



# RETURN **to** HOCKEY

COVID-19 RESPONSE

# Return to Hockey Framework

Revised July 29, 2020



## SECTION 1

# Purpose

The Ontario Hockey Federation has worked in conjunction with Hockey Canada, the National Sport Organization (NSO) for hockey, and the Ontario Government as one of its recognized Provincial Sport Organizations (PSO) to ensure that in every phase of our return the safety of our Players, Coaches, Officials, Administrators and volunteers are at the center of our plan and decision making. This plan focuses on making the return to hockey fluid while enhancing the experience. This document is used for the purposes of the Ontario Hockey Federation only and does not make assertion to hockey programming that falls outside of its jurisdiction.

## SECTION 2

# Disclaimer

The information in this document is not intended or implied to be a substitute for professional medical advice, diagnosis, or treatment. The Ontario Hockey Federation and its Members make no representation and assume no responsibility in respect of their information concerning COVID-19 as the circumstances are constantly changing, and any information on COVID-19 should be obtained from your Public Health Authority.

## SECTION 3

# Framework for Return to Hockey

The impacts of the COVID-19 outbreak have been felt across Ontario, by families, workers, businesses, and communities. Our hockey family has also felt the impacts of this.

COVID-19 has created a unique situation for every person, business, and government body to deal with. Sport for our youth and adults alike closed on March 12, 2020 with no identified return. While the situation is still evolving, the OHF continues to work with its partners to prepare for a return to programming with the necessary measures in response to COVID-19.

Our plan to return recognizes that although hockey was shut down with us all playing 5 on 5 traditional hockey our return to traditional hockey will be by way of a planned phased in approach. The Ontario Hockey Federation has developed a phased approach to return with programming.

## Phase 1 - Protect and Support

The OHF's primary focus in Phase 1 was the reintroduction of the sport of hockey for the health and well-being of stakeholders in the game, their families, and the greater community following the cancellation of the 2019-2020 hockey season.



During this phase, the OHF developed the standards of operations and certification protocols by individuals that provide hockey programming, as well unique and innovative strategies to bring hockey into the lives of our stakeholders and participants, in a safe – distanced manner.

## Phase 2 - Restart, Protect and Support

The OHF will be implementing a careful, stage-by-stage approach to reintroducing hockey activities across our provincial jurisdictions. The safety of all participants and stakeholders will continue to be the priority, while balancing the needs of individuals within the game. This staged approach does not have a specific time frame, but will evolve further to guidelines of the public health authorities, the provincial government, and our governing body, Hockey Canada. At any point during the progression, we may need to pause or return to a previous stage in order to protect and support our participants and the public.



## Stage 1 - Individual In-Person Training and Group Virtual Training

### In-Person Training

Instructional Training – Individual athlete training on or off ice sanctioned by the OHF up to 10 participants or a lower number if determined by Ontario Government, local Public Health Unit, the facility or Member. All programming must be in compliance with the Ontario Government Emergency Order and OHF policies.

- OHF Members may conduct programming with the use of an instructor who meets the qualifications under the OHF Hockey Canada Licensed Skill Development Program Policy.
- Minor Hockey Associations may conduct, with the approval of their Member instructional, training for players registered with their MHA during the 2019-2020 season, where such training is conducted by a registered coach with the MHA during the 2019-2020 season.
- In process and fully licensed Hockey Canada Licensed Development Specialists who are in compliance with the OHF Hockey Canada Licensed Skill Development Program Policy may conduct training.
- If utilizing a private skills instructor, MHAs will need to validate that the skills instructor qualifies under the OHF Hockey Canada Licensed Skill Development Program Policy.
- Junior hockey teams may conduct programming with the approval of their Member for players that they have registered for the 2020-2021 season or any players that are on their protected list. If utilizing a private skills instructor will need to validate that the skills instructor qualifies under the OHF Hockey Canada Licensed Skill Development Program Policy.

### Virtual Training

Sport Science – sleep, nutrition, fitness, training, dance, flexibility, yoga, mental training and mental health.

- Such programming that is being offered will be done with approval of the OHF or Member for the purpose of sanctioning and insurance.

### Professional Development

Training of stakeholders online, in groups and one on one or small groups in compliance with the Ontario Government Emergency Order and OHF policies

- [OHF Hockey Canada Licensed Skill Development Program](#)
- Gender Identity and Expression
- Hockey Canada Safety Program/Hockey Trainers Certification Program
- Officials On-Line Recertification
- Respect-In-Sport

## Stage 2 - Group Development Programming

### In-Person Training

Instructional Training – Individual athlete training on or off ice sanctioned by the OHF up to 15 participants or a lower number if determined by Ontario Government, local Public Health Unit, the facility or Member. All

programming must be in compliance with the Ontario Government Emergency Order and OHF policies.

- OHF Members may conduct programming with the use of an instructor who meets the qualifications under the OHF Hockey Canada Licensed Skill Development Program Policy.
- Minor Hockey Associations may conduct, with the approval of their Member, instructional training for players registered with their MHA during the 2019-2020 season, where such training is conducted by a registered coach with the MHA during the 2019-2020 season.
- In process and fully licensed Hockey Canada Licensed Development Specialists who are in compliance with the OHF Hockey Canada Licensed Skill Development Program Policy may conduct training.
- If utilizing a private skills instructor, MHAs will need to validate that the skills instructor qualifies under the OHF Hockey Canada Licensed Skill Development Program Policy.
- Junior hockey teams may conduct programming with the approval of their Member for players that they have registered for the 2020-2021 season or any players that are on their protected list. If utilizing a private skills instructor, they will need to validate that the skills instructor qualifies under the OHF Hockey Canada Licensed Skill Development Program Policy.

### Virtual Training

Sport Science – sleep, nutrition, fitness, training, dance, gymnastics, yoga, mental training, and mental health.

- Such programming that is being offered will be done with approval of the OHF or Member for the purpose of sanctioning and insurance

### Professional Development

Training of stakeholders on-line in groups and one-on-one or small groups in compliance with the Ontario Government Emergency Order and OHF policies.

- [OHF Hockey Canada Licensed Skill Development Program](#)
- Gender Identity and Expression
- Hockey Canada Safety Program/Hockey Trainers Certification Program
- Officials On-Line Recertification
- Respect-In-Sport

## Stage 3 -Modified Programming

The Ontario Hockey Federation's (OHF's) Return to Hockey Framework is an incremental approach that will ensure the OHF opens in a safe way. As the OHF progresses to Stage 3 Modified Programming for the foreseeable future, OHF Members and Minor Hockey Associations (MHAs) will have different levels of preparedness and readiness which means the pace at which they move through the OHF Return to Hockey Framework will vary. It is acceptable for Associations to move through the OHF Return to Hockey Framework based on the capacity they can manage.

Stage 3 provides for additional hockey opportunities beyond the individual and group training approved in Stage 1 and 2 of the OHF Return to Hockey. It provides participants the opportunity to register in Hockey Canada pro-

programming that will include game play with rules that remove or avoid physical contact.

## Definitions

No Physical Contact – means the application of the Ontario Government Emergency order in that practice and play cannot allow for physical contact between players or that play is operating under the modified rules in Appendix D to avoid physical contact between the players.

