

Joint TVHC and TVWHC Amalgamation

Proposed Timeframe, Voting Process and Motion

General Amalgamation Information

The current committees of the Tuggeranong Vikings Women's Hockey Club and the Tuggeranong Vikings Hockey Club (TVWHC and TVHC) hold a joint vision that the amalgamation of the clubs will create a strong family focused club that will attract more members and significant sponsorship. If the merger occurs the newly amalgamated club could quite easily become one of the largest sporting club across Canberra.

The amalgamation of the clubs expect to provide a number of benefits to its members and families. Some of the benefits of an amalgamated strong family-based club could include:

- a. A strong family atmosphere where entire families can be proud to all play for a single club;
- b. A strong family values based club would flow on to improve player morale on and off the field;
- c. Reduced running costs in areas such as field hire or equipment purchase via pooled resources;
- d. Improved supportive environment for junior and lower grade players;
- e. Increase to club membership by players that want to be part of a family based club;
- f. Attract increased sponsors which could flow onto reducing membership costs;
- g. Streamlined management of all administrative and financial functions for the club; and
- h. Improved consistency of process, direction and development for members.

With all the benefits, there are also a number of potential disadvantages which need to be considered. Some of the disadvantages could include:

- a. It is expected that a newly merged club's committee would need to review current fee structures which differ greatly between TVHC and TVWHC. This may result in some increases in some areas, but decreases in others;
- b. A bigger club is a more difficult prospect to manage for the new committee due to the sheer number of members.
- c. There will be hiccups in any transition to a newly merged club under a new constitution which will need to be managed/ironed-out over the first year or so.

The existing club committees have considered these disadvantages and believe they do not pose any issues that could stop the progression of the amalgamation. Should the amalgamation be voted in by the members, the existing committee members will work together to manage all the necessary activities in preparation of the dissolution of the existing clubs and commencement of the impending new club and committee members under the new constitution.

Amalgamation Process

The proposed amalgamation of TVHC and TVWHC must be endorsed by each respective committee, including the supporting documentation, before being sent out to all members of both clubs for consideration and voting.

Following the jointly endorsed proposal and documentation a joint email will be drafted by both Presidents which includes all required documentation to be sent out in a timely manner for consideration by all members.

All coaches and committee members will be encouraged to ensure that players receive the email/newsletter for consideration and make themselves available for discussion with members.

Members will be provided with a two week timeframe to consider the amalgamation proposal and documentation to support the amalgamation vote. Any questions and concerns should be sent to the relevant club president for consideration.

In line with existing club constitutions, a Special General Meeting will be held to vote for the merger proposal. For the amalgamation to be passed/approved, each club must receive 75% YES votes from the members that attend the Special General Meeting and choose to vote.

In preparation for the Special General Meeting, each club will generate a list of current club members that are eligible to vote on the night. Members under the age of 18 will have their parents details added to enable them to vote on the behalf of their child.

Members will only be eligible to vote if they attend the meeting and will be provided with a voting slip once their name has been checked off the voting list. Once the vote has been cast the voting slip must be placed in the box provided. Therefore under no circumstances will proxy voting will be allowed as per the existing club constitutions.

Only one vote can be cast for each member of each club that meets the criteria in each of the clubs existing constitutions. In relation to the junior members, a single vote can be cast for each junior playing member by a parent or guardian as per existing club constitutions.

Families that have both playing parents and children are entitled to a vote for each member eligible to vote.

It is anticipated that the Special General Meeting for each club will be held on the same day and location, but to preserve each club's current rights, a different room or at slightly different times. Each club will arrange for a representative to be in attendance at the meeting from the other club, however this individual will be there only to answer questions and holds no ability to vote (unless they hold the ability to do so under the existing constitutions). Once each meeting has commenced the doors will be closed and not opened until the meeting and voting has concluded.

The motion to amalgamate the TVWHC and TVHC is based on a number of activities that have been undertaken to date and also agree on activities to be completed in the lead into the commencement of the new club.

- a. The name of the amalgamated club will be the 'Tuggeranong Vikings Hockey Club' in accordance with the draft constitution that members will be voting on as part of the motion.
- b. The existing committees have endorsed a draft Uniform Guiding Principle for the amalgamated club for consideration by the new committee.
- c. The existing committees have endorsed a draft Player Selection Policy and Guiding Principle for club for consideration by the new committee.
- d. Agree that for the remainder of the Winter 2017 season that both committees will work collaboratively to consolidate administrative and financial activities in preparation for the new club.
- e. Agree that each club will conduct a final financial audit and hold their final Annual General Meetings for each club prior to the commencement of the new club. Once completed, each club committee will be dissolved and the newly merged club's first Annual General Meeting will be held to elect the new committee under the new constitution with an estimated date in October or November 2017.

Additionally, TVHC's Special General Meeting will have an additional motion to align the financial years of the two clubs should the amalgamation be passed by both clubs at the Special General Meeting.

Draft Motion to be passed at Special General Meetings for TVWHC and TVHC

The TVWHC and TVHC clubs propose its members to approve the amalgamation of the Tuggeranong Vikings Women's Hockey Club Incorporated and the Tuggeranong Vikings Hockey Club Incorporated (TVWHC and TVHC) to form a single club, the Tuggeranong Vikings Hockey Club, as detailed in the draft constitution prepared in preparation of this motion.

Additionally, TVHC will also propose:

That, should the above motion be passed, the TVHC Financial Year be modified for the current Financial Year to end on the 30st of September to align with the closure of the existing TVWHC Financial Year in preparation for the impending merger and commencement of the new constitution approved in the above motion. It should be noted that this motion does not modify the financial year as defined in the proposed new TVHC constitution if the merger proceeds.

Approximate Timeframe

The below approximate timeframe has been identified by TVHC and TVWHC Presidents for the amalgamation process.

30th January – Meeting of committee members of TVWHC and TVHC to work through remaining issues/concerns

9th February – updated draft documentation distributed to Committee members for consideration and agreement.

9th April – joint email with documentation to be sent out to all members for consideration.

23rd May – Special General Meeting of both TVHC and TVWHC held to formally raise motion for amalgamation and voting (minimum 21 day notice period prior to meeting).

24th May – Notification sent to both club members via email with the outcome of the amalgamation vote.

If amalgamation is passed (approved):

25th May to 1st September – both club committees work together to plan for the new club. Including final AGM's for each club.

Early November – New amalgamated General Meeting to vote in new Committee members and the formal start of the new club.

If amalgamation is rejected:

25th May to 30th July – individual club committees continue to operate each respective club. Committees may look to address concerns with the merger if the vote was close and there are prospects to merge. If the vote was decisively defeated, club committees may look to implement some cost saving benefits identified by this process but the merger will not continue.

Cameron Blagdon
President TVHC

Matthew Cann
President TVWHC