

This Travel Policy will be in effect from departure time until arrival time. Reminder, athletes, and team staff are representatives of The Okotoks Oilers Athletic Association "OOAA", including at out-of-town competitions. The OOAA Code of Conduct must be always followed. The following is a list of items that need to be addressed prior to leaving for an out-of-town event.

The team manager or designate is to arrange for appropriate mode of transportation, i.e. Charter Bus, Air or other. Consideration must be given to the distance traveled, the number of players making the trip and their safety and comfort. OOAA requires that teams in the U15-U18 age categories travel via chartered bus or air for any trip over 175km from Centennial Arena. OOAA requires that ALL (U13 to U18) teams travel via chartered bus or air for any trip that crosses the Alberta Border. All team members including – Coaches, Manager, Athletic Therapist, and all players are required to travel on the bus unless otherwise authorized. During large events held in Okotoks Centennial arenas, teams (other than daytime programming teams) can be requested to move their pickup / drop off locations to an alternative site. Given that safety is the number one priority and taking into consideration the information included below in the Travel Policy, a team may make a written request to the President, Designated OOAA Board Representative and Divisional Director, asking permission for the team to not use bus travel. The written request must be done five (5) weeks prior to the intended travel and clearly outline the reasons requesting to not use a bus and how required safety elements will be appropriately addressed. Exceptions will be made for SCAHL playoff tournaments. If the tournament is more than 175KM away, teams will be required to arrange bus transportation but may elect to release the bus after the first game with the approval of the designated OOAA Board representative.

Parents may be allowed to travel on the bus to the extent that room is available, and that the coach has approved. Teams may elect at the coach's discretion not to have parents travel on the bus. In the event of limited seating, one member from each Player's family will have the first option on seating and if additional seating is available, the seats will be made available to other family members on a first come basis. If team travel does not require a bus, athletes still must travel with a qualified parent driver.

Teams must include the OOAA Board designate on their Team Snap, as well provide a list of all away games and a live google spread sheet with persons riding on the bus. This will include players, team staff and parents' names, dates of birth, emergency contact information, known medical issues and medications. Team staff are encouraged to keep a copy of this list as well. Teams must include the OOAA Board Representative as the emergency contact with all applicable bussing companies. Buses that are doing multiple pick up / drop off locations must have a member of the coaching staff over 18 on the bus from the start to the finish of the trip.

Teams are required to report any issues or accidents to the OOAA Board designate immediately when safe to do so. Teams flying to tournaments or games must provide the OOAA Board designate with their flight itinerary and follow all rules for ground transportation.

Games that are less than 175KM can be classed as parent driven games. Coaching and athletic therapy staff are eligible for travels costs over 75km at the Hockey Alberta Travel rate per/km. Players are prohibited from driving to away games. Parents may elect to sign a waiver to allow their son / daughter to drive to select away game locations. Any players injured during the

game will not be allowed to transport themselves home, regardless of a waiver has been signed.

Parents using team transportation must abide by coaches' rules and must control siblings, if included in the trip.

The coach is ultimately responsible for the conduct of his players on the bus.

OOAA recommends all out of town travel be canceled at weather temperatures lower than -35°C.

In the event weather conditions are not favorable and travel is required for a game, the following steps are recommended:

a) The manager, coach and/or designee should check the road report on the AMA web site <http://www.ama.ab.ca/road-reports>;

b) The manager, coach and/ or designee should consult with the bussing company re: recommend or cancel travel plans;

c) If conditions are severe, the OOAA manager and/or coach should contact the opposing team manager and/or coach to determine if the reports are consistent with the weather at the travel location and if the opposing team is in agreement with postponing the game;

d) If both teams are in agreement re: severe travel conditions, the OOAA manager and/or coach should contact the OOAA director to initiate steps to postpone the game;

e) The OOAA manager and/or coach should contact their appropriate League for approval and guidance re: rescheduling the game; and

f) Under no circumstances should an OOAA team fail to show due to inclement weather without the advance notification and/or approval of OOAA and the League. If they do, the team will be liable to find suitable alternate ice and coordinate the provision of on-ice officials. In the event weather conditions are not favorable and travel is required for a practice, the following steps are recommended:

a) The manager, coach and/or designee check the road report on the AMA web site <http://www.ama.ab.ca/road-reports>;

b) If conditions are severe, the OOAA manager and/or coach contact their OOAA director and ice allocator to discuss canceling practice;

c) If a practice is cancelled due to weather, every effort will be made to replace the ice but there are no guarantees the ice will be replaced; and

d) OOAA discourages players driving to out-of-town practices and / or games. Arrangements should be made in advance to have parents/guardians drive players to practice and/or game.