



# Bruce Grey Bulls

PRESENTATION TO ARRAN ELDERSLIE COUNCIL

MARCH 24<sup>TH</sup>, 2025

# Who Are the Bruce Grey Bulls?

- ▶ Representative (Rep) hockey has previously been administered by 24 local associations within the Western Ontario Athletic Association (WOAA)
  - ▶ These teams were typically classified as 'B' level teams, and would be tiered based on skill level.
- ▶ Last year, the WOAA entered into a 2 year pilot program with the Ontario Minor Hockey Association (OMHA) to combine multiple associations into six 'A' level hockey zones.
- ▶ Our zone (Zone 2) is comprised of Saugeen Shores, Arran Elderslie and Chatsworth.
- ▶ All Rep hockey within our zone will be provided by the Bruce Grey Bulls, local associations will be responsible for Local League play.



# Zone Breakdowns

<p><u>Zone 1</u></p> <p><u>Bruce Peninsula</u> <u>Owen Sound</u> <u>Shallow Lake</u></p>	<p><u>Zone 2</u></p> <p><u>Arran-Elderslie</u> <u>Saugeen Shores</u> <u>TCDMHA</u> <u>(Chatsworth)</u></p>	<p><u>Zone 3</u></p> <p><u>Saugeen Valley</u> <u>South Bruce</u> <u>Walkerton</u></p>
<p><u>Zone 4</u></p> <p><u>Huron Bruce</u> <u>Kincardine</u> <u>Wingham</u></p>	<p><u>Zone 5</u></p> <p><u>Blyth-Brussels</u> <u>Goderich</u> <u>Mid-Huron</u> <u>Mitchell</u> <u>Zurich</u></p>	<p><u>Zone 6</u></p> <p><u>Central Perth</u> <u>Listowel</u> <u>Mt. Forest</u> <u>Drayton</u> <u>Minto</u> <u>Howick</u> <u>Wallace</u></p>

# How is 'A' Hockey Different?

- ▶ 'A' Hockey starts much earlier with teams being selected in the spring.
  - ▶ 'B' Hockey teams which were traditionally selected in the fall are now being selected immediately after 'A' tryouts are complete.
- ▶ 'A' hockey players are typically on the ice 3-4 times a week, up from 2-3 times in the current structure.
- ▶ 'A' hockey teams attend more tournaments (up to 5 in a regular season.)
- ▶ Fall skates for 'A' hockey can start in late August, where previously rep hockey skates wouldn't start until early October after tryouts.
- ▶ As you can see, 'A' hockey costs much more!



# What Are Our Issues?

- ▶ Currently our zone does not have enough ice early in the season.
- ▶ Some of our zone's arenas charge the highest rates in the WOAA, making it difficult for some players to afford playing hockey.
- ▶ Ice in prime locations for games inside Arran Elderslie (i.e. Chesley arena) is currently difficult to obtain.



# What Help Do We Need?

- ▶ We are requesting Paisley arena be opened a month early to start our fall skates on September 15<sup>th</sup>.
  - ▶ The Bulls would guarantee between 35-48 hours/week of ice until regular ice users begin around Thanksgiving.
- ▶ We are requesting a minor hockey rate for our ice times to help families keep the cost of hockey manageable.
- ▶ We are asking for some consideration when ice allocation takes place for next season to share in some of the weekend ice times in game ready locations for older ages (i.e. Chesley)





Questions?