



## QUESTIONS REGARDING STAGE 3 MODIFIED PROGRAMMING



### 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 that will be posted on the OWHA web site and are designed to avoid physical contact between the players.

#### Skill Development Programs

Means programming that complies with physical distancing requirements at all times and cannot include any form of team or game play.

#### Stage 3 Modified Programming

Sanctioned hockey programs in compliance with the requirements of each dated progression operated within the OWHA including modified 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.

#### Team

A team that has been admitted as a Member or renewed as a Member in accordance with OWHA's By-Law.

#### Group

A collection of participants who have been registered on a team in the OWHA registration database and have been put together for development and training purposes.

#### Extended Group

A collective of specific OWHA groups that train within the OWHA requirements and do not exceed the numbers permitted by the Ontario government and PHU's.

## GENERAL QUESTIONS and ANSWERS

1. Do you need to approve our Return to Hockey Plan & Guidelines before we can proceed?  
*We require a completed application with the basic overall plan and a commitment to ensuring compliance with the OWHA requirements that are driven by health and safety before you may go on the ice.*
2. Who decides if 3on3 or 4on4, can run? Is it the Association or the OWHA?  
*Once an OWHA sanctioned 2-week development stage is completed, an association may continue development sessions or may choose to offer either or both 3on3 and 4on4 in accordance with OWHA rules that will be posted by mid September.*
3. Once our plan is approved, we can begin rostering “groups”?  
*You can roster teams now. You can now assign players to Groups and Extended Groups.*
4. Does the group or extended group of 50 participants include staff and officials?  
*The group of 50 participants is 50 players. Staff and officials do not count in the number.*
5. Are coaches and officials part of the Group of 50 or the Extended Group of 50?  
*No coaches and officials are not part of the 50 but must maintain physical distancing at all times. OWHA members can restrict the number of Groups or Extended Groups a coach may participate in.*
6. Will coaches be permitted to coach more than 1 team during the season?  
*There is no OWHA restriction on coaches participating with more than one team as coaches must maintain physical distancing at all times. Coaches must be properly registered.*
7. Who is eligible to participate on the extended group of 50 players who will participate in 3on3, and 4on4 and 5on5 when permitted?  
*This is up to the local OWHA association and may be structured as determined by the association(s) involved. In other words, the practice group of 50 may be different than the extended group of 50. All participants must be registered, and players may only participate in 1 Group and 1 Extended Group.*
8. Our organization is small. We have between 10-20 players registered in each division/age group currently. We are in talks with other local organizations to create groups/extended groups of 50 and tier the groups. Our plan is to run our 2-week skills sessions per age group. Can we do this knowing that when we begin 3on3/4on4 play? The division/age groups will be divided into 2 teams to be entered into DIFFERENT groups (because of the tiering)?  
*Players may participate in skills session within the numbers allowed. These players must stay in their own Group that cannot exceed 50 players. Each player may then only participate in 1 Extended Group of no more than 50 players. This Extended Group may consist of different players than the training Group.*

9. Will standard OWHA penalties and suspensions still apply?  
*Yes. Any questions on discipline and outstanding suspension should be directed to [discipline@owha.on.ca](mailto:discipline@owha.on.ca)*
10. Are tournaments and/or league play allowed?  
*Not at this time.*
11. Can our Group participate in an overnight team-building session?  
*No.*
12. When are OWHA teams and players able to participate in non-sanctioned hockey?  
*They are NOT able to participate in non-sanctioned hockey at any time.*
13. Our Association would like to provide specialty skills to our players. What do you recommend?  
*We recommend selecting people you feel have the qualifications and values to support the players and register these people with your association in the same manner you register any on-ice staff person. This would become part of the sanctioned hockey program. When programs are delivered, all participants involved in each session must be properly registered.*
14. Many girls go to outside skills sessions held by 3rd party instructors that will definitely have a different group of kids (boys and girls) than the participant's OWHA Group. I presume you are not suggesting OWHA is restricting kids within the OWHA from attending 3rd-party skills school/sessions.  
*Health and safety guidelines clearly limit the size of social gatherings and are designed to keep various groups of people within their groups. In hockey, participation is limited to only 1 of the sanctioned hockey associations in the province of Ontario and from there, players are confined to only 1 Group and 1 Extended Group. OWHA supports these health and safety measures and recommends that any specialized development sessions are conducted within the OWHA member association/team.*
15. There is a private facility in our community with absolutely no affiliation with our association that is offering 3on3 leagues beginning in October. The question was asked if players could participate in that private league at the same time as being registered with our association and the OWHA?  
*OWHA programming is in place now and OWHA members are working hard in providing safe and positive programs for participants. We urge all players and staff to participate only in sanctioned programs. OWHA members may operate development programs and may register and secure support from individuals they feel offer positive training experiences for the players. Through this process, activities may be sanctioned with benefits of membership, including Hockey Canada insurance coverage, would be in place. There is no benefit of membership, nor Hockey Canada insurance coverage in place for non-sanctioned activities.*

