

Amalgamation

Q AND A

The point of these information sessions is not to get you to vote yes to the amalgamation, we want to be able to provide you with all of the relevant information so you can make an educated decision that makes sense for your player and your family.



Challenge 1

Decreasing numbers
within associations -
Sustainability



Challenge 2

OMHA/Hockey Canada
inhibits the preservation
of small town hockey



Challenge 3

Competitiveness - REP
Robust and fulfilling - LL

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Solution 1

Joining with Amherstburg provides sustainability in numbers

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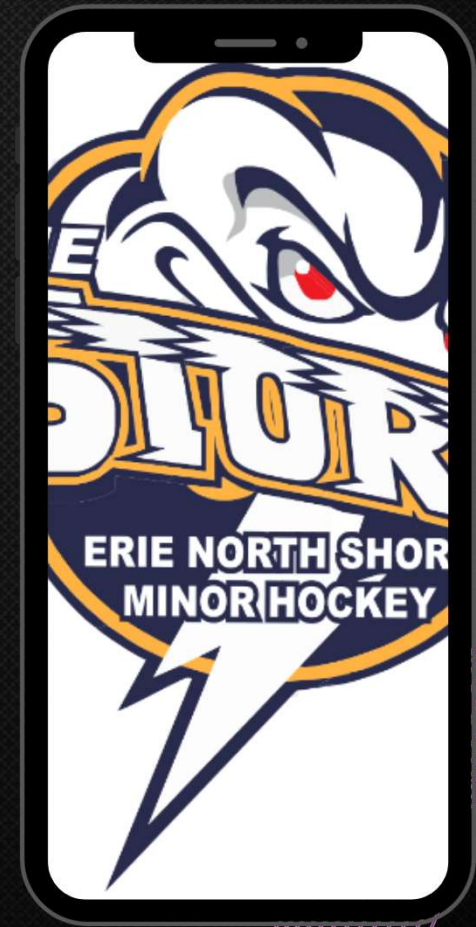
Solution 2

By working together we can maintain our small town hockey values

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Solution 3

Increasing our competitiveness makes our Association more desirable to people looking for a place to play - directly links to our sustainability.



Competitive Advantages

PROS vs. CONS

Advantage 1

Support of player development - play at the level that meets your needs

Advantage 2

Sustainable Select programs - able to offer at all age groups consistently

Advantage 3

Ice time availability - gaining A'burg ice allows us to field more teams

Advantage 4

In building viability and sustainability our Association will thrive - more desirable to stay and play

Competitive Advantages

PROS vs. CONS

Disadvantage 1

May result in a longer driving time for travel parents - only Travel teams would utilize A'burg ice

Disadvantage 2

Players that have always played on the A teams may be moved to secondary teams or even LL based on talent levels - players will be placed where they can compete.

Disadvantage 3

Loss of ENS identity - we've been down this road before, and have rebuilt our brand successfully

As a Board, we want you to know that we have considered the challenges as well as advantages!

