



**Saskatoon
Minor
Hockey
Association**

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Media Release

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SMHA Introduces New One Year Pilot Project

The Saskatoon Minor Hockey Association (SMHA) has approved the implementation of a one-year pilot project to assist in keeping young adults playing hockey. For the 2007-2008 hockey season, 18 year old players (1989 birth year) may register with the SMHA in the Midget Non-Contact division. Currently, Midget Non-Contact follows the same age grouping as mainstream midget tiered hockey - age 15-17 years of age.

This decision was made to provide a place to play organized minor hockey for 18 year old players. Current options that exist are playing Junior "B", Senior hockey out of town, or joining an adult non-contact league.

The SMHA is hopeful that this new program enhancement will provide the opportunity for the approximately 150 1989 birth year players to continue playing minor hockey. Players must have been registered with the Saskatoon Minor Hockey Association during the previous two seasons to be eligible to participate as an 18 year old.

The SMHA offers recreational and non-contact hockey divisions from Novice (age 7-8) through Midget (age 15-18). Further information may be obtained by contacting the SMHA office at 244-1363.

Registration for all SMHA zones will take place the week of September 3rd, 2007.

The **SMHA** is the governing body for all Hockey Canada and SHA sanctioned minor hockey teams in the City of Saskatoon, also including the City Wide AA Tier I Pee wee and Bantam Leagues, the Saskatoon & District AA Comets, the Midget AAA Comets, the Midget AAA Blazers, and the Midget AAA Contacts.

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