

Ice hockey – Scots clubs consider their Elite League future

✘ Edinburgh Capitals are understood to be considering their future in the Elite League.

The club have so far stayed silent but sources, however, indicate that they are looking at their options along with Dundee and Fife.

Fife Flyers were first to issue a statement through club spokesman Steve McLean which confirmed that the club will be attending the next Elite Ice Hockey League (EIHL) board meeting later this month and, until then, the club will not release season ticket information.

The statement comes only days after the league confirmed that the maximum bench size for next season will be 19 plus up to three British-trained players to help encourage home-bred talent. The initial 19 skaters can include 14 import players.

And it also follows moves to include Milton Keynes and Guildford in the current ten-strong league.

Fife's statement said: "As you may be aware, at present the structure and format for the 2017/18 EIHL season has not been finalised.

"We will be attending the April EIHL Board meeting at the end of this month where the format for next season will be discussed and we hope to be able to make plans from there regarding our future.

"We will not be in a position to release season ticket information or look at fixtures and scheduling until after the

April board meeting and discussions with all 12 teams have taken place.

“We will release an update. Thank you for your patience and support during this time.”

Dundee Stars then have also put season ticket and schedule information on hold leading to doubts about their participation in the EIHL next season.

A statement from the directors Mike and Stephen Ward said: “Due to the uncertainty of the structure and format of the 2017/18 EIHL season, the Dundee Stars have put season ticket and schedule information on hold.

“We will be attending the April EIHL board meeting where plans will be made on the structure for the forthcoming season.

“Following this we will release a full update on our future position within the league.”