

Information for OHF Officials – Return to Play

Since the cancellation of the 2019-2020 season the Ontario Hockey Federation (OHF) has been working with its Members to establish health and safety measures and protocols for Official's Return to Play. The protocols established will always be based on direction that is given by Public Health and the Ontario Government.

As presented in the OHF Return to Hockey Framework Stage 3, players will return to the sport with a focus on development. This has been established to provide competitive modified programming while reducing the number of active participants on the ice, complying with the health and safety recommendations for stopping the spread of COVID-19.

While we do not have a set timeframe for officials, there are a number of things that you can be preparing for in the meantime.

OHF Return to Hockey Checklist for Officials

- Recertification Program
 - Each OHF Official will be required to complete the online recertification program.
- Hockey University: Return to Hockey Safety Guidelines
 - All Team Officials and On-ice officials are required to take this free training.
- Police Check
 - Please note that e-Hockey remains available to all Officials, and you are encouraged to access and review your profile to determine the status of your CRC, in order to be prepared to take appropriate action, if necessary, upon the resumption of activities. It is your responsibility to find out if you are able to apply for these checks online. This includes Criminal Record Checks, Criminal Record and Judicial Matters Checks as well as Vulnerable Persons Checks. Please note, for terminology purposes, VSS and VSC are one and the same document. Officials under the age of 18 will not be required to obtain a Police Record Check OR signing of a declaration form is not required.

In addition to the OHF Return to Hockey Checklist for Officials, each OHF Member will supply additional online education for officials at all levels. This online education process will continue throughout the season.

With the uncertainty of the season ahead, the OHF and its Members are currently evaluating the collection of annual registration fees. This information will be shared with you through the Member.

We encourage all OHF officials to continue to maintain a strong level of fitness. Take advantage of the warm weather to keep yourself active, jogs, bike rides, tennis, golf, hiking etc. It is essential that when we return to the ice that we are both mentally and physically capable of keeping up with challenges that are presented.

If you have any further questions, please don't hesitate to reach out. Currently Hockey Canada has provided a great resource that will help to answer a number of questions as to how COVID-19 measures will impact officials when we return to a game format:

<https://hockeycanada.ca/en-ca/exclusive/return-to-hockey/plans/officiating>

<https://hockeycanada.ca/fr-ca/exclusive/return-to-hockey/plans/officiating>