



To: Neighboring Hockey Associations

From: Ron Byrd – President - Midwest Hockey League – Iowa, Kansas, and Nebraska

Hello, and thanks for entering one of our Competitive Travel hockey teams into your venue. We are excited about crossing borders and making new friendships.

I would like to explain to our neighbors about our league and how we classify ourselves. Here in the Midwest Hockey League, we recognize the grading system of AA, A, B and Travel Select of youth hockey. We follow the USA Hockey grading system for our teams and our AA – level teams, are our Association top-level team, our A teams are considered our Associations second-level team and so on. In states that follow the Minnesota grading systems then our AA-level teams need to be rated A-Level of play. Our A-level teams then would move into the B-level of play, according to Minnesota's grading of play.

Some Associations in the Midwest Hockey League have gone on to label or grade their top level of teams AA, A and B while some are still using the A, B, B2 and Select. Being several of our teams like to travel into MN for hockey tournaments, we as a League moved to change our grading system to follow USA Hockey AA, A, B but hope that our neighbors to the north will realize that some of our teams are registering their teams under USA hockey following the MN grading system as several of our MHL teams are near the MN state border.

Anyway, thanks for letting me share some light on how we do things here in our MHL League and we look forward to meeting you at your place of play and hopefully at one of our venues. Information about our league can be found on our Tri-State hockey web page @, www.tristatehockey.com. Click on the MHL button link for information about our Midwest Hockey League and teams entered. Tournament information from Associations in our Tri State area can be found on the Tri-State web page.

Again, thanks for letting our teams participate in your event and we look forward to long and lasting relationships.

Best regards,

Ron Byrd

Midwest Hockey League - President