



Okotoks Minor Hockey Association

"Practice and play like a champion today!"

Box 1152 Okotoks, AB T1S 1B2
403.710-2213

Date: October 7th 2020

Re: Hockey Alberta RTP update

To our valued membership:

Below is an update to what hockey may look like this year. As we have previously stated, the information from our governing body changes weekly and we received yet another update on Friday with the timing of our hockey program.

As you are all aware, we finished our eval process last night and the cohorts and coaches are being confirmed today. Along with that, we are also discussing the opportunity of when we may be able to get to our teams.

In bullet point, below is the Hockey Alberta timeline:

Exhibition Series play - Oct. 9th to the 22nd

Team Training - Oct. 23rd to Nov. 5th

Tiering play - Nov. 6th to the Christmas break

Modified League play - January 2021

*Dates within this chart are subject to change and may differ slightly by League and Level of Hockey.

* League Play will be scheduled in series ensuring Teams have the 14-day break from Cohort activity.

* Each League will determine the exact start dates of League Series Play, no earlier than the date identified above.

* Leagues will determine the start of Tiering Play for each team, starting no earlier than November 6.

U7 & U9 programs (modified play) to start November 1 to March 31st

As mentioned above, we just finished our cohort selection and our cohort leads/coaches have not had a chance to further evaluate these kids in game-like situations. For that reason, OMHA has decided to stay in our cohorts until the 18th of October where our sole duty will be to provide as much development in these coming weeks as possible. This will also, as a side note, provide the cohort leads/coaches the opportunity to see the kids play and compete so that they can make their team selections accordingly. Look at it as an extended coach skate if you will.

Now that we are in our cohorts, the responsibility of signing in the kids and checking off their COVID questions will be transferred to the managers - coaches if managers are not in place. Again, we cannot stress this enough that this information needs to be recorded and kept for 30 days. Our directors as well as our executive will be doing spot checks to



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make sure this is being done. We ask that our members be patient as this transfer is taking place.

To be ready for the tiering series which starts November 5th, our team selection process will start the week of the 18th. It will go as such but dates are subject to change based on league requirements:

U11, U13, and U15 divisions:

Teams 1 and 2 to be picked **on the 18th**

Teams 3 and 4 to be picked **on the 20th**

U13, U15, U18 female, and U18 Mixed:

Team 1 picked **on the 18th**

Teams 2 and 3 picked **on the 20th**

RHL teams:

Teams to be announced **on the 22nd**

U7 and U9 Programs (Mixed and Female):

Stay in cohorts until further notice

Concerning AHS, and as per Hockey Alberta updates to COVID reporting:

An individual is under no obligation to inform sport organization (OMHA) or other participants, coaches, officials, volunteers, etc.,

- Reason for missing practice or games
- If they are pursuing COVID test
- Or results of COVID test
- We have to respect privacy laws under the Alberta Health Information Act

AHS will conduct all investigations, and individuals are legally obligated to follow all AHS recommendations, and will be handled case by case.

AHS isolation guidelines change so OMHA advises you to refer to AHS website for further information. We cannot stress enough how important it is to make decisions with the association in mind. Our coaches have been told to be lenient when it comes to kids missing because of symptoms. We all need to be flexible and work together to get through this.

Helpful link: <http://www.alberta.ca/covid19>



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We will continue to provide our OMHA members update regarding COVID information as it is relevant to HA Return to Play. **If you have any questions or concerns regarding COVID, please contact Raeanne Tangedal - OMHA COVID point of contact at rtangedal@okotokshockey.com**

Please stay tuned as there will be more updates prior to our team selection or the season starts.

Thank you all for your patience and understanding as we navigate this unprecedented time together.

Regards,

OMHA Executive