

ONTARIO'S FRAMEWORK FOR REOPENING STAGE 3

- It is important to note that this document provides guidance, but each province **must** follow their Public Health guidelines and recommendations, which are different across Canada. In Ontario, the rules for COVID-19 precautions are not the same as they are in Alberta or Quebec for example. Ontario is also in a situation where not all areas of the province are operating under the same Stage of the Provincial Emergency Order.
- The most unique/important requirements in Ontario (outlined in [Ontario's Framework for Reopening Stage 3](#) on July 17th) include:
 - **Toronto now in Stage 3, Windsor still in Stage 2**
 - **Maximum of 50 participants in a sports league**
 - **Continued requirement of social distancing – dressing rooms & benches**
 - **Ontario will remain in Stage 3 until a vaccine for COVID-19 is available**
 - **Ontario's return to school framework is not connected to the hockey RTP**
 - **Other factors including permanent arena closures, etc.**



EDITORIAL KW RECORD, OHL ANNOUNCEMENT AUGUST 4TH, 5TH

- [KW Record Editorial](#), Aug. 4, 2020

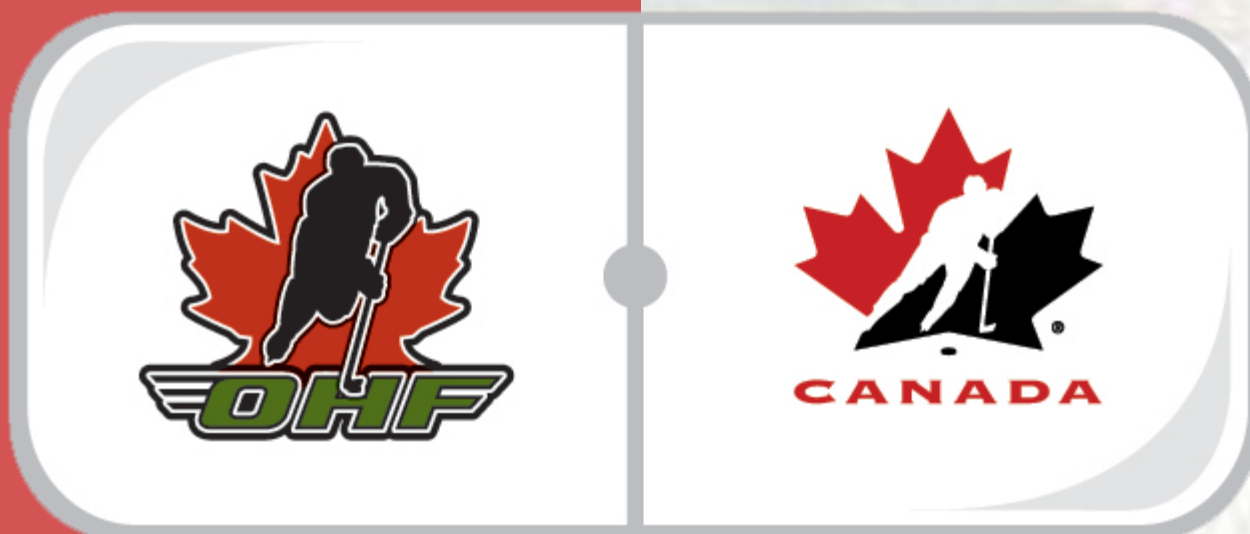
“Farewell first wave, prepare for the second”

“The odds of a second wave washing over Waterloo Region remain high. As we move through Stage 3 of the Ontario Government’s plan for exiting the lockdown, were not just increasing our social interaction, we increasing our chances of spreading the virus.”

- [OHL Announcement](#)

“...OHL is planning to return to play on December 1, 2020, subject to ensuring that the players, fans, staff and community are able to play and attend games safely.”





