



Cross-Ice Playing Surface Size

The New Westminster MHA has proposed the following item related to cross-ice playing surface size.

Background:

1. Eliminate the inequity created by the boards decision to create a policy that radically redefined hockey is a way that was very inequitable based on the arena available to local associations. Some kids playing on arenas of 85' length with others on 160' length.
2. Eliminate the overzealous definition and use of "Cross Ice" hockey, and more appropriately based on sizes decided by each district begin to use the term "Small Ice, or Small area" games. The existing policy that defines cross ice games penalizes associations that have spent thousands of dollars to purchase boards that divide the arena in half.
3. Crystallize the concept of "Small Ice, or Small Area" games as important to the goals of early player development on ice surfaces that are age appropriate for H1-H3.
4. Allow Districts to determine the best transition plan for H4 after Jan 1 of each season. The logistical issues and challenges of transition are best left to the districts and leagues who have the most knowledge of their particular membership and needs

Current BC Hockey Policy:

<http://www.bchockey.net/Files/2016-2017%20Policy%20Final%20-%20Web%20Version%202016-08-19.pdf>

Proposed Adjustments to the Current BC Hockey Policy on Cross Ice Playing Surface Size:

That Rink Sizes to be used for Initiation/Novice/H1-H4

1. All games in Atom and older shall be played on full size ice.
2. All games in the level immediately below Atom (for example H4, Initiation D, 2nd Year Novice etc.) shall be played on ice surfaces as follows:
 - a. All games played in the first part of the season on or before December 31 shall be played within smaller areas that are between 80 feet to 135 feet in length, the actual size and configuration of which is to be determined by each Amateur District Hockey Association and Amateur Hockey League; and
 - b. All games played in the last part of the season after December 31 shall be played on full size ice, or small area games, to be determined by each Amateur District Hockey Association and Amateur Hockey League.
3. All games in all levels below that indicated in 2. above (for example H1-H3, 1st Year Novice, Initiation, etc.) shall be played within smaller areas that are 80 feet - 135 feet in length, the actual size and configuration of which is to be determined by each Amateur District Hockey Association and Amateur Hockey League.