

It is with great pleasure that the Board of Directors of the Lorne Park Hockey Association and the Clarkson Hockey Association announce that we have agreed to merge and form the new Lorne Park Clarkson Hockey Association effective for the 2016-2017 hockey season. The new organization will be playing as the Lorne Park Clarkson Wild.

The competitive landscape of minor sports, and hockey’s place within an ever growing landscape of options, is changing. Mississauga has not been immune to the trend of declining hockey enrolment, resulting in hockey now falling behind soccer and swimming in terms of participation rates.

The decision to merge these two long-standing organizations was taken after careful consideration, with the objective always being how best to continue to provide the families of our respective communities the best hockey experience possible, not only now but well into the future. In evaluating the possible options, the two Boards saw the following benefits to making this decision now:

* A large, unified organization provides a more “level playing field” with other, larger organizations
* Increased number of teams per age group ensures that players will be placed on a team appropriate to their skill set
* Increased player and program development opportunities
* A continued solid financial position while increasing opportunities to leverage sponsorships and manage costs

Over the coming weeks and months, the two organizations will be working together and with the Mississauga Hockey League to minimize the impact of this change to you, our customers. More information will be provided over the next weeks and months regarding player registration, A team tryouts, and plans for next season.

In the meantime, best of luck to both organizations as the playoffs begin, and we look forward to an exciting future together!