Stage 3 Modified Programming – Member Sanctioned hockey programs in compliance with the requirements of each Stage 3a, b, c, d, e operated within the Minor Hockey Associations or the Member including game play, scrimmage in practice and team practice drills.

Public Health Unit (PHU) – is an official health agency established by a group of urban and rural municipalities to provide a more efficient community health program, carried out by full-time, specially qualified staff.

Member – as defined in Article 4.1. ALLIANCE, GTHL, NOHA, OHA, OHL, OMHA, OWHA

## Clarifications

Any clarifications relating to the contents of the OHF Return to Hockey Framework should be submitted to your Member and they will forward to the OHF.

Any clarifications of the operations of hockey outside of your programming or facility operation should be directed to Will Metske, OHF Director of Operations, at [wmetske@ohf.on.ca](mailto:wmetske@ohf.on.ca).

## Stage 3 will be based on the following philosophies:

- Flexibility on registering players for the participation in the 2020-2021 season and the cooperation between Associations and Members.
- Processes put in place for new participants to register as:
  - Participants and families become open to registering for hockey programming, and
  - More arenas become available for use.
- The opportunity for adjusted program offerings on a four-week cycle as the Government updates numbers for gathering and group participation.
- To allow for staggered opening or closure of programming based on Ontario's regional approach to reopening with minimal disruption to programs operating.
- Individual and Group Training remains a focus in August and September with addition of participants.
- No tryouts for the formation of Teams. Members to determine approach for tiered structure based on category of participation last year.
- No affiliation or integration allowed between leagues.
- May only participate in one league/team within the OHF.
- The boundaries of the PHU will be a guideline for competition between teams.

The OHF has developed multiple levels within Stage 3 as the Ontario Government Stage 3 will continue to modify over time.

IN ALL INSTANCES THE OHF DIRECTORS WILL MAKE THE FINAL DETERMINATION AS TO THE ACTIVE LEVEL WITHIN STAGE 3 OF THE OHF RETURN TO HOCKEY FRAMEWORK THAT A MEMBER IS ELIGIBLE TO PROGRESS TO. THIS DETERMINATION WILL BE COMMUNICATED BY WAY OF MEMO FROM THE OHF TO THE MEMBERS AND POSTED ON THE OHF WEBSITE.

The OHF will also maintain an updated posting on its website of the OHF Return to Hockey Framework Stage that each Public Health Unit jurisdiction has progressed to. Associations will operate their programming in accordance with the framework of the OHF Return to Hockey Framework Stage, as well as the rules established by their Member, the local PHU and the facilities. In all stages the [Hockey Canada Safety Protocols](#) will be followed.

OHF Stage	Ontario Gov. Stage	Outline	Player Contact	# of Participants¥	Structure	Travel
<b>STAGE 1</b> Return to Ice	Phase 2 Stage 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strict On-Ice Physical Distancing</li> <li>• Skill Development Only</li> <li>• Off-ice Training &amp; Activity</li> <li>• Limited/No Use of Bench</li> <li>• Variety of On-Ice Set Ups</li> </ul>	None	Limited to 10 in group including instructor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Private Instruction</li> <li>• Association Instruction</li> <li>• Team Instruction</li> </ul>	Community Based Only
<b>STAGE 2</b> Return to Practice	Phase 2 Stage 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strict On-Ice Physical Distancing</li> <li>• Group Skill Development</li> <li>• Off-ice Training &amp; Activity</li> <li>• May be Limited Use of Bench</li> </ul>	None	Limited to 15 in group including instructor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Private Instruction</li> <li>• Association Instruction</li> <li>• Team Instruction</li> </ul>	Community Based Only
<b>STAGE 3a</b> Return to Play	Phase 2 Stage 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strict On-Ice Physical Distancing</li> <li>• Off-ice Training &amp; Activity</li> <li>• Limited or Normal Use of Bench</li> </ul>	No Physical Contact	Maximum of 25 for individual training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MHA/Leagues/Teams</li> <li>• May be Modified Game Play or Cohort Groups</li> </ul>	Limited Public Health Unit (PHU)
<b>STAGE 3b</b>	Phase 2 Stage 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strict On-Ice Physical Distancing</li> <li>• Off-Ice Training &amp; Activity</li> <li>• Limited or Normal Use of Bench</li> <li>• Registration of Players for the 2020-2021 programming</li> <li>• Allocation of Player Groups</li> <li>• Group Training Prep Phase</li> </ul>	No Physical Contact	Maximum of 30 for individual training and game play	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Registration is based on last year's registered Association.*</li> <li>• No program offered by MHA eligible to move for a program within PHU.</li> <li>• MHA providing some form of programming, must stay where registered last year, exception, players on AAA Waiver and LOR movement have option to stay or return home.</li> <li>• Leagues are Ontario Health Maximum of 50 (July 27) and based on the PHU.</li> </ul>	Limited Public Health Unit
<b>STAGE 3c</b>	Phase 2 Stage 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Group Training/Practices with Physical Distancing</li> <li>• Game Play 3 v 3 or 4 v 4, with No Physical Contact</li> </ul>	No Physical Contact	Maximum of 40 for individual training and game play	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Registration is based on last year's registered Association.*</li> <li>• No program offered by MHA eligible to move for a program within PHU.</li> <li>• MHA providing some form of programming, must stay where registered last year, exception, players on AAA Waiver and LOR movement have option to stay or return home.</li> <li>• Leagues are Ontario Health Maximum of 50 (July 27) and based on the PHU.</li> </ul>	Limited Public Health Unit
<b>STAGE 3d</b>	Phase 2 Stage 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Group Training/Practices with Physical Distancing</li> <li>• Game Play 3 v 3, 4 v 4, 5 v 5, with No Physical Contact</li> </ul>	No Physical Contact	Maximum of 40 for individual training and game play	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Registration is based on last year's registered Association.*</li> <li>• No program offered by MHA eligible to move for a program within PHU.</li> <li>• MHA providing some form of programming, must stay where registered last year, exception, players on AAA Waiver and LOR movement have option to stay or return home.</li> <li>• Leagues are Ontario Health Maximum of 50 (July 27) and based on the PHU.</li> </ul>	Limited Adjacent Public Health Units
<b>STAGE 3e</b>	Phase 2 Stage 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Group Training/Practices with Physical Distancing</li> <li>• Game Play 3 v 3, 4 v 4, 5 v 5, with No Physical Contact</li> </ul>	No Physical Contact	Maximum of 40 for individual training and game play	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Registration is based on last year's registered Association.*</li> <li>• No program offered by MHA eligible to move for a program within PHU.</li> <li>• MHA providing some form of programming, must stay where registered last year, exception, players on AAA Waiver and LOR movement have option to stay or return home.</li> <li>• Leagues are Ontario Health Maximum of 50 (July 27) and based on the PHU.</li> </ul>	Expanded Local Health Integrated Network
<b>STAGE 4</b> Return to Regular Competition	Phase 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No On-Ice Physical Distancing</li> <li>• Regular Practice</li> <li>• Off-ice Training &amp; Activity</li> <li>• Standard Competition</li> <li>• May be Normal Use of Bench</li> </ul>	Contact Allowed	Regular Team Sizes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rules TBD</li> <li>• MHA/Leagues/Teams</li> <li>• Regular Game Play</li> </ul>	Expanded Tournament Year end events
<p>Disclaimer: The content of the chart if there is discrepancy is superseded by the contents of the specific sections for each Stage in the OHF Return to Hockey Framework.</p> <p>* Players that played the 2019-2020 season the GTHL will follow GTHL rules for movement as well as criteria laid out in the OHF Return to Hockey Framework for AAA Waiver and LOR.</p> <p>¥ Number of Participants is a maximum number outlined by the OHF for sanctioned programming, however, all participant numbers are dictated by the restrictions for gathering that have been established by the Ontario Government, local Public Health Unit, facility or Member. Maximum numbers are based on the largest ice surface 100x200 and should be adjusted accordingly for smaller ice surfaces and/or age and size of players.</p>						



## Stage 3a - Return to Ice Continued July 28 to August 31

### Member Approved Programming in Geographic Area that is in Ontario Government Stage 3

Programming is based on Stage 1 and 2 requirements. Association programming is for participants registered with the Association for 2019-2020.