2020-2021 OHF RETURN TO HOCKEY FRAMEWORK

PROGRESSING TO STAGE 3





STAGE 3

OHF RETURN TO HOCKEY FRAMEWORK

- **The OHF has levels within Stage 3.**
- **The OHF will maintain an updated posting on its website of the OHF Stage that each Public Health Unit has progressed to.**
- **Associations will operate their programming in accordance with the framework of the Stage as well as the rules established by their particular Member, the local Public Health Unit and the facilities. In all stages the Hockey Canada Safety Protocols will be followed.**



STAGE 3

OHF RETURN TO HOCKEY FRAMEWORK

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 that Association programming is for participants registered with the Association for 2019-2020. (process outlined in Appendix C of the OHF Return to Hockey Framework is followed for any player that has moved)

Individual and Group Training (focus)

- Maximum of 25 participants on the ice including instructors or a lower number if determined by local Public Health Unit or facility renting. All processes of facility must require physical distancing on and off the ice with no contact.
- Appendix outlines skill progression programs for 1, 2 and 3 days per week with physical distancing as a template for programming.
- NOTE: 2019-2020 season insurance coverage expires as of August 31, 2020



STAGE 3

OHF RETURN TO HOCKEY FRAMEWORK

**Beginning September 1, 2020, the OHF including
ALLIANCE Hockey will move to Stage 3b**



STAGE 3

OHF RETURN TO HOCKEY FRAMEWORK



STAGE 3b

Phase 2 Stage 3

- Strict On-Ice Physical Distancing
- Off-Ice Training & Activity
- Limited or Normal Use of Bench
- Registration of Players for the 2020-2021 programming
- Allocation of Player Groups
- Group Training Prep Phase Two Weeks
- Modified Game Play 3 on 3 and 4 on 4 following Group Training Phase

No Physical
Contact

Maximum of 30 for
individual training and
game play

- Registration is based on last year's registered Association.*
- No program offered by MHA eligible to move for a program within PHU.
- 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.
- Leagues are Ontario Health Maximum of 50 (July 27) and based on the PHU.

Limited Public
Health Unit

STAGE 3c

Phase 2 Stage 3

- Group Training/Practices with Physical Distancing
- Game Play 3 v 3 or 4 v 4, with No Physical Contact

No Physical
Contact

Maximum of 40 for
individual training and
game play

- Registration is based on last year's registered Association.*
- No program offered by MHA eligible to move for a program within PHU.
- 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.
- Leagues are Ontario Health Maximum of 50 (July 27) and based on the PHU.

Limited Public
Health Unit



STAGE 3

OHF RETURN TO HOCKEY FRAMEWORK

STAGE 3d	Phase 2 Stage 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Group Training/Practices with Physical DistancingGame Play 3 v 3, 4 v 4, 5 v 5, with No Physical Contact	No Physical Contact	Maximum of 40 for individual training and game play	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Registration is based on last year's registered Association.*No program offered by MHA eligible to move for a program within PHU.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.Leagues are Ontario Health Maximum of 50 (July 27) and based on the PHU.	Limited Adjacent Public Health Units
STAGE 3e	Phase 2 Stage 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Group Training/Practices with Physical DistancingGame Play 3 v 3, 4 v 4, 5 v 5, with No Physical Contact	No Physical Contact	Maximum of 40 for individual training and game play	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Registration is based on last year's registered Association.*No program offered by MHA eligible to move for a program within PHU.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.Leagues are Ontario Health Maximum of 50 (July 27) and based on the PHU.	Expanded Local Health Integrated Network



STAGE 3

OHF RETURN TO HOCKEY FRAMEWORK



STAGE 4 Return to Regular Competition	Phase 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• No On-Ice Physical Distancing• Regular Practice• Off-ice Training & Activity• Standard Competition• May be Normal Use of Bench	Contact Allowed	Regular Team Sizes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rules TBD• MHA/Leagues/Teams• Regular Game Play	Expanded Tournament Year end events
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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.

** Players that played the 2019-2020 seasoning 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.*

¥ 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.

The New
NORMAL



ACHIEVING TOGETHER



DIRECTION



ALLIANCE HOCKEY RETURN TO HOCKEY PLAN V2.0

INSURANCE

- Under Hockey Canada's current General Liability policy, there is a specific definition for the term 'bodily injury' and that definition includes sickness and disease. Many insurance companies are implementing Communicable Disease/COVID-19 exclusions on policies, but **Hockey Canada has successfully negotiated to leave that exclusion off until September 1, 2023 at the earliest.**
- As with all claim scenarios, the insurance company would investigate all claims presented against any Member of Hockey Canada that falls within the 'bodily injury' definition and would confirm coverage based on the framing of the allegations.
- Remember that insurance is only one part of the risk-management process. It is important that we all pay special attention to preventing COVID-19 in the hockey environment.
- <<[Hamilton Spectator Article 7.29.2020](#)>>
- <<[KW Record Article, 8.4.2020](#)>>



ALLIANCE HOCKEY RETURN TO HOCKEY PLAN V2.0

REGISTRATION

- Associations may gather fees for the 2020-2021 season over 2-month increments, *i.e. September 1, 2020 through October 31, 2020*
- Participants registering as of September 1st and beyond, will have full Hockey Canada insurance coverage for the entire 2020-2021 season
- Some families may not be prepared/ready to register so this flexible registration allows for families to register when they are ready
- Rationale for these increments is based upon the monthly announcements to be provided by the Ontario Government and to allow for programming adjustments, etc.



