



Hockey Manitoba Governance Transition – Frequently Asked Questions

As Hockey Manitoba begins the transition to a modern governance and operational model, we recognize that Members will have questions about what this means in practice.

The following provides clarity on the most common questions we are hearing.

1. What actually changed at the AGM?

Members approved a new governance structure that separates:

- Governance (Board of Directors)
- Operations (CEO and staff)

This allows Hockey Manitoba to make decisions more consistently, efficiently, and transparently across the province.

2. Are Councils being eliminated?

No. Councils will continue to operate during the 2026–27 transition year. During the transition year, Councils and Committees will both contribute to shaping the direction of hockey in Manitoba.

What is changing is their role:

- Councils will move from decision-making bodies to advisory groups
- They will continue to provide input, identify issues, and represent their areas

Their involvement remains important — it is being refocused, not removed.

3. If Councils are no longer making decisions, who is?

Operational decisions will be made by Hockey Manitoba staff and the CEO, aligned with the direction set by the Board of Directors.

Where required, governance-level decisions will continue to be made by the Board. This creates clearer accountability and more consistent outcomes across the province.

4. How can Members influence decisions now?

During the transition year:

- Input will continue to come through Councils
- Members can also provide input directly to Hockey Manitoba staff

As Operational Committees are formed:

- These committees will become the primary way Members contribute to policy and operational discussions

5. What are Operational Committees?

Operational Committees are staff-supported / administered groups that:

- Provide input and recommendations on specific areas (development, officiating, etc.)
- Help shape policy, programs, and priorities
- Ensure perspectives from across Manitoba are considered

They are advisory in nature — they do not make final decisions.

6. How do I get involved in a committee?

Hockey Manitoba will launch an **Expression of Interest (EOI)** process during the transition year.

This will be open to all Members and will allow individuals to:

- Indicate areas of interest
- Share their experience and perspective
- Participate in shaping the future of hockey in Manitoba

7. Will local hockey change?

No. Minor Hockey Associations and local organizations will continue to:

- Deliver programs
- Support players and families
- Operate within their communities

The focus of these changes is on improving consistency, support, and alignment at the provincial level.

8. Why is Hockey Manitoba making this change?

Over time, the system has relied heavily on volunteers navigating:

- Inconsistent processes
- Unclear roles
- Varying decision-making approaches across regions

This change is designed to:

- Create clarity in how decisions are made
- Improve consistency across Manitoba
- Better support the people who support the game

9. Is this happening all at once?

No. This is a phased transition through the 2026–27 season.

Hockey Manitoba will:

- Introduce new structures gradually
- Gather feedback
- Adjust and improve along the way

10. What should Members expect next?

In the coming months:

- Additional communication on roles and structure
- Launch of Operational Committees
- Opportunities to provide input and get involved

This transition is a process — and Members will continue to be part of that process.

If you have additional questions, we encourage you to reach out to Hockey Manitoba or your Council representatives.

Thank you for your continued support of the game across Manitoba.