#### Individual and Group Training

- Maximum of 25 participants on the ice, including instructors, or a lower number if determined by Ontario Government, local PHU, the facility or Member.
- Physical distancing is required for the purpose of individual and group training and if a facility has further restrictions all programming must comply.
- Hockey Canada RTH [Alternate Skills Instruction](#) outlines skill progression programs with physical distancing as a template for programming.

## Stage 3b - Return to Practice and Play - Registration for 2020-2021 - September 1 onward

### Member Approved Programming in Geographic Area that is in Ontario Government Stage 3

#### Individual and Group Training

- Maximum of 30 participants on the ice, including instructors, or a lower number if determined by Ontario Government, local PHU, the facility or Member.
- Physical distancing is required for the purpose of individual and group training and if a facility has further restrictions all programming must comply.

#### Registration of Players for the 2020-2021

- Registration is based on last year's registered Association:
  - Players on AAA Waivers may stay with the Association they were registered with in 2019-2020 or return to their residential Association.
  - Players in the LOR that were imports in 2019-2020 have the option to stay with the Association they were registered with for 2019-2020 or return to their residential association. Specifically, for 2019-2020, imports in the GTHL at U13 and above in 2019-2020 may stay in the GTHL and register with any team in the GTHL or return to their residential association for 2020-2021.
  - If MHA is not operating, players are eligible to move to another MHA for a program.
  - If MHA providing some form of programming, players stay where registered last year unless determined otherwise by the Member for the purpose of providing programming.
- Methods of registration for the 2020-2021 season are found at Appendix D.

#### Junior Hockey

- All Return to Play protocols for each League must be submitted, vetted and approved by the Member and OHF prior to implementation. Protocol must comply with the Ontario Government, local PHU, the facility or Member, in addition to the Hockey Canada Safety Protocols and the OHF Return to Hockey

Framework.

- Flexibility on registering players for participation for the 2020-2021 season will be in cooperation between the Junior Members and their Leagues. Playing rules would comply with all laws of Ontario Government, local PHU, the facility or Member, in addition to the Hockey Canada Safety Protocols and the OHF Return to Hockey Framework.

### **Competition (Game Play)**

- Following a minimum two-week development phase for any new programs, modified 3 on 3 or 4 on 4 game play with No Physical Contact hockey may begin.
- Leagues are a maximum of 50 or less depending on the PHU. The OHF will review the league maximum upon amendments by the Ontario Government.
- All Game Play is within local Public Health Unit.
- There is a minimum of one registered official per game unless determined otherwise by the Member.
- All Game Play must be conducted in conjunction with the local PHU and facility rules for the purpose of sanitation and physical distancing. Suggested programming structures are located in Appendix E with playing rules located in Appendix F.

## **Stage 3c Return to Practice and Play**

### **Member Approved Programming in Geographic Area that is in Ontario Government Stage 3**

#### **Individual and Group Training**

- Maximum of 40 participants on the ice, including instructors, or a lower number if determined by Ontario Government, local PHU, the facility or Member.
- Physical distancing is required for the purpose of individual and group training and if a facility has further restrictions all programming must comply.

#### **Registration of Players for the 2020-2021**

- Registration is based on last year's registered Association:
  - Players on AAA Waivers may stay with the Association they were registered with in 2019-2020 or return to their residential Association.
  - Players in the LOR that were imports in 2019-2020 have the option to stay with the Association they were registered with for 2019-2020 or return to their residential association. Specifically, for 2019-2020, imports in the GTHL at U13 and above in 2019-2020 may stay in the GTHL and register with any team in the GTHL or return to their residential association for 2020-2021.
  - If MHA is not operating, players are eligible to move to another MHA for a program.
  - If MHA providing some form of programming, players stay where registered last year unless determined otherwise by the Member for the purpose of providing programming.
- Methods of registration for the 2020-2021 season are found at Appendix D.

#### **Junior Hockey**

- All Return to Play protocols for each League must be submitted, vetted and approved by the Member and OHF prior to implementation. Protocol must comply with the Ontario Government, local PHU, the

facility or Member, in addition to the Hockey Canada Safety Protocols and the OHF Return to Hockey Framework.

- Flexibility on registering players for participation for the 2020-2021 season will be in cooperation between the Junior Members and their Leagues. Playing rules would comply with all laws of Ontario Government, local PHU, the facility or Member, in addition to the Hockey Canada Safety Protocols and the OHF Return to Hockey Framework.

### **Competition (Game Play)**

- Following a two-week development phase for any new programs, Stage 3 Modified Programming No Physical Contact hockey 3 on 3, 4 on 4 and 5 on 5 may begin.
- Leagues are a maximum of 50 or less depending on the PHU. The OHF will review the league maximum upon amendments by the Ontario Government.
- All Game Play is within local PHU.
- There is a minimum of one registered official per game unless determined otherwise by the Member.
- All Game Play must be conducted in conjunction with the local PHU and facility rules for the purpose of sanitation and physical distancing. Suggested programming structures are located in Appendix E with playing rules located in Appendix F.

## **Stage 3d - Return to Practice and Play**

### **Member Approved Programming in Geographic Area that is in Ontario Government Stage 3**

#### **Individual and Group Training**

- Maximum of 40 participants on the ice including instructors, or a lower number if determined by Ontario Government, local PHU, the facility or Member.
- Physical distancing is required for the purpose of individual and group training and if a facility has further restrictions all programming must comply.

#### **Registration of Players for the 2020-2021**

- Registration is based on last year's registered Association:
  - Players on AAA Waivers may stay with the Association they were registered with in 2019-2020 or return to their residential Association.
  - Players in the LOR that were imports in 2019-2020 have the option to stay with the Association they were registered with for 2019-2020 or return to their residential association. Specifically, for 2019-2020, imports in the GTHL at U13 and above in 2019-2020 may stay in the GTHL and register with any team in the GTHL or return to their residential association for 2020-2021.
  - If MHA is not operating, players are eligible to move to another MHA for a program.
  - If MHA providing some form of programming, players stay where registered last year unless determined otherwise by the Member for the purpose of providing programming.
- Methods of registration for the 2020-2021 season are found at Appendix D.

