



## BC HOCKEY AAA PROGRAMMING UPDATE



### Introduction

Thank you for your interest to participate in BC Hockey's AAA programming for the 2021-2022 season.

Please note that under the current regulations from the Provincial Health Office (PHO), we are still unable to determine when AAA identification camps will occur. As soon as any regulations change, we will communicate those updates to you.

As an update, BC Hockey has adjusted our U16 AAA program to a U17 AAA program for the purpose of improved player development

Please find FAQs below regarding the BC Hockey U17 AAA program.

We hope everyone is staying safe and well, and we look forward to the 2021-2022 season.

If you have any questions regarding AAA programming, please contact [zone@bchockey.net](mailto:zone@bchockey.net) or call the BC Hockey office at 250-652-2978.



*To Lead, Develop and Promote Positive Lifelong Experiences.*



## U17 AAA FAQ

### **Q: Why did BC Hockey make this change?**

BC Hockey's AAA programming focus is on player development. It is believed that shifting the U16 AAA program to a U17 AAA program will have numerous benefits for the athletes. A thorough evaluation of the program was completed, including consultation with various stakeholders which included a detailed review of the data on player tracking and registration trends.

The adjustment to the age category creates flexibility for athletes within the U18 age category. This change will allow for an enhanced opportunity for players to remain within the AAA development model and participate in the AAA zone in which they reside. The adjustment will be evaluated to ensure the changes and overall impact on the development system is positive.

### **Q: Is the entire roster allowed to be 16-year old players?**

The U17 AAA program will have a maximum of seven (7) 16-year-old players per roster which mandates a minimum of 12 roster spots for 15-year-old players. Teams would not be obligated to roster seven (7) second year players, but rather have the option of rostering a maximum of seven (7).

### **Q: How will U17 AAA be structured?**

A: The U17 AAA program is designed to mirror the U18 AAA league structure. 36 games to allow for a balanced schedule playing all other U17 AAA teams 4 times, along with having 3.75 hours of practice ice per week.



**Q: If my 16-year-old child is not successful in being rostered on our zones U18 AAA team, can they attempt to play for a U18 AAA team in a different zone? Or are they required to play U17 AAA if offered a spot on that team?**

A: All AAA programs have the option to apply for a player through the residential waiver policy, these requests are reviewed by the AAA Commissioner. Your AAA programs general manager is educated on this process and can assist if you have additional questions.

### **Q: Does U17 AAA change the AAA Identification Camp format?**

A: The ID Camp format will not change, all U18 eligible participants will be evaluated together and once the Identification Camp has concluded the participants will be separated accordingly.

Should you have any further questions please contact Nathan Boylan, Manager, Leagues ([nboylan@bchockey.net](mailto:nboylan@bchockey.net))

