



Questions that were asked from the membership meeting regarding the merger:

1. How will house league look? Will we have to travel farther?

House league will be robust, we would look into potentially having an “east” and “west” division or possibly tiered house league. The farthest drive from rink to rink is just over 15 minutes.

2. How many teams would the new association have?

House league based on the current amount of teams between Windsor and LaSalle would have a minimum of 6 teams per division and some divisions would have as many as 12 or more.

Travel would likely have: 2 U8-U9MD teams and 3 travel teams per division at single age groups. For example (based on A classification):

Current U13	Division	
U13 A (single age)	U13 B/C (U12-U13)	
U12 A (single age)	(U12 and U13)	
New Association	U13 Division	
U13 A (single age)	U13 B (single age)	U13 C (U12-U13)
U12 A (single age)	U12 B (single age)	
This is the ultimate goal that our current numbers would support		
However, this would be dependent on enrolment and tryout numbers		
U13 A (single age)	U13 A/B (single age)	U13 B (single age)
U12 A (single age)	U12 A/B (single age)	U12 B (single age)

3. Will registration rates increase?

Registration rates should stay the same, both associations have very similar registration rates.

4. What would the new board look like, what would be the makeup of the new board?

The new association would have a combined board of directors for the first year. This would allow the different areas on the board to work through the transition to see where potential strengths are. We would have elections at the first combined AGM.

5. How would the coaches be picked?

Traditionally, both associations work very hard to select the quality candidates for our travel programs, we look at the coaching background, playing background and coaching philosophy of all of our applicants. One considerable plus for the merger is the potential to have more non-parent coaches at the highest levels. The coach selection would be based on the best possible candidate.

6. Does the idea of having multiple travel teams at each division cause a watering down of house league?

No, not at all. The total number of players playing travel will be very similar to our current numbers and with a combined and substantially larger house league program, we would have a great talent pool for both travel and house.

7. Will the merger have an affect on team chemistry? Will current teams be broken up? Winning isn't everything.

Undoubtedly, there will be changes to the current make up of travel teams, this is no different that any of the other mergers. Kids make new friends, they stay friends with former teammates regardless of why team make up is changed. Year to year, there are players who make teams and get cut from teams, when the teams are picked for the new association, players will end up playing with like skilled players and will still have many of their friends playing with them or on teams at the same age group.

Winning isn't everything, hockey is more than wins and losses. It is about life

lessons, adversity, failure and success. The goal of any representative program is to provide the best possible experience for the players and allowing them to develop at a level that is best for them. However, travel hockey is about trying to compete at the highest level possible.

8. Will there be the possibility of free player movement across the travel teams?

Unfortunately, player movement is restricted to the rules laid out in the OMHA manual of operations. We are bound to the rules of the OMHA and OHF.

If anyone has additional questions, we will have form to submit them prior to our next meeting of the membership. The next meeting will be held on March 20th 2024 at the Vollmer center. Thank you.