#### **Junior Hockey**

- All Return to Play protocols for each League must be submitted, vetted and approved by the Member

and OHF prior to implementation. Protocol must comply with the Ontario Government, local PHU, the facility or Member, in addition to the Hockey Canada Safety Protocols and the OHF Return to Hockey Framework.

- Flexibility on registering players for participation for the 2020-2021 season will be in cooperation between the Junior Members and their Leagues. Playing rules would comply with all laws of Ontario Government, local PHU, the facility or Member, in addition to the Hockey Canada Safety Protocols and the OHF Return to Hockey Framework.

### **Competition (Game Play)**

- Following a two-week development phase for any new programs, Stage 3 Modified Programming No Physical Contact hockey 3 on 3, 4 on 4 and 5 on 5 may begin.
- Leagues are a maximum of 50 or less depending on the PHU. The OHF will review the league maximum upon amendments by the Ontario Government.
- All Game Play is within local PHU and adjacent PHU.
- There is a minimum of one registered official per game unless determined otherwise by the Member.
- All Game Play must be conducted in conjunction with the local PHU and facility rules for the purpose of sanitation and physical distancing. Suggested programming structures are located in Appendix E with playing rules located in Appendix F.

## **Stage 3e - Return to Practice and Play**

### **Member Approved Programming in Geographic Area that is in Ontario Government Stage 3**

#### **Individual and Group Training**

- Maximum of 40 participants on the ice including instructors, or a lower number if determined by Ontario Government, local PHU, the facility or Member.
- Physical distancing is required for the purpose of individual and group training and if a facility has further restrictions all programming must comply.

#### **Registration of Players for the 2020-2021**

- Registration is based on last year's registered Association:
  - Players on AAA Waivers may stay with the Association they were registered with in 2019-2020 or return to their residential Association.
  - Players in the LOR that were imports in 2019-2020 have the option to stay with the Association they were registered with for 2019-2020 or return to their residential association. Specifically, for 2019-2020, imports in the GTHL at U13 and above in 2019-2020 may stay in the GTHL and register with any team in the GTHL or return to their residential association for 2020-2021.
  - If MHA is not operating, players are eligible to move to another MHA for a program.
  - If MHA providing some form of programming, players stay where registered last year unless determined otherwise by the Member for the purpose of providing programming.
- Methods of registration for the 2020-2021 season are found at Appendix D.

#### **Junior Hockey**

- All Return to Play protocols for each League must be submitted, vetted and approved by the Member and OHF prior to implementation. Protocol must comply with the Ontario Government, local PHU, the

facility or Member, in addition to the Hockey Canada Safety Protocols and the OHF Return to Hockey Framework.

- Flexibility on registering players for participation for the 2020-2021 season will be in cooperation between the Junior Members and their Leagues. Playing rules would comply with all laws of Ontario Government, local PHU, the facility or Member, in addition to the Hockey Canada Safety Protocols and the OHF Return to Hockey Framework.

### Competition (Game Play)

- Following a two-week development phase for any new programs, Stage 3 Modified Programming No Physical Contact hockey 3 on 3, 4 on 4 and 5 on 5 may begin.
- Leagues are a maximum of 50 or less depending on the PHU. The OHF will review the league maximum upon amendments by the Ontario Government.
- All Game Play is within Local Health Integration Network.
- There is a minimum of one registered official per game unless determined otherwise by the Member.
- All Game Play must be conducted in conjunction with the local PHU and facility rules for the purpose of sanitation and physical distancing. Suggested programming structures are located in Appendix E with playing rules located in Appendix F.

## Stage 4 - Traditional Hockey

This stage will involve the introduction of traditional hockey (5 on 5). Any such introduction will be in compliance with the Ontario Government Emergency Order and OHF policies.

## Phase 3 - Recover, Protect, and Support

### Stage 1 - Registration Numbers

Implementation of a collective recruitment initiative in conjunction with the Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism, Culture, and Industries, and Hockey Canada to bring participants back to hockey to pre-COVID-19 numbers for the 2021-2022 season.



### Stage 2 - Internal Events

Planned approach to operating and hosting of tournaments across the OHF with teams from Ontario.

### Stage 3 - Integration Outside of the Province

Identifying National and International hosting opportunities for events and tournaments.

## SECTION 4

# Facilities

Public and Private facilities that are providing training to hockey need to ensure that they maintain their own insurance on their facility and are in compliance with the Ministry of Labour Protocols and those protocols specific to the Ontario Government Emergency Order.

All hockey programming providers that are sanctioned by the Provincial Sport Organizations in Ontario will:

- be listed on the OHF website and will be able to present a Hockey Canada Insurance Certificate and Certificate of Validation.
- be required to complete a tracking document of participation use and an ice surface by ice surface training attendance form; and
- be required to have a COVID-19 Contact Person.

Facilities are directed to utilize the information provided by the Ontario Recreation Facilities Association (ORFA) as an industry standard material: [ORFA Reentering and Reopening](#).

### Ontario Ice Sports Harmonized Ice Sports Facility Procedures

Facility Entrance - No Dressing Rooms - Come Dressed – Entrance to Arena is based on facility plan and all sport groups collectively are required to have a meeting with the facility based on the following agenda.

- Parking Lot Entrance
- Entrance Doors
- Entrance Process
- Entrance Time
- Changing of equipment location process
- Dropping off Minor participants – Parents/Attendance – number of attendees permitted to support and watch
- Conduct of Parents in the stands (i.e. food and beverage maintaining facility cleanliness)
- Items allowed in the facility (bags, food, and beverage)

Facility Entrance - Dressing Rooms - Come Dressed – Entrance to Arena is based on facility plan and all sport groups collectively are required to have a meeting with the facility based on the following agenda.

- Parking Lot Entrance
- Entrance Doors
- Entrance Process
- Entrance Time
- Changing of equipment location process
- Dropping off Minor participants – Parents/Attendance – number of attendees permitted to support and

watch

- Conduct of Parents in the stands (i.e. food and beverage maintaining facility cleanliness)
- Items allowed in the facility (bags, food, and beverage)

Facility Entrance - Dressing Rooms - Option to Change at Facility – Entrance to Arena is based on facility plan and all sport groups collectively are required to have a meeting with the facility based on the following agenda.

- Parking Lot Entrance
- Entrance Doors
- Entrance Process
- Entrance Time
- Changing of equipment location process
- Dropping off Minor participants – Parents/Attendance – number of attendees permitted to support and watch
- Conduct of Parents in the stands (i.e. food and beverage maintaining facility cleanliness)
- Items allowed in the facility (bags, food, and beverage)
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Other Facility Specific Issues

- Tenant Dressing Room Requirements must be dealt with in a meeting with facility to determine contractual agreements on responsibilities
- Elite hockey rental requirements (i.e. longer break if require warmups)
- Look to plan for longer Ice-times rental
- Warming up within the facility

Reporting of incidents of injury or COVID-19 to facility personnel

- Until a standardized form is approved with all facilities the form that is provided by the facility will be the required form.

Equipment Storage

- Each rink will have to determine private storage requirements and if applicable should be part of your meeting agendas.





