

# WHY WMHA IS THE PLACE TO PLAY



The Ontario Hockey Federation (OHF) made an announcement earlier this year that will reshape the landscape of minor hockey in the province. Beginning in the 2025/26 season, the OHF will eliminate residential borders for players competing at the U10 level and above across all representative categories, including AAA, AA, A, and B. This significant change applies to both OMHA and Alliance programs, presenting exciting new opportunities for young athletes.

For complete details on the OHF's announcement, you can visit the official announcement [HERE](#). Additionally, a comprehensive FAQ page is available from the OHF [HERE](#) to address any questions surrounding this pivotal change to minor hockey as we know it in Ontario.

So, that brings us to the all-important question:

## Why Play with WMHA?

WMHA provides a wealth of benefits for players both on and off the ice, making it an excellent choice for young athletes looking to develop their skills:

- **Consistent Ice Times:** Families can expect a guaranteed minimum of 2.5 hours of scheduled practice ice each week in dedicated time slots (additional ice is offered at no cost to teams on a regular basis as it's available).
- **Free Skills Sessions:** FREE Weekly skills sessions (20 weeks) Provided by Central Park Athletics and WMHA. Skills sessions will feature professional development conducted by Danger Hockey (DHD) and Major League Goaltending (MLG) and are available at no cost to travel families for both skaters and goalies.
- **Goalie Training:** In addition to the weekly skills sessions, each travel team will be provided with 10 sessions of professional goalie training visits to team practices with that cost covered by WMHA
- **Team Off-Ice Training:** Access to off-ice training facilities, including the High-Performance Training area at Central Park Athletics enhances the training experience, focusing on high-performance preparations. The High-Performance area is an amazing space teams can utilize for off ice workouts and pre-game warmups complete with large video screens for video review. Team plans are included for all A level teams U10 and above, and optional for B teams. With team off ice training on site at CPA, families can avoid extra trips to other facilities
- **Affordable on-site Gym Memberships:** Central Park Athletics offers discounted gym memberships for WMHA players and their families, promoting overall fitness and well-being. What better way to spend your time at the rink than working up your own sweat??
- **Qualified Coaches:** Progressive, invested and qualified coaches will guide players and help them develop their skills and understanding of the game. WMHA coaches have autonomy within their teams, with the backing of a supportive Board of Directors and Travel Committee.

## What are some of the many benefits of the Central Park Athletics Facility?

Playing at Central Park Athletics offers unique advantages that enhance a player's experience:

- **On-Site Facilities:** CPA features multiple off-ice training facilities including the High-Performance Training area, gym area, and gymnasiums, soccer pitch, and Clip n Climb. WMHA Teams will have exclusive access to the many areas of CPA
- **LiveBarn Availability:** LiveBarn services provide families with the ability to watch games remotely. Free subscriptions for coaches provides access to video for review
- **Shared Resources:** WMHA shares CPA with the Windsor AAA Zone and BioSteel Academy
- **Dining Options:** An on-site restaurant with exclusive specials makes it easy for families to enjoy a meal before, during or after training.
- **Team Celebrations:** Teams can take advantage of team parties, including golf simulators and Clip 'n' Climb at exclusive WMHA rates.

The changes announced by the OHF, combined with WMHA's strong support structure, dedicated coaching staff, and amazing facilities, position the association as a leading choice for minor hockey players, families and coaches in Southwestern Ontario. As we approach the 2025/26 season, the opportunities for growth, development, and success in minor hockey are more promising than ever. Whether you're considering coaching or playing, WMHA invites you to be part of this exciting journey with us!

WMHA Travel Committee

