

KVOHA Players-

We hope everyone is enjoying their summer. With the 2025-26 season approaching, we wanted to address some adjustments being made in order to prepare for the upcoming season. The 3 current board members have been serving the league for over a decade. In the past, board members have been chosen through an open league election process. Typically, the elections have been held based on board members retiring, stepping down or other changes precipitating the need. Due to numerous upcoming changes in the local hockey world, we are planning some changes to better address the position of the league for future sustainability. WMU has made some changes in managing and scheduling ice time at Lawson. We have reviewed these changes and have secured ice time for the 2025-26 season. We are also keeping tabs on the impending changes related to the new downtown Kalamazoo arena, future plans for Lawson, potential changes with the Wings organization and how the KVOHA will factor in these changes. Additionally, we are trying to stay proactive in our planning for this season as we are unsure of any effects the “No Ice until January 2026” situation at Wings West might have on player numbers this year.

With that said, we are planning to add 2 interim members to the board to assist with the upcoming season. This will bring the board to 5 members. We will then plan to hold open elections for the KVOHA board during the second half of the upcoming season. The addition of 2 more board members will help with the draft planning and implementation for this season. We are also working on adjusting ratings and revising and clarifying the substitution rules for the league. Having 5 board members will position us better to address the current issues facing the league and make some improvements to how the league is managed.

League information for the upcoming season will be sent out in the next couple of weeks. We will keep everyone updated on any changes if they arise. Otherwise, look for registration to open the end of August/early September. We ask that players please register early so we can start to plan for this season's draft. If you have any questions or comments, please reach out to a board member.

Looking forward to a great season – Your KVOHA Board