Benefits for Local League



Select teams at all age levels

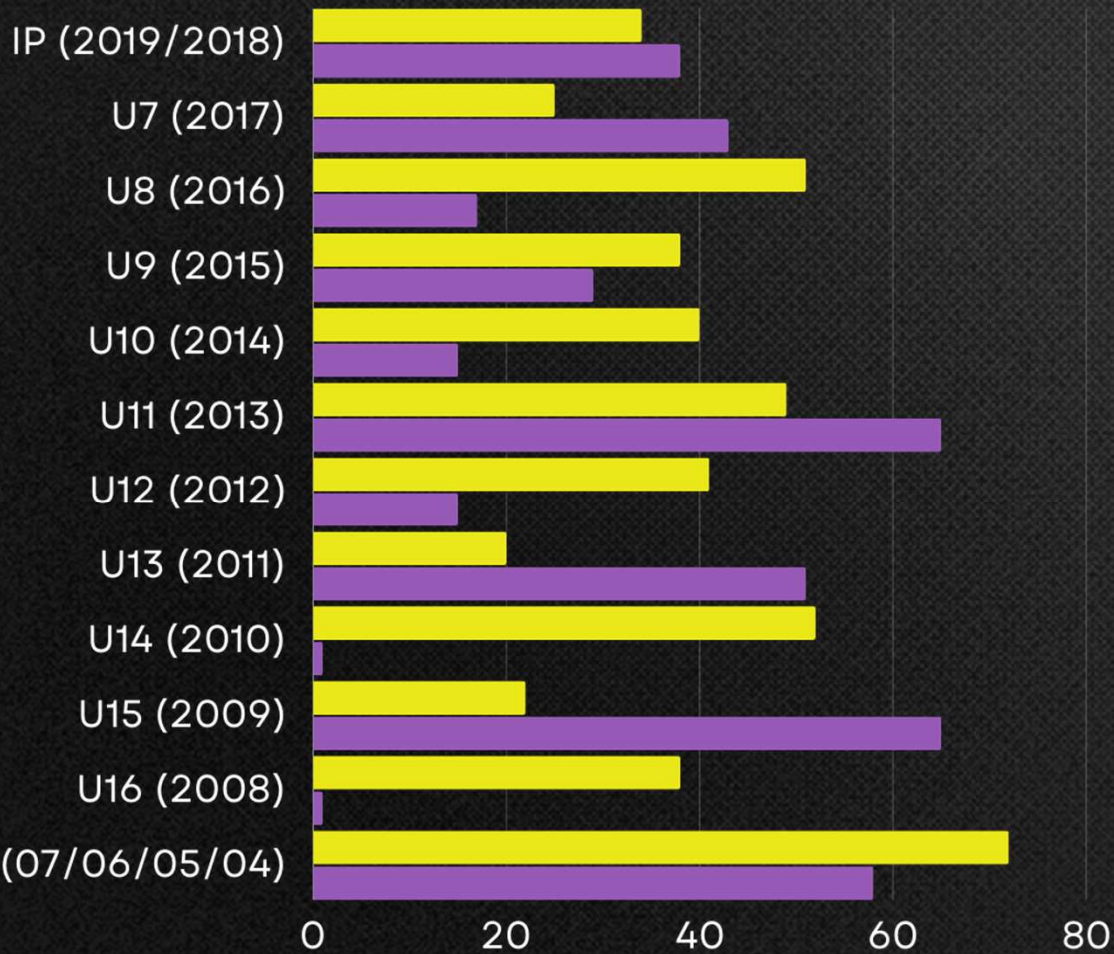
Additional ice to allow for full ice practices

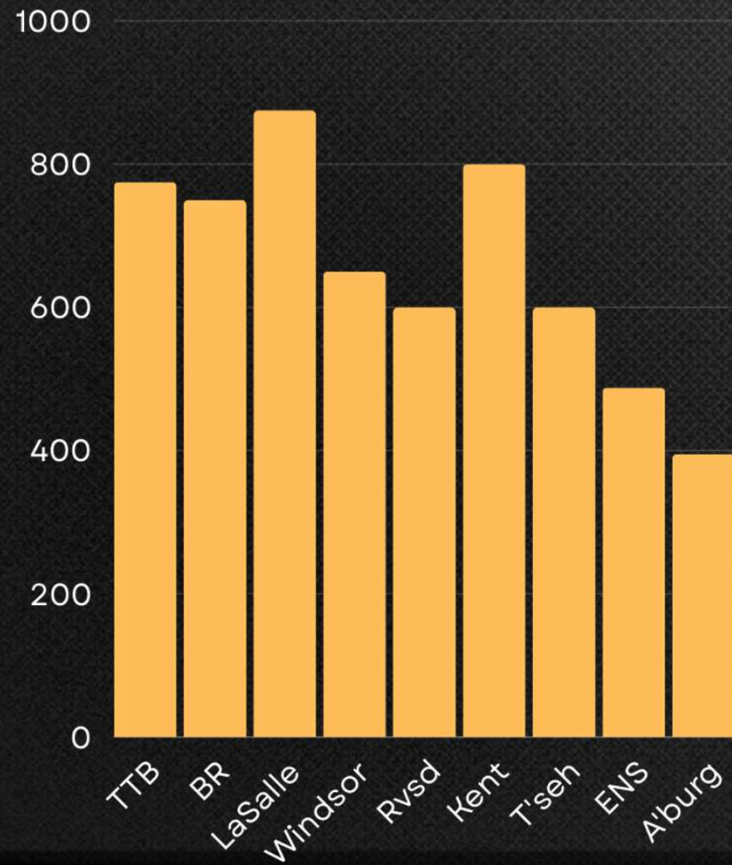
Additional Entry teams for higher skilled players to play REP

