



# RETURN TO PLAY FRAMEWORK – ADDENDUM

PHASE 2 - STAGE 3 | MODIFIED PROGRAMMING

Version 2 – 10.26.2020



**This document serves as an Addendum to the OHF Return to Play Framework document and Hockey Canada Safety Guidelines document. This was developed to provide programming and protocols specific to the Ontario Minor Hockey Association (OMHA) within OHF Stage 3.**

**Throughout this process, we will continue to ensure all return to play puts the safety of our participants first and foremost.**

## **OHF Return to Play (RTP) Framework**

The OHF RTP Framework document provides the foundation for hockey programming across the OHF. This document details multiple stages within Stage 3. Transition through these stages will be based on the direction of the Government of Ontario and in consultation with Public Health Units (PHU).

The OHF has developed multiple levels within Stage 3 as the Ontario Government Stage 3 will continue to modify over time.

- **Stage 3a - Return to Ice Continued August 15 to August 31**  
OMHA approved Programming in Geographic Area that is in Ontario Government Stage 3  
NOTE: 2019-2020 season insurance coverage expires as of August 31, 2020
- **Stage 3b - Return to Practice and Play - Registration for 2020-2021 - September 1 onward**  
Member Approved Programming in Geographic Area that is in Ontario Government Stage 3

## **OMHA Association Return to Play Programming Plans**

Using the [OHF Return to Play Plan and Protocols checklist](#), Associations (MHAs) are required to draft and submit their **Return to Play Programming Plan to their respective Regional Director for review and approval**. The Plan must include the declaration of cohort/bubbles for all teams.

Once approved, Associations can [submit a request for a Certificate of Insurance](#) for the 2020-21 season.

## **Safety Protocols**

Associations are required to follow the protocols identified in the [Hockey Canada Safety Guidelines](#). In addition, **ALL** participants, including players, coaches, instructors, [must complete a health](#)

screening prior to each participation in an on-ice activity. The health screening may be completed verbally.

In addition, a Tracking Sheet must be completed for each on-ice session to facilitate Contact Tracing in the event of a COVID-19 exposure.

### **Registration**

Player Registration may continue with payment effective immediately for Association programming for the 2020-21 season. Player Registration includes Hockey Canada Insurance coverage.

### **Cohort/Bubble**

Players are to be grouped to a maximum of 50 or less depending on the PHU. The OHF will review the maximum number permitted upon amendments by the Ontario Government. The number of 50 refers to players only. Bench Staff are not included in