## SECTION 6

# Chief Medical Officer

### Mandate:

The Chief Medical Officer Ontario Hockey is responsible for providing the Provincial Sport Organizations (being the Ontario Hockey Federation (OHF), Hockey Eastern Ontario (HEO), Hockey Northwestern Ontario (HNO) and Ontario Women's Hockey Association (OWHA) hereinafter referred to as the PSOs), Boards and staff with medical advice and comprehension regarding decisions and the impact of those decisions due to COVID-19 and the direction from the Ontario Government and Public Health Authorities.

### Key Duties:

- Act as the medical consultant for the PSOs to respect of COVID-19 with the mandate to abide by the Ontario Government and Public Health.
- Act as the medical consultant for the individual PSOs in respect of COVID-19 if the Ontario Government opens regionally.
- Maintain professional status and be in good standing with their respective licensing College.
- Be the medical spokesperson for the PSOs.
- Advise the PSOs on risk management issues especially with respect to medical issues.
- Advise the PSOs on research projects and issues especially with respect to medical issues.
- Advise the PSOs on event sanctioning.
- Act as a consultant for international tournaments held in the PSOs jurisdiction.
- Act as a liaison with the Hockey Canada Chief Medical Officer concerning medical issues.
- Such additional duties as may be delegated to the Chief Medical Officer Ontario Hockey by the PSOs from time to time

### Authority:

The Chief Medical Officer Ontario Hockey, will exercise their authority as set out by any Hockey Canada or PSO regulation or in accordance with this job description.

### Appointment:

For the role of Chief Medical Officer Ontario Hockey there will be a short canvassing period of the PSO's Boards and OHF Members Boards for potential candidates. Based on the potential candidates the Chief Medical Officer Ontario Hockey shall be appointed by the PSOs Chairs of the Board, in consultation with the CEO/EDs, for a one-year term that is renewable. The Chief Medical Officer Ontario Hockey has no voting rights.

### Meetings:

The Chief Medical Officer Ontario Hockey will attend meetings in person and via conference call, via invitation from any of the PSO's Chair of the Boards. PSO's members must obtain the approval of their respective PSO Chair of the Board before making any such invitations.

### Resources:

The Chief Medical Officer Ontario Hockey will receive the necessary resources from the PSOs, to the

extent approved in the annual budget, to fulfill his or her mandate. They will also receive the necessary administrative support from the PSOs office.

**Reporting:**

The Chief Medical Officer Ontario Hockey will report to the PSO's Board as required and to the CEO/ED.

**Requirements:**

The Chief Medical Officer Ontario Hockey will be licensed to practice as a Physician in the Province of Ontario. Experience as a Sport Medicine Physician and membership in CASEM will be considered an asset.

**Remuneration:**

The Chief Medical Officer Ontario Hockey is a volunteer role with no remuneration except for expenses related to the attendance of meetings for the purpose of this role and other expenses as determined by the PSOs.

**Insurance Coverage:**

The Chief Medical Officer Ontario Hockey will fall within the Hockey Canada Insurance program including the Directors and Officers Insurance for the activities of the Chief Medical Officer Ontario Hockey related to this specific role.

## Regional Chief Medical Officer

If it is determined that we require Regional Chief Medical Officers to support implementation as we continue to proceed through the OHF Return to Hockey Framework, they will be appointed at that time.

## SECTION 7

# Stakeholder Requirements

The following chart outlines the requirements that individuals in different leadership positions must have in order to train, support and/or coach registered hockey players in the OHF.

	Coach	Trainer	Team Manager	On-Ice Volunteer	Skills Instructor	On-Ice Official
CAC Training/ Certification	✓					
OHF Hockey Canada Licensed Skill Development Program					✓	
<a href="#">Trainers Program</a>		✓				
HCOP						✓
Rowan's Law	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<a href="#">Gender Identity and Expression</a>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
VSS/CRC	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<a href="#">Respect in Sport- Activity Leader</a>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	

## SECTION 8

# Hockey Canada Safety Guidelines

- [Hygiene - Safety Protocols](#)
- [Positive Covid-19 Test in Hockey Environment](#)
- [Return to Hockey Procedures](#)

## SECTION 9

# Appendix A

### Ontario Government Resources

- [Ontario Provincial Government COVID-19](#)
- [Ontario Emergency Orders](#)
- [A Framework for Reopening our Province](#)
- [Ontario Law and Safety](#)

### Hockey Canada Resources

- [Hockey Canada's Safety Guidelines](#)

### OHF Resources

- [OHF Screening Policy](#)
- [OHF Code of Conduct](#)
- [Recreation Facility Dressing Room Policy](#)
- [Gender Identity Training](#)
- [OHF Confidentiality Statement](#)
- [OHF Confidentiality Implementation Manual](#)
- [OHF Dressing Room Policy](#)
- [OHF Dressing Room Implementation](#)
- [Respect in Sport](#)
- [OHF Harassment, Abuse & Bullying Policy](#)
- [Dressing Room Supervision Policy](#)
- [OHF Concussion Code of Conduct](#)
- [Rowans Law Resources Ages 10 and under](#)
- [Rowans Law Resources Ages 11 - 14](#)
- [Rowans Law Resources Ages 15 and up](#)
- [Hockey Canada Concussion Card](#)
- [OHF Social Media Policy](#)
- [OHF Helmet Policy](#)
- [OHF Coach Policy](#)
- [OHF Game Officials Code of Conduct](#)
- [OHF Players Code of Conduct](#)
- [OHF Team Officials Code of Conduct](#)
- [OHF Volunteers Code of Conduct](#)
- [OHF Policy on Body Checking in Tournaments](#)
- [OHF Unsanctioned League Policy](#)
- [OHF Sports School Policy](#)
- [OHF Tobacco Policy](#)
- [OHF Billeting Policy](#)
- [OHF Bus Policy](#)
- [OHF Prohibited Use of Digital Device Policy](#)
- [OHF Hockey Canada Licensed Skill Development Program Policy](#)

## SECTION 10

# Appendix B

## OHF Hockey Canada Licensed Skill Development Program

The Ontario Hockey Federation, in conjunction with Hockey Canada, the Ontario Provincial Sport Organizations (Hockey Eastern Ontario, Hockey Northern Ontario and the Ontario Women's Hockey Association), and its Members developed the OHF Hockey Canada Licensed Skill Development Program.

Hockey Canada Licensed Development Specialists are qualified, skilled and capable of running the highest quality programs on the ice for Minor Hockey Associations (MHAs), Female Hockey Associations (FHAs) Coaches and Players. The certification process equips skills coaches to deliver approved curriculums as set out by Hockey Canada Development, Men's High Performance and Female High Performance and ensures all participants engaging in private skill development are covered by Hockey Canada insurance.

On completion of the certification process coaches will be considered a Hockey Canada Licensed Development Specialist, which includes:

- Hockey Canada Certified Skills Instructor
- Hockey Canada Certified Goaltender Instructor
- Hockey Canada Subject Matter Expert/Skating Specific Instructor

Once certified, Hockey Canada Licensed Development Specialists can then operate both individual and group skill development sessions, Hockey School / Day Camp (if not hockey only additional insurance rider may be required) and/or Coach Mentoring Sessions provided for sanctioned hockey associations.

