



MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Belleville Senators will play in AHL's North Division in 2017-18

The American Hockey League (AHL) announced its division alignment for the 2017-18 season on Thursday, with the new Belleville Senators playing in the new look North Division.

Belleville will be in a group that includes the Toronto Marlies, the top farm team of the Toronto Maple Leafs, and the Laval Rocket, the top affiliate team of the Montreal Canadiens.

Also in the seven-team North Division for 2017-18 will be the Binghamton Devils. The Senators are moving from Binghamton this season to Belleville, with the New Jersey Devils relocating their top farm team to Binghamton.

The other teams in the North Division include the Rochester Americans, top farm team of the Buffalo Sabres; the Syracuse Crunch, the Tampa Bay Lightning's top affiliate, and the Utica Comets, top farm team of the Vancouver Canucks.

The American Hockey League schedule will be released later this summer, but the league features primarily regional play, so fans in the Bay of Quinte Region will see their division rivals numerous times throughout the regular season and playoffs.

"We are delighted to be in a division that features so many natural rivalries," Rob Mullooney, Chief Operating Officer of the Belleville Senators, says. "Bay of Quinte fans will have the opportunity on a regular basis to see us face the farm teams of the Toronto Maple Leafs and Montreal Canadiens."

Belleville Senators General Manager Randy Lee feels the new alignment will help the franchise better develop players for the National Hockey League.

"It is a terrific division for us to be playing in for a lot of reasons," Lee says. "We'll be facing a lot of our rivals which fans will love, and the close travel allows us lots of practice time so we can continue to invest in our players' development so they can move on to the next level. We are really looking forward to the new alignment."

The AHL divisions are as follows:

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

Bridgeport Sound Tigers

Charlotte Checkers

Hartford Wolf Pack

Hershey Bears

Lehigh Valley Phantoms

Providence Bruins

Springfield Thunderbirds
Wilkes-Barre/Scranton Penguins

North Division

Belleville Senators
Binghamton Devils
Laval Rocket
Rochester Americans
Syracuse Crunch
Toronto Marlies
Utica Comets

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Central Division

Chicago Wolves
Cleveland Monsters
Grand Rapids Griffins
Iowa Wild
Manitoba Moose
Milwaukee Admirals
Rockford IceHogs

Pacific Division

Bakersfield Condors
Ontario Reign
San Antonio Rampage
San Diego Gulls
San Jose Barracuda
Stockton Heat
Texas Stars
Tucson Roadrunners

In operation since 1936, the AHL continues to serve as the top development league for all 30 National Hockey League teams. More than 88 percent of today's NHL players are American Hockey League graduates, and for the 16th year in a row, more than 6 million fans attended AHL games across North America in 2016-17.

Season Tickets are the best way to enjoy the American Hockey League at the best possible price, and you can reserve a spot in line with just a \$100 refundable deposit.

About the Belleville Senators

The Belleville Senators are an American Hockey League franchise with their inaugural season in 2017-18. The Senators are the AHL affiliate of the Ottawa Senators of the NHL and will play their home games in the remodeled Yardman Arena.

For more information:

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