Z6  
Phone: 204-925-5761

- Email: [peter@hockeymanitoba.mb.ca](mailto:peter@hockeymanitoba.mb.ca) Fax: 204-925-5761



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- The southern branch must file an appeal with Hockey Canada by 15 July for the appeal to be considered by 01 August.
  - The application must include a cheque for \$300 to cover the appeal fee.
  - The cheque should be made payable and issued to the southern host branch
  - Hockey Canada will deal with the appeal within a very short time frame. A response will usually be provided to the Host Branch (Hockey Alberta, Hockey Manitoba) within 7 days of Hockey Canada receiving the appeal.
  - The appropriate Host Branch Contact will notify the appellant of the Hockey Canada decision within 2 (two) days of receiving the Hockey Canada decision.
  - If Hockey Canada approves the transfer, the Association player may pursue opportunities in the Host Branch subject to the Host Branch policies.
  - The requirement to associate with a particular host branch draw zone by July 1<sup>st</sup> of the upcoming season is waived pending the Hockey Canada decision.

### 3.0 GENERAL

- Hockey Canada's National Appeals Committee meets regularly to consider appeals. The informal agreement between Hockey North and the southern branches is understood at the national Level and it provides an opportunity for elite players from the North to play 'AAA' Hockey.
- Players are strongly encouraged to:
  - Make contact with prospective Southern teams to confirm interest by a potential host team and association
  - Make contact with prospective teams as early as possible so that Host Branch administrative requirements may be addressed in an efficient and timely manner.