



INFORMATION BULLETIN

BULLETIN #: 220124-024-I
DATE: January 24, 2022
TO: OMHA Member Associations
CC: OMHA Board; OMHA Convenors
FROM: Ian Taylor - Executive Director
SUBJECT: INTEGRATION OF AE PROGRAMMING/OMHA PROGRAM REPOSITIONING

As an outcome of the Notice of Amendment 21-06, regarding Playing Regulation C4, which was carried at the 2021 Ontario Hockey Federation (OHF) Semi-Annual Meeting, the use of Additional Entry (AE) as a team definition was eliminated. The rationale for the elimination of this definition was that AE was a group and not a category and these teams should be placed into a category for consistency across the OHF.

Subsequently the OMHA applied for, and was granted, an extension to continue to operate AE hockey for the 2021-2022 season conditional on the OMHA creating a critical path to address the integration of AE hockey into existing OMHA programming.

The OMHA Category Playdown and Representative Committees were tasked with creating the plan to integrate AE hockey. As part of this plan it was determined that the repositioning of existing OMHA base categories would be integral in ensuring that the integration of AE programming would not have a negative impact on programming overall. This also provided the opportunity to align base categories with the OMHA Playdown structure.

The OMHA Board approved the motion to adopt the following integration of AE hockey and repositioning of categories as presented (see below) effective for the 2022-2023 season:

CURRENT		*NEW			
Base Category	AE Entry	First Team Entry (Base Category)	Second Team Entry	Third Team Entry	Fourth Team Entry
AAA	AE1	AAA	AA	A	BB
AA	AE1	AA	A	BB	B
A	AE2	A	BB	B	C
BB	AE3	B	C	NA	NA
B	AE3	B	C	NA	NA
CC	AE4	C	D	NA	NA
C	AE4	C	D	NA	NA
DD	AE5	D	LL	NA	NA

*Associations may choose to enter more than one team at any given Category but cannot bypass a category. Programming in the Lake Ontario Region (LOR) must obtain permission from the Ontario Hockey Federation (OHF) to enter any additional teams over the number entered in the previous season at any given category.

As part of the integration of AE hockey the following base categories have been repositioned to align with the new OMHA Championship structure which is now expanded from three to four tiers below the AAA/AA/A levels.

- All Associations with a base category of BB will be repositioned to B commencing with the 2022-2023 season. Only former AE1 and AE2 teams will be categorized as BB and no Association will have a base category of BB.
- All Associations with a base category of CC will be repositioned to C commencing with the 2022-23 season.
- All Associations with a base category of DD will be repositioned to D commencing with the 2022-2023 season.

The repositioning of these teams will bring Associations together with the Associations/Teams that they are competing against as a result of the new OMHA Championship structure.

Current Tiering - 2021-2022 Season:

AA	A	Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3
AA	A	AE1/AE2/BB/B	CC/C/*DD	AE3/AE4/AE5/*DD

*A DD team within any age division that does not have a second entry team in the same age division at the AE level will be assigned to Tier 3. If the age division has both a DD team and an AE team the DD team will be assigned to Tier 2 and the AE team to Tier 3

New Tiering – Effective 2022-2023 Season:

AA	A	Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3	Tier 4
AA	A	BB*	B*	C*	D*

- * BB = Former AE1/AE2 Teams
- B = Former BB/B
- C = Former CC/C/AE3 Teams
- D = Former DD/AE4 Teams

AE5 has been eliminated and has not been integrated as there have been seven or fewer teams registered in the AE5 group annually since the 2012-2013 season. Only one AE5 team was registered in the 2021-2022 season.

Any Associations wishing to appeal their base category repositioning must do so by February 15, 2022. Any appeal request must identify the category in which the Association feels they should be placed from the categories available commencing with the 2022-2023 season (i.e. AA, A, B, C or D).

Appeals should be submitted to the attention of Martha Dickie (martha.dickie@omha.net) on the form provided.