



February, 12th 2024

MTMHA-Report on viability of U16 A Team

MTMHA Board members and the Hockey Committee have unanimously voted to conclude that MTMHA will not run a U16 A Hockey Team in the 2024-25 hockey season. A detailed review of not running U16 hockey is supported by the following rationale.

- Reviewing the numbers of all players, and potential players, returning to the
  organization, dictates that U18 Local League and/or U18 AE hockey would not be viable
  and most likely would fold if U16 A hockey would run. Numbers dictate 3 teams in the
  U18 level, Tier 1, Tier 3 and Local League.
- The Board agrees that MTMHA is focused on inclusive and fun hockey for all members.
   Folding teams before the season would shift our focus to "elite-level hockey" which doesn't align with our vision.
- After a conversation and confirmation with OMHA, there is no guarantee that U16 A
  would have a league to play in. Families may have to travel far distances to access a
  league.
- MTMHA would have to apply to change division and only receive approval in late August, not allowing enough time to re-align if we are not approved.
- Running U16 A hockey may open the door for other age divisions to try to run A-level
  hockey impacting teams and players and potentially folding teams at all levels. This,
  again, doesn't align with our vision of equitable and fun access to hockey for all players
  and families.
- Elite-level hockey is available and close to our home center. Any families or players wishing to play elite-level hockey outside of MTMHA will not be confronted with any barriers.

The decision to not run a U16 A hockey team for the 2024-25 season is final. If there are any questions or concerns that have not been addressed in this statement, please contact the VP of Hockey Operations.

Sincerely, on behalf of the MTMHA Board of Directors

Marty Passmore