



# Elite Council

Governing Elite Hockey for Hockey Calgary

## U13 AAA to Operate in 2025-26

Earlier today, Hockey Alberta announced the expansion of the U13 AAA pilot project, which was operated in Northern Alberta for the 2024-25 season. Hockey Calgary and our member clubs are eager to host this new program for the 2025-26 season and look forward to building on the strong development model that already exists within the Hockey Calgary program.

At this time, only limited details have been released by Hockey Alberta, what we do know is as follows:

- There will be 32 U13 AAA Teams across the province, with 2 teams for every U18 AAA team that is currently offered in the province
- 16 Teams in Northern Alberta and 16 in Southern Alberta
- The league will operate 2 conferences, North and South, to enhance competition and reduce travel for these 11- & 12-year-old athletes
- Calgary will play host to 8 teams
  - Each Elite Club in Calgary will be required to host 2 evenly balanced teams
    - Calgary Buffaloes – 2 U13 AAA teams
    - Calgary Northstars – 2 U13 AAA teams
    - Calgary Royals – 2 U13 AAA teams
    - NW Calgary Athletic Assoc. – 2 U13 AAA teams

### Tryout Process

- Further to Hockey Alberta's recent communication Elite Draw Zones will remain in place for the 2025-26 season.
- The Hockey Calgary draw zone is made up of 4 Elite Programs in Calgary (CBHA, CNHA, CRAA, NWCAA), **and eligible players must access their U13 AAA tryout with the member club that corresponds to their residence.**
- Players from outside the Calgary draw zone will NOT be eligible to try out for a Calgary club.

### Next Steps

- Hockey Calgary and our member clubs are working quickly to finalize programs details for the upcoming season.
- Each of the 4 Host Clubs will be hosting information sessions in the coming weeks to provide the details of their individual programs.
- Please check these clubs' websites or follow their social media channels to find the times and locations for the upcoming information sessions.

Thanks in advance for your patience as we move quickly adapt to these changes, we look forward to an exciting kick off to this program in the fall.