



Subject Line: Big Announcement In Central Vermont Youth Hockey!

Athletes, Parents, Fans, and Supporters,

It's with great enthusiasm and excitement that I'm reaching out to inform you that the Barre Youth Sports Hockey (Blades and Black Hawks), Central Vermont Skating Association (Capitals), Harwood Youth Hockey Association (Highlanders), and Northfield Amateur Hockey Association (North Stars and Blizzard) are merging to form one new organization, the Central Vermont Youth Hockey (CVYH).

Our four clubs have each experienced similar challenges in recent years, all of which are difficult to overcome as smaller organizations. At the core of these challenges is our athlete experience. Limited access to full-sheet practice time has been a hindering factor for many of our older teams. An even greater challenge has been providing the appropriate level of skill development in each age bracket. Some players are leaving our programs to seek more competitive options while others are leaving because it is too competitive -- in short, a "one-size-fits-all" approach isn't working.

By combining resources we'll be able to offer multiple teams in each age bracket based on skill set. Our athletes will have the opportunity to develop in an environment that is properly aligned with their level of play to foster individual growth and progress. We will have greater access to ice time at all four Central Vermont rinks and the Norwich University men's and women's hockey programs will offer advanced player development sessions to our new organization!

The creation of CVYH came to fruition through much deliberation, discussion, and input from your elected Board members, coaching directors and staff, and program supporters, alongside the past and present experienced hockey representatives in our communities who all shared the same sentiment, let's work together to fix what's broken in our community hockey programs --- the player experience. Together, we can grow the game of hockey in Central Vermont. We can improve the development experience and increase the opportunities available to players while keeping youth hockey affordable and inclusive in our communities. So with that goal and the support of the Vermont State Amateur Hockey Association (VSAHA), we're excited to move forward as the Central Vermont Youth Hockey!

As we work through this adjustment, you will undoubtedly have a lot of questions and we will work diligently to provide answers as we have them. We thank you in advance for your assured support and patience while we're creating and organizing all of the opportunities that the CVYH will offer our youth athletes. To see a complete list of all the merger benefits and updated FAQs, visit www.cvhockey.org.

Also, we are accepting ideas for our new team name! From now until June 24th submit your ideas at www.cvhockey.org. The new name will be announced on July 1st. You could be part of CVYH history with your name idea!

Trusting in your positive support,

- Your Board of Directors