### How to Become Certified

1. Please apply online by using the following links specific to your area of interest:
  - o [Skill Instructor](#)
  - o [Goaltender Instructor](#)
2. The OHF will then work with applicants to ensure they receive the following prerequisite training:
  - o Vulnerable Sector Screening (VSS) or Criminal Record Check (CRC)
  - o Respect in Sport – Activity Leader Course
  - o Gender Identity and Expression Course
  - o Rowan's Law Concussion Awareness and Acknowledgment Form
  - o Hockey Canada Licensed Skill Development Program In-Process License Agreement
3. Following the completion of the Prerequisite Training, candidates will be provided with details to the online training course.
  - o **The first initial training sessions will include:** Skills Analysis /Teaching Skills, Skating, Puck Control, Developing Defencemen, and Shooting and Scoring.
4. Post-Seminar Tasks will be issued following the completion of the online course.
5. Complete In-Person Training Weekend, which will consist of in-class and on-ice sessions.
6. Complete a Field Evaluation.

The total fee for the OHF Hockey Canada Licensed Skill Development Program is \$1500.00 + applicable taxes. This has been split into three equal payments of \$500.00 + applicable taxes.

### How to Become Licensed

1. Must have been certified as a Hockey Canada Certified Skills Instructor, Hockey Canada Certified Goalender Instructor or a Hockey Canada Subject Matter Expert/Skating Specific Instructor.
2. The OHF will then work with applicants to ensure they receive the following prerequisite training:
  - o Vulnerable Sector Screening (VSS) or Criminal Record Check (CRC)
  - o Respect in Sport – Activity Leader Course
  - o Gender Identity and Expression Course
  - o Rowan's Law Concussion Awareness and Acknowledgment Form
  - o Hockey Canada Licensed Skill Development Program License Agreement

The annual licensee fee for Hockey Canada Licensed Development Specialist is \$1500.00 + applicable taxes.

### Benefits of Becoming Certified through the Hockey Canada Licensed Skills Development Program

- o Full Hockey Canada / Member Insurance coverage
- o Endorsement through the OHF and its Members
- o Opportunity to attend National / Member training and certification
- o Opportunity to deliver Hockey Canada and Member approved programming
- o Opportunity for Professional Development webinars throughout the hockey season.
- o Hockey Canada/ Member promotion on website under certified / licensed programs to MHA's / Parents / Players
- o Opportunity to be Skills Instructors at Member / Hockey Canada High Performance programs
- o Opportunities to attend Hockey Canada / Member Professional Development Workshops
- o Ability to market themselves to MHA's / Coaches / Players in conjunction with Members and Hockey Canada
- o Use of specific certified / licensed logo

## SECTION 11

# Appendix C

## Stage Two Explained

The following provides an overview of the relevant literature within the OHF Return to Hockey Framework that outlines how different stakeholders may return to the ice under the umbrella of the OHF.

## Stage Two - Group Development Programming

### In-Person Training

Instructional Training – individual and small group training on ice or off ice sanctioned by the OHF in compliance with the Ontario Government Emergency Order and OHF policies.

- OHF Members may conduct programming with the use of an instructor who meets the qualifications under the OHF Hockey Canada Licensed Skill Development Program Policy.

**What it means:** During Stage 2 of the OHF Return to Hockey Framework OHF Members (ALLIANCE, GTHL, NOHA, OHA, OHL, OMHA, OWHA) may operate programming subject to the following conditions:

- Participants must be registered within their jurisdiction. Jurisdiction is defined in OHF Article 4.2; and
- The lead on-ice instructor must be a Hockey Canada Licensed Development Specialist.

- Minor Hockey Associations may conduct, with the approval of their Member, instructional training for players registered with their MHA during the 2019-2020 season, where such training is conducted by a registered coach with the MHA during the 2019-2020 season.

**What it means:** During Stage 2 of the OHF Return to Hockey Framework Minor Hockey Associations may conduct programming with the approval of their Member (ALLIANCE, GTHL, NOHA, OMHA, OWHA) subject to the following conditions:

- Instructional training only, no competition; **and**
- Players must have been registered with your MHA during the 2019-20 season; **and**
- All coaches delivering programming must have been registered with the same MHA, in 2019-20, that they are now delivering programming.

**For clarity:** Minor Hockey Associations must gain the approval of the Member prior to operating any programming. More information on gaining approval from the Member can be found below. Note that programming is based on MHA and not on Team, this means players from different age groups can be on the ice at the same time.

Coaches delivering programming on behalf of an MHA do not require the Hockey Canada Licensed Skill Development Program training to deliver programming. The certification that made them eligible to coach during the 2019-20 season will allow them to deliver programming on behalf of that MHA.

The above criteria have implications and limitations on both players and coaches who have made the



decision to switch MHA's for the upcoming 2020-21 season:

- A player that has decided to switch organizations, without having a Residential Transfer duly approved subject to OHF Regulations, between the 2019-20 and the 2020-21 season may not participate in programming operated by the new MHA.
- A player that has moved and their Residential Transfer duly approved subject to OHF Regulations must contact the applicable Member (ALLIANCE, GTHL, NOHA, OMHA) within the new jurisdiction for approval. The Member (ALLIANCE, GTHL, NOHA, OMHA) will determine if that player is eligible to be on the ice. If the player is eligible to multiple MHA's, subject to OHF or Member Regulations, the Member will determine which MHA the player is eligible to participate with during Stage Two of the OHF Return to Hockey Framework.
- A coach that has switched organizations between the 2019-20 and 2020-21 seasons is not eligible to deliver programming.

- Private skills instructors may conduct training of individuals once the lead skills instructor on the ice has qualified as a Hockey Canada Licensed Development Specialist or is compliant with the OHF Hockey Canada Licensed Skill Development Program Policy.

**What it means:** During Stage 2 of the OHF Return to Hockey Framework an individual may deliver programming outside of the MHA, FHA, or Junior Hockey setting only as a Hockey Canada Licensed Development Specialist and be in compliance with the OHF Hockey Canada Licensed Development Program Policy.

- If utilizing a private skills instructor, MHAs will need to validate that the skills instructor qualifies under the OHF Hockey Canada Licensed Skill Development Program Policy.

**What it means:** During Stage 2 of the OHF Return to Hockey Framework a Hockey Canada Licensed Development Specialist may deliver programming within an MHA, FHA, or Junior Hockey setting if contracted to do so by that MHA, FHA or Junior Hockey team and must be in compliance with the OHF Hockey Canada Licensed Development Program Policy.

- Junior hockey Teams may conduct programming with the approval of their Member for players that they have registered for the 2020-2021 season or any players that are on their protected list. If utilizing a private skills instructor, they will need to validate that the skills instructor qualifies under the OHF Hockey Canada Licensed Skill Development Program Policy.

**What it means:** During Stage 2 of the OHF Return to Hockey Framework Junior hockey teams may conduct programming with the approval of their Member (NOHA, OHA or OHL) subject to the following player conditions:

- Instructional training only, no competition; **and**
- Players must be registered with that Junior hockey team for the 2020-21 season OR players must be on that Junior hockey team's protected list ;

During Stage 2 of the OHF Return to Hockey Framework Junior hockey teams may conduct programming with the approval of their Member (NOHA, OHA or OHL) subject to the following coach/instructor conditions:

- Junior hockey teams may utilize coaches currently registered to their team; **OR**
- Junior hockey teams may utilize a Hockey Canada Licensed Development Specialist that is in com-

pliance with the OHF Hockey Canada Licensed Development Program Policy.