16. It was mentioned that players will be allowed to use the dressing rooms and benches as long as physical distancing measures are in place. Can you clarify that this is the case? *Some facilities are permitting the use of dressing rooms. Anyone using these rooms must abide by the facility and OWHA requirements that included social distancing and monitoring by screened and registered association staff. In many cases, all participants will not fit safely into a dressing room at one time. Social distancing must also be in place on benches and in other areas of the facility. Associations are encouraged to communicate with facility staff regarding requirements, develop a plan and communicate the plan to participants prior to going to the facility.*
17. Are spectators allowed?  
*Please refer to the OWHA Return to Hockey Framework and consult your local PHU's and facilities who will determine these restrictions.*
18. Are referees and linespersons counted as part of a Group or Extended Group? Are they restricted to 1 Group, 1 Extended Group or the OWHA or are they permitted to participate with another Hockey Canada sanctioned organization in Ontario?  
*Officials are not included in the Group or Extended Group of 50. They may also participate with other Hockey Canada sanctioned organizations in Ontario.*
19. Are OWHA members and participants covered by Hockey Canada insurance?  
*Coverage is place when properly registered with OWHA and following all OWHA requirements that include but are not limited to participation in OWHA sanctioned activities only. Please follow the link for information: <https://www.hockeycanada.ca/en-ca/hockey-programs/safety/essentials/insurance>*
20. How do we obtain Certificate of Insurance for the upcoming new season?  
*You would apply through the link on the OWHA web site and include the Terms and Conditions. You would also complete the OWHA Return to Hockey Application and submit it to [applications@owha.on.ca](mailto:applications@owha.on.ca)*
21. We have some coaches whose certifications will run out this season and there are no courses listed on the OWHA website. Are expired certifications being extended for this season?  
*Details on coach certification requirements will be posted on the OWHA web site.*
22. Are we limited to teams of 10 players?  
*No. Teams should be assigned and registered as in previous years. Based on the current situation with Covid-19, once team rosters are approved by OWHA, the association may assign players to Groups and Extended Groups in accordance with OWHA Return to Hockey documents.*

23. Are there limits to number of Team Officials on the bench during games in order to maintain physical distancing?

*A minimum of two (2) Team Officials must be on the bench and there is a maximum of five (5) Team Officials if the facility design allows for physical distancing of all staff. There must be a certified trainer on the bench or in a position to render immediate assistance if required.*

24. Can we run 2 fundamentals groups and put each group on the ice every other week? This would solve our limited ice problem and allow us to not turn anyone away, but it wouldn't necessarily follow the fundamentals ice programming? If so, can the same coach run both groups.