ALLIANCE HOCKEY RETURN TO HOCKEY PLAN V2.0

ROSTERS

- "Team" = 9 + 1 players. A suggested unit for practice and game play.
- "Cohort" = 2 'Teams' from same tier, creating a (suggested) 20+2 group on-ice (perhaps that would *normally* be a full-sized team in other seasons). Cohort would share ice for practice purposes for ice cost efficiency. 4-5 others on ice for coaching and/or officiating.
- "League" is the group of Teams for game play, subject to the Stage 3x restrictions from OHF Return to Play document

Notes:

- Zones and Minor Hockey Associations may opt to work together to form cohorts and leagues to provide variety of competition.
- Regional Vice Presidents and Structure to work with Regions to create leagues.



ALLIANCE HOCKEY RETURN TO HOCKEY PLAN V2.0

PROGRAMMING

- Skills, drills, fun games <<[KMHA baseball drill](#)>>
- [Alternative Skills Instruction](#)
- 3 on 3, 4 on 4, variations of competition
- example diagrams



ALLIANCE HOCKEY RETURN TO HOCKEY PLAN V2.0

NEXT STEPS

- Minor Hockey Association's are required to submit their RTP proposals to tpauli@alliancehockey.com for approval (if not already completed)
- Minor Hockey Associations to continue to work closely with their Facilities
- MHA's and ALLIANCE Hockey to determine how many ice-times are required for various levels of tiered hockey i.e. Tier 1 = 2 sessions/week, etc.



INSURANCE APPLICATIONS/RTP PLANS

Received to date

Association	Approved	Submitted
Brantford MHA		
Burlington Raiders		
Chatham-Kent Cyclones		
Elgin Middlesex Chiefs		
Hamilton Huskies		
Kitchener MHA		
Lambton Jr Sting		
London Jr Knights		
Sarnia HA		
Windsor AAA Zone		



FACILITY SURVEY RESULTS (*RELEASED JULY 28, 2020*)

▪ Received to date

BCHL
Brantford Minor Hockey
Cambridge MHA
Chatham-Kent AAA Cyclones
Elgin Middlesex Chiefs
Greater Fort Erie Minor Hockey Association
Hamilton Huskies Hockey Club
Hamilton Minor Hockey Association
Kitchener Minor Hockey Association
Lambton Jr Sting

London Rep Hockey O/A London Jr Knights
North London Nationals
Oakridge Aeros Hockey Association
Sarnia Hockey Association
Stratford Minor Hockey
Stratford Rotary Hockey
West London
Woodstock Minor Hockey
Windsor AAA Zone



The New
NORMAL



ACHIEVING TOGETHER



QUESTIONS



QUESTIONS

A team member(s) tests positive for COVID during the season and the team requires a 14-day isolation as per their local PHU.

Q: What happens to the schedule (if there is one)?...are the games made up later or are they lost?

Q: What happens if the positive tests continue and require an additional 14 days of isolation? (i.e. a team cannot play any games for approximately 28 days)



QUESTIONS - REGISTRATION

Q: Is it an option for a participant to register for the season or just for the first two months?

Q: Is there an ALLIANCE/OHF policy for COVID refunds?

Q: Can a player who didn't play for our MHA last year register for our MHA this year or do they have to return to the team they played with last year?

Q: If a player moves into our MHA area, can they register with our MHA (they did not play with us last year)?

Q: If a player has an F1 from an OMHA MHA can we register them to our roster?

Q: If a player participates with a AAA tournament team for non sanctioned/private fall hockey, can they also play with our MHA?

Q: What happens to Year 1 IP registrants? Are they able to register for the coming year?

Q: As there will not be any tryouts in September, are associations able to start programming for all categories (ice time dependent) immediately / September 8th?



QUESTIONS – REGISTRATION

Q: We had Novice MD (2012) aged players playing up with (2011) aged players last season who want to move up again, what is the process - will it be the same as usual i.e. provide a request to play up

Q: We have not yet selected our MD coaches, should we be selecting them now or hold off a bit longer?

