



Thank you for reading our FAQ information document addressing the hybrid amalgamation of North Middlesex, Lucan, and Ilderton Hockey Associations. This document will offer insights into the upcoming amalgamation, outlining objectives and anticipated benefits for players, coaches, and our memberships.

For a complete breakdown and additional in-depth details, join us at our Hybrid Amalgamation Information Night on Wednesday, December 6 at 7pm in the Ilderton Community Centre

### **What is a hockey hybrid amalgamation?**

An amalgamation in this manner is when different hockey centres join to become one large rep centre while maintaining the OMHA local league and OWHA programs as they currently stand.

Based on their like-minded ideas and values about minor hockey, the locations and the sizes of current centres, North Middlesex, Lucan, and Ilderton Minor Hockey Associations have agreed to amalgamate into 1 OMHA A Rep Centre.

### **Why should we amalgamate?**

For the past year the amalgamation committee, consisting of North Middlesex, Lucan, and Ilderton executive members and support executive board members, have been working to create a hockey program that will enhance all their rep teams' sustainability while fostering unity within our hockey communities.

### **Key reasons for amalgamation are:**

#### *Strengthening Our Hockey Community:*

By coming together, we will create a larger, more strengthened hockey community in our area. This amalgamation will allow us to pool our resources, both in terms of infrastructure and expertise. Your player will have a better hockey experience as we will be able to increase team sizes and place them at a level, both skill and age, that is appropriate for them.

#### *Enhanced Development Opportunities:*

A larger organization means more coaches, trainers, and support staff. This enables us to provide a higher level of coaching and development programs, ensuring that our players can access the best resources to help them reach their full potential. Also, by joining associations, there will be an increase in options and ice times for the teams.

#### *Increased Competition:*

Combining our associations will lead to stronger, more competitive teams. This will not only benefit our players but also enhance the reputation of our community as a hockey hub, attracting talent from neighbouring areas. It will also allow players to play at a level suitable for them, which will ensure better development and teamwork while still being able to compete with other centres.

#### *Streamlined Administration:*

Finding volunteers has always been an issue within a three of our associations. Creating a single, unified Association will streamline administrative processes, reducing bureaucracy and making it easier for members to participate in hockey activities.

#### *Community Engagement:*

We envision our amalgamated Association becoming a central hub for hockey in our community, hosting events, fundraisers, and initiatives that engage and benefit all community members. This will help all the communities by bringing in additional tourism and increasing the needs of our small local businesses.





### **How does amalgamation happen?**

Each centre, North Middlesex, Lucan, and Ilderton, will host an information night for their own membership. At this information night, a detailed outline of amalgamation will be shared, and members can ask questions. A few weeks after the information night, on Wednesday, January 10 at 7pm in the Ilderton Community Centre, a second Hybrid Amalgamation Voting Meeting will be held. Members must be at this meeting to vote. Each centre would need a majority vote of 66% or greater from their respective members to proceed with the amalgamation.

*If the vote is yes to amalgamate, we aim to be officially amalgamated for the start of the 2025-2026 season, pending OMHA's approval.*

*If the vote is no for your respective Association, it will continue as it is now and will not be able to enter amalgamation talks again with any alternative association for three years.*

*If the vote is no for 1 association and yes for the other 2, this proposed amalgamation will not continue and a new outlook and direction for all centers would need to happen.*

### **Who can vote?**

One vote is allowed per registered OMHA family unit, including NRP, ATM and 3.5 players, for their home centre with the same address as their player(s). In the case of a split family, only the guardian at the registered address of the player can vote. You must have a player rostered to an OMHA team in the 23/24 season to vote.

### **What will the new Association be called?**

If the vote is yes, a subcommittee of all the centres will be created to manage the new branding. All centres are very open to having the membership make recommendations which can be considered.

### **What would the New Rep A Centre (OMHA) look like:**

- 12 teams: 8 A and 4 BB/ Second Entry – U10 and Up
- Up to the maximum limit skaters and goalies per team that OMHA allows
- 180 skaters and 24 goalies
- Same number games currently scheduled
- New boundaries will be created later
- Play out of Parkhill, Lucan, Ilderton & Komoka Arena, which team will play where will be determined later and based on the needs of all 3 centres and how many teams and ice times will be needed
- Teams would be responsible for their own fundraising

### **What would the Local Centres look like:**

- House the U5, U7, U9, U11-U18 Local League OMHA & OWHA teams
- Currently, there will be no changes to any of these teams.
- The number of teams will be determined by registration
- Same number games currently scheduled
- Play out of home arenas; ice time will be determined later but will have equal priority as the new A centre





### **What if I am in a right-of-choice area according to the new centre point?**

The new centre's centre point has yet to be determined. Right-of-choice will open up for any member within the designated area to re-sign or leave the new organization. Once a right-of-choice player signs onto the organization, they are considered a lifetime member.

### **What teams will be offered in the new A Rep program?**

In a successful amalgamation, there will be 'A' rep teams in 2025/2026 in: U10, U11, U12, U13, U14, U15, U16, U18, and U21. We will also have second entry (AE) BB teams in U11, U13, U15 and U18. The A teams will mainly comprise single birth year cohorts, while the BB teams will be double birth year cohorts.

### **How does the Executive Boards work for all the centres?**

A new board will be made consisting of equal members from current North Middlesex, Lucan, and Ilderton Hockey Associations. After 2 years, an independent board will be voted in by the membership. The Presidents of Lucan, Ilderton & North Middlesex will also sit on this independent board to represent each centre.

Each Local League OMHA & OWHA centre will continue the board as is.

### **How will coaches be selected?**

Coaches will be selected by a committee of independent evaluators.

### **How will Rep teams be selected?**

The teams will be selected by a committee comprised of the coach, independent evaluators. It is not realistic to set fixed player numbers from each Association.

### **Will Local League players be eligible to be an Affiliated Player "AP" to the Amalgamated Rep team?**

Yes, players from Local League organizations will be eligible for AP opportunities.

### **Will players from surrounding areas be eligible to tryout for the 'A' Rep teams via the NRP?**

The new executive board for the A centre association will be making decisions about NRP's on a team-by-team bases each season.

### **Can my player still tryout for AAA?**

Permission to skate forms will still be issued for AAA tryouts.

If you have any questions, please reach out to your association's main contact:

**North Middlesex:** Steve McLinchey: [nmdmha@gmail.com](mailto:nmdmha@gmail.com).

**Ilderton:** Andy Marshall: [andy.marshall@muskokabrewery.com](mailto:andy.marshall@muskokabrewery.com)

**Lucan:** Ben Greig: [bengreig14@gmail.com](mailto:bengreig14@gmail.com)