*Yes.*

## REGISTRATION QUESTIONS and ANSWERS

1. Are tryouts permitted?  
*On-ice tryouts are not permitted at this time and if they do occur, it would be within an association as it is not within health and safety for players to be attending multiple tryouts. You may use your development sessions to assist with assessing the individual skills of players.*
2. Are players who are moving to a new OWHA organization from a previous OWHA organization able to skate with their new organization September 1st, 2020 for the 2 week development period and modified structure post Development?  
*Players may only participate when they are registered with an association/team for the 2020/2021 hockey season. Players moving from one OWHA association/team to another OWHA association/team require a release.*
3. Do all House League players have to be rostered to a team to begin development on September 1? Or is the completion of the intent to register and the release from their old OWHA organization sufficient to allow a new player on the ice with their new OWHA organization?  
*After August 31<sup>st</sup>, all participants must be registered for the 2020/2021 hockey season before they participate in any sanctioned activities. All participants must be registered, review and sign the mandatory waivers on RAMP, online registration platform, with their respective associations to participate in the development sessions. After the development period, all players must be assigned to an OWHA approved team roster and once signed, these players may participate in Groups and Extended Groups as assigned.*
4. Will players that played on a boys/coed team (Alliance, HEO, HNO, GTHL, NOHA, OHA, OHL, OMHA) last season, be allowed to register with an OWHA organization this season?  
*Yes. Players may only participate in one association.*
5. Is there a limit to the number of players that can be on the Administrative Roster?  
*Yes. Under 8 to Under 22 divisions, the maximum number of players is 19, 17 players and 2 goalies. Senior and Masters divisions are allowed 20 players, 18 players and 2 goalies. The roster is designed to be a transition into participation as a hockey team if team play resumes. We encourage associations to do their best to register players to a team that would be suitable for them to play with, should team play resume.*
6. We are planning training groups of 24 and would like to know how this would fit with the Administrative Roster?  
*Players should be rostered to a team that meets age requirements and best suits their level of player with the maximum number of players allowed in each division. The Group and Extended Group may include players from different rosters.*
7. When should the Rosters be submitted?  
*At any time.*
8. What will be the OWHA turn around time for approving the Rosters?  
*The processing times of various approvals are as follows: Please allow enough time to process. Approval of ITRs – 5-7 days. Approval of Rosters – 5-7 days.*

9. In the past players were able to play up one age category when deemed appropriate by an organization. Will this still be allowed based on the return to hockey document  
*OWHA age categories are based on the oldest player on a team. Associations may assign players to teams as they deem appropriate. Players aged 8 and under require approval to play at an older age level. Requests are to be sent to [registrar@owha.on.ca](mailto:registrar@owha.on.ca)*
10. Can a player switch to a different organization from last season if it still remains in the same PHU?  
*A player may play where she chooses as long as she has a release from her previous association and there are no restrictions from the PHU.*
11. Under Stage 3 Guidance for members, parents, and associations it states:  
When tryouts are permitted, there will be a process to adjust the administrative team rosters. I am under the impression that we should submit ITRs for Rep teams and add 18-20 players to those and then sort of sub-divide them into smaller groups? Can you clarify?  
*The roster is designed to be a transition into participation as a hockey team if team play resumes. We encourage associations to do their best to register players to a team that would be suitable for them to play with, should team play resume.*
12. If a girl registers with the boys and later in the year we are able to make competitive teams (OWHA) will she be allowed to transfer to the OWHA.  
*No.*

## OWHA ONLINE REGISTRATION / RAMP QUESTIONS and ANSWERS

1. Who needs to register on RAMP?

*All participants, Players, Staff, and Executives MUST register using the registration link provided by the association. There are mandatory waivers that must be reviewed and signed by ALL players, parents/guardians, staff and executives. Parents cannot sign for their daughters, as we will do random checks on each roster to ensure that the players have signed. Without these signatures, the rosters WILL NOT BE APPROVED.*

2. How do I log into RAMP?

*Your association will provide you with the link. You must create an account then create profiles for your family members to register.*

3. Why do I need to create a new account?

*The previous registration platform, Ivnet and RAMP do not communicate. If you have previous registration history, the system will search for matching profile from the data imported from Ivnet and merge the profiles.*

4. How does the transfer process work? Do I need to ask for a release?

*When a player registers with an association different from the association where she was last registered, it will automatically trigger a transfer process. The 'Origin' and 'Destination' associations will receive a notification of this registration and request. The registration of this player will be 'Inactive' until the 'Origin' association then the 'Destination' associations approve. There is no need to 'release' a player from the backend. The associations have the option to deny if there are any outstanding unresolved issues.*

5. Is staff registration on RAMP mandatory?

*Yes, all staff must complete the required certification information as well as reviewing and signing all the mandatory waivers. Associations must verify that all registered staff members are qualified and have VSS/CRC.*

6. What is the process to roster players to teams?

*The registration process has not changed. Association Registrars must create Intent to Register (ITR) for all the teams they intend to have in 20-21 season. Once the ITRs have been approved, players and staff can be added to a specific team.*