How do we compare to AMHA?

A partnership would complement our numbers for both sides.

**NUMBERS ARE BASED ON THE 2023/24 SEASON





Let's Talk Numbers

Where is the Bluewater League at for numbers?

IMPORTANT:

All centres will be classified as A in the new season.

New Minor Hockey Association

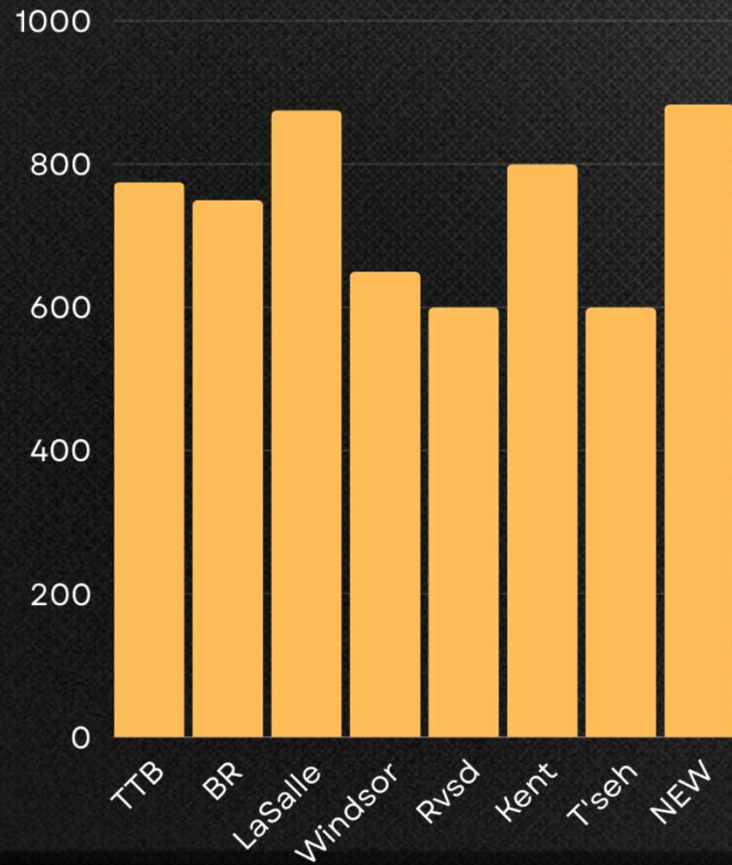
Combining our centres will give us the numbers we need to compete in the league.



ERIE
488

A'BURG
395

TOTAL
883



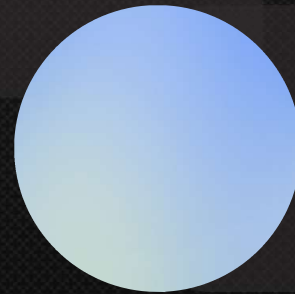
What it looks like if we joined together:

The new association would be far more competitive

Current Amalgamation Talks



**Riverside
Tecumseh
Belle River**



**Chatham Kent
South Kent**

Most Recent - Talbot Trail Blazers

What happens if we don't amalgamate?



If the numbers continue to drop, we run the risk of folding certain age groups.



The result of that could be a re-classification of our centre by OMHA to a B centre. As a B centre, we can only offer Major teams.



Bluewater and Shamrock are both A centres. Likely, we would play in Bluewater but playoffs would be a significant distance away, and we would be playing at a disadvantage for competitiveness.

Questions?