## How do Minor Hockey Associations Gain Approval to Deliver Programming with one of their 2019-20 Coaches?

A Minor Hockey Association may gain approval to deliver programming led by one of their 2019-20 coaches subject to the following procedure:

1. MHA makes application to the appropriate Member (ALLIANCE, GTHL, NOHA, OHA, OHL, OMHA, OWHA) clearly identifying participants and coaches. The Member will validate all participants and coaches are eligible to participate.
2. The Member will issue the following documentation as approval:
  - a. Certificate of Insurance: Each organization will be required to have a valid Certificate of Insurance present with them for any hockey activities.
  - b. Certificate of Validation: This certificate is issued to Minor Hockey Associations and Hockey Canada Skills Instructors who have been certified by the Ontario Hockey Federation to conduct hockey activities. This certificate provides proof of certification and is to be presented to facilities to conduct hockey activities.
3. Upon receipt of the Certificate of Insurance and Certificate of Validation the Minor Hockey Association must share the documentation with all coaches in their program that will be delivering programming during Stage Two. It is the coach's responsibility to maintain these documents and present it immediately upon request at a facility during scheduled programming.

## How do Minor Hockey Associations Gain Approval to Deliver Programming with Hockey Canada Licensed Development Specialists?

A Minor Hockey Association may gain approval to deliver programming led by a Hockey Canada Licensed Development Specialist subject to the following procedure:

1. MHA makes application to the appropriate Member (ALLIANCE, GTHL, NOHA, OHA, OHL, OMHA, OWHA) clearly identifying participants and the Hockey Canada Licensed Development Specialist. The Member will validate all participants and the Hockey Canada Licensed Development Specialist are eligible to participate.
2. The Member will issue the following documentation to the MHA:
  - a. Certificate of Insurance: Each organization will be required to have a valid Certificate of Insurance present with them for any hockey activities.
3. The Member will ensure the specified Hockey Canada Licensed Development Specialist is compliant with the OHF Hockey Canada Licensed Skill Development Program Policy by ensuring their Certificate of Validation is current.
  - a. Certificate of Validation: This certificate is issued to Minor Hockey Associations and Hockey Canada

Skills Instructors who have been certified by the Ontario Hockey Federation to conduct hockey activities. This certificate provides proof of certification and is to be presented to facilities to conduct hockey activities.

4. Upon receipt of the Certificate of Insurance the Minor Hockey Association must share the documentation with the HCLDS. It is the HCLDS' responsibility to maintain the Certificate of Insurance and their Certificate of Validation and present it immediately upon request at a facility during scheduled programming.

## How do Hockey Canada Licensed Development Specialists Gain Approval to Deliver Programming?

A Hockey Canada Licensed Development Specialist (HCLDS) gain approval to deliver programming subject to the following procedure:

1. Duly signed (by OHF and HCLDS) one of the following agreements:
  - a. Hockey Canada Licensed Skill Development Program In Process License Agreement; OR
  - b. Hockey Canada Licensed Skill Development Program License Agreement
2. The OHF will issue the following documentation as approval:
  - a. Certificate of Insurance: Each HCLDS will be required to have a valid Certificate of Insurance present with them for any hockey activities.
  - b. Certificate of Validation: This certificate is issued to Minor Hockey Associations and Hockey Canada Skills Instructors who have been certified by the Ontario Hockey Federation to conduct hockey activities. This certificate provides proof of certification and is to be presented to facilities to conduct hockey activities.
3. It is the responsibility of the HCLDS to be able to provide immediately, upon request by a facility or municipality, both the Certificate of Insurance and Certificate of Validation of the HCLDS. A HCLDS that is unable to present both documents upon request may be unable to deliver programming as scheduled.

For more information on the Hockey Canada Licensed Skill Development Program and to register – [click here](#).

## Additional Documents for Reference

[Session Participation and Health Screening Tracking](#)  
[Health Screening Questionnaire](#)

## SECTION 12

# Appendix D

## Registration Suggestions

It is important to provide flexibility in the registration procedures for the 2020-2021 season. Due to COVID-19, there will be participants that have an interest in returning to the game right away, and others that will choose to wait until later on in the season before they decide to return to play.

As such, these are the items that you should consider in preparing the registration options for players:

- There needs to be options for participants to register at later dates.
- There is the possibility that changes to requirements in different geographic regions may be adjusted to Stage 1-3 by the Ontario Government over the next 10 months. This may mean that programming in those areas may need revert to individual training or no programming at all.
- Payment plans on consistent time blocks may be beneficial to limit credit card fees on payment and re-funds. It is important to recognize the challenging financial impact some parents have experienced.
- Programming based on 4, 6 or 8 week blocks can be implemented to allow for modification as the Ontario Government and OHF change requirements.
- Work with neighboring associations to provide collaborative or joint programming in early stages while facilities are still opening to accommodate an increase in registrants.

The Hockey Canada Registry is able to accommodate the following forms of registration:

### 1. Sign up/Pay once – Attend Multiple “Sessions”

- Create a new sign up group “Session 1”
- MHA’s registration packages per age groups as usually, assign package to “Session 1” Sign up group
- Set fees at the beginning
- Parents/players login into Online Registration once and select appropriate age package and pay for fees for season.
- MHAs set up a series of Leagues or Teams for each session (i.e. Session 1 league, Session 2 League).
- Players are assigned to each session by MHA admin by being added to Team rosters in that session.

### 2. Sign up/Pay For Each Session (Pay as you go)

#### For First Session

- Create a new sign up group “Session 1”
- MHA’s create registration package for each age group called Session 1 , assign package to “Session 1”

Sign up group

- One set fee for the first package/session.
- Parents/players login into Online Registration once and select appropriate age package and pay for fees for 1st session
- MHAs set up a series of Leagues or Teams for 1st session
- Players are assigned to each session by MHA admin by being added to Team rosters in that session.

### Subsequent Sessions

- MHA admins create Two packages for each age group; one for “Returning Players” (players from Session 1) and one for “New Players”
- MHA assign packages to “Session 2” Sign up group
- Returning Players package is a lower price that doesn’t included the HC and OHF Fee
- New Players package will have the admin fee included, it could be broken out or lumped in with the Registration fee
- MHAs set up a series of Leagues or Teams for each subsequent session (i.e. Session 2 League).
- Can use the “preregistration” report in HCR to manage who was signed up for what package/Sign up.
- MHA assigns the people to session 2 teams.

### 3. Manual Registration

- Create a new sign up group “Session 1”
- Manually pre-register with the group.
- MHAs set up a series of Leagues or Teams for 1st session
- Players are assigned to each session by MHA admin by being added to Team rosters in that session.