Q: Regarding Coaching Clinics, will there be any and if so, how will they be operated?

Q: What is the process if a MHA or Zone is still in Stage 2?

Q: Can we AP a player who was not an AP player last year?



QUESTIONS – REGISTRATION

Q: Will there be U10 (minor atom) AAA, AA/A? If yes, how are those teams selected?

Q: We have participants already registered with us who played in a non-sanctioned League last season (i.e. Red Circle, Cobras, etc.), do those kids have to return to where they played last season?

-Are we restricted to just last years players or can we accept anyone who wants to play with us?

Particularly first-timers, but potentially anyone from a rep team who no longer wants to play that level.

Q: Minor Midget and Midget kids do not want to practice; can they join if/when games start?

Q: If we put a coach in place to coach this season's U16 team and he is not from here, can he still coach? (His son was on the team last season as an NRP player?)

-We have selected a zone coach for our Minor Bantam (U13) age A/AA team. His son did not play with us last season as an NRP player. Can he register with us and participate with a Passport, if needed?



QUESTIONS – STAGE 3C

Q: For MHA's who don't have any other ALLIANCE MHA's within their PHU, may competition be set up with an adjacent PHU?

Q: Can ALLIANCE Associations work together to register and tier players within their PHU to provide some options for competition?

i.e. HPL & Stratford MHA / Sun County & Windsor / Lambton & Sarnia HA

Q: Will we use game sheets for our "games"?

Q: Will rules for modified games (3v3, 4v4) be provided?

Q: Will standard Minor Hockey penalties and suspensions still apply?

Q: Can we play 5v5 hockey/scrimmages if we are able to comply with Public Health Unit rules?



QUESTIONS – STAGE 3D/E

Q: Can we hold tryouts in November or December (if there are no COVID setbacks) for a January-April season?

Q: Will suggestions for structure/league if/when the limit of 50 per league is increased by the province be considered?



QUESTIONS – U₁₈ (MIDGET)

Q: Will ALLIANCE still have open borders for U18 hockey?

Q: Can players register with a MHA that they didn't play for last season if their MHA does not have a U18 team? If so, when?

Q: How will it work for registering team from previous year? With U16 kids we could have too many players. Can we roster 3 teams of 10 for a cohort of 30 or 4 teams of 10 for 40?

Q: Are we able to register players to U18 before Aug 23rd now that registration is open and there are no tryouts?

If Jr C and Junior B don't run programs, we may have many more players interested in U18 hockey this year.

Q: How will we manage this?



QUESTIONS – ZONES

Q: We have players who do not join Zone AAA for various reasons. Can we allow these 'Tier 1' players the opportunity to join our organization if they wish to play here now?

Q: If a player is not deemed 'Tier 1' in their Home Centre, but would be considered 'Tier 1' in a Zone, can they join our MHA?

Q: Can a player who played AAA last year for a different Zone/Centre, return and play 'Tier 1' for their Home Centre?

Q: Can zones be granted a registration(tiered on paper tryout) with new participants to line up more with what the Home Centre's can do?



QUESTIONS – ZONES

Q: Can this year's coach choose to not allow a player to register for their cohort if they do not want them on their team this year and send them back to their Home Centre?

Q: How do we fill our cohorts with 20 players if we only had 17 players last year? Can affiliated players from last year's team register with us? Can we ask a player considered 'Tier 1' to register?

Q: Are coaches able to fill spots on their roster with players they watched and liked, who played in a feeder centre last season? (i.e. EMC with a player from Ilderton or Mount Brydges).

Q: We had a player's father tell one of our coaches at the end of last season, that his son won't be returning next season, how do we fill that spot?

We also have a goalie not returning due to concussions, need to fill that spot.



QUESTIONS – ZONES

Q: Is billeting allowed to move a player into a different Zone/Centre?

Q: If a player enrolls in a hockey academy in a different Zone/Centre can they be considered 'Tier 1' and play in the new Centre?

- How do you envision the league running with different caliber players?*
- Who selects the players to be in their tiering groups?*
- How many times are the players to be on the ice in a week?*
- Are we only to play against our MHA or are we to play against other MHA in the city which we live?*
- Are we restricted to our 19-20 players and coaches only? What if we have new coaches coming from other MHA?*
- What is the predicted start date of the season?*
- How many players are facilities permitted to have on one pad?*
- Dressing rooms? When and how can they be used?*
- Spectators?*
- Tryouts?*