## SECTION 13

# Appendix E

## Game Play Structure

Since all programming must comply with rules of the Public Health Unit and the facility, the following are considerations for Associations when developing Game Play Structure:

- Game play does allow for players to engage within the 2-meter physical distancing as long as the rules of play modified for No Physical Contact.
- When participants are not engaged in on-ice activity they must maintain their physical distance. As such:
  - benches will require physical distancing of players;
  - ice surface size needs to be taken into account to determine number of players on the ice and the impact on rules for No Physical Contact (smaller ice less players);
  - change rooms require physical distancing;
  - cleaning requirements of permanent structures by the facility including change rooms, benches and penalty boxes between games; and
  - coaches and trainers impact on physical distancing.
- In structuring your program there may be benefits in limiting the use of benches at younger ages to avoid delays for sanitation between games and management of players
  - U9 and below 4 on 4 cross ice using middle zone as benches (the U6, U7, U8 and U9 Pathways must be implemented but suggested for the U9 program that is full ice to consider cross ice)
  - U10, U11 and U12, U13 – 3 on 3 cross ice middle zone as benches
  - U14 and U15 – 4 on 4 full ice using benches with physical distancing (two lines)
  - U16 and older including Junior – 3 on 3 or 4 on 4 full ice using benches with physical distancing (two lines in 4 on 4 or three lines in 3 on 3)
- Consider the ice size when choosing to conduct 5 on 5 programming. Based on the varied sizes of ice the 5 on 5 programming may promote players to come within contact with each other – even unintentionally, due to less space on the ice. Further, when considering leagues evaluate the ice surface available for other teams. 5 on 5 Game Play may be better conducted on one ice surface, while another team's ice may require a reduced number.

## SECTION 14

# Appendix F

## Rules for 3 on 3, 4 on 4 - U12 to U21

\*At the divisions of U10 and U11 a program may chose to operate a full ice program based on the limited size of some rinks. If this occurs, those programs would follow the U12 to U21 rules.

### Game Play

- Game time structure based on a 50-minute ice rental
  - 5 min warm up
  - 2 x 22 min period run time
  - 1 min intermission between 1st and 2nd period
- No overtime / no shootout for tied games
- No faceoffs
  - Period 1 – visiting team has first possession
  - Period 2 – home team has first possession
- No Physical Contact
  - Players must remain one stick length apart
  - Accidental/incidental contact may occur
  - No body checking
  - When a scrum or gathering occurs the puck will be given to the defending team and the attacking team must retreat. A whistle will be blown to separate the players and another whistle to signal the re-sumption of play once the official is satisfied the attacking team has retreated and the defending team has gained puck possession.
  - A player that loses a glove must immediately retrieve the glove or leave the ice.

### Line Changes

- Teams will change on the fly.

### Goals

- Goals result in a change of possession. The team that scores the goal must allow the other team to advance the puck past center ice before applying pressure. If the puck has not advanced past center ice within 10 seconds of the whistle the official will signal the team that scored to proceed with the attack.
- Example:
  - Team A scores goal
  - Team A must allow Team B to advance the puck past center ice before applying pressure.

## Icing

- Icing the puck results in a change of possession. The team that iced the puck must allow the other team to advance the puck past center ice before applying pressure. If the puck has not advanced past center ice within 10 seconds of the whistle the official will signal the attacking team to proceed with the attack.
- Example:
  - Team A ices the puck
  - Team B retrieves puck
  - Team A cannot apply pressure until Team B has advanced the puck past center ice.

## Offsides

- Offsides will result in a change of possession. The team that was called for offside must exit their attacking zone (all players simultaneously in neutral zone) before re-entering their attacking zone and applying pressure.
- Example:
  - Team A is called for offside and all players must exit their attacking zone
  - Once all Team A players are simultaneously in the neutral zone they may re-enter their attacking zone

## Goaltender Freezes the Puck

- When the goaltender freezes the puck, the attacking team must exit their attacking zone (all players simultaneously in neutral zone) before re-entering their attacking zone and applying pressure.
- Example:
  - Team B goaltender freezes puck
  - Team A must exit their attacking zone
  - Once all Team A players are simultaneously in the neutral zone they may re-enter their attacking zone

## Penalties

- Penalty shots will be awarded for penalties as per:
  - 2 min penalties = 1 penalty shot
  - 4+ min penalties = 2 penalty shots
  - All major penalties will result in 2 penalty shots and an ejection from the game
  - Intentional body contact or body checking = 2 penalty shots and may result in removal from the game at the discretion of the referee
  - Intentionally entering the goaltenders crease = 1 penalty shot
  - Co-incidental penalties will result in NO penalty shot being awarded
- The penalty shot must be taken by the individual the infraction was committed against unless they are unable to do so because of injury
- The time clock will continue to run during a penalty shot. If the buzzer sounds while the penalty shot is in process, the shot will be allowed to be completed and then the player change will occur.
- If a delayed penalty is called near the end of the game and the clock runs out, and where the result of the penalty shot(s) could change the outcome of the game, the penalty shot(s) will be taken. If the outcome of the penalty shot(s) would have no impact on the outcome of the game, the penalty shot(s) will not be taken.



## Penalty Shot Procedure

- When a penalty is called, the clock will not stop (all divisions)
- Penalty shot must be taken by the player infringed upon (if applicable) and all players on the ice must remain there until the shot is taken
- The player taking the penalty shot will line up at center ice
- All other players from both teams will line up by the far blue line
- All players will start from a standing position
- Referee will blow the whistle to start play
- All players may begin skating on the whistle; players on the non-penalized team may “chase” the player taking the shot and can prevent it if able to do so.
- Penalties can still be called on penalty shots.
- Should the player miss the penalty shot, play will continue.
- If a goal is scored, the team that scores the goal must allow the other team to advance the puck past center ice before applying pressure. If the puck has not proceeded past the hashmarks within 10 seconds of the whistle the official will signal the attacking team to proceed with the attack.

## Roster

- 9 players plus 1 goaltender (per team)
- Both teams must start the game with a minimum of 5 players plus 1 goaltender

## Rules for 3 on 3, 4 on 4 - U7 to U11

### Game Play

- Game time structure based on a 50-minute ice rental
  - 5 min warm up
  - 2 x 21 min period run time
- 1 min intermission between 1st and 2nd period
- No overtime / no shootout for tied games
- No faceoffs
  - Period 1 – visiting team has first possession
  - Period 2 – home team has first possession
- No Physical Contact
  - Players must remain one stick length apart
  - Accidental/incidental contact may occur
  - No body checking
  - When a scrum or gathering occurs the puck will be given to the defending team and the attacking team must retreat. A whistle will be blown to separate the players and another whistle to signal the resumption of play once the official is satisfied the attacking team has retreated and the defending team has gained puck possession.
- A player that loses a glove must immediately retrieve the glove or leave the ice.

### Line Changes

- 1.5 min shifts (timekeeper will sound the horn to notify shift change).

### Goals

- Goals result in a change of possession. The attacking team must retreat and allow the team that was scored against the opportunity to play the puck. If this does not occur, the official may blow their whistle and signal the opposing team to provide more space.

### Goaltender Freezes the Puck

- When the goaltender freezes the puck, the attacking team must retreat and allow the team that froze the puck the opportunity to play the puck. If this does not occur, the official may blow their whistle and signal the opposing team to provide more space.

### Icing

- There is no icing in cross-ice hockey.

### Offside

- There are no offsides in cross-ice hockey.

### Penalties

- Penalties will be handled in the same manner as modified ice programming per the Hockey Canada Player Pathways. Intentional body contact or body checking may result in removal from the game at the discretion of the referee.

### Roster

- 9 players plus 1 goaltender (per team)
- Both teams must start the game with a minimum of 5 players plus 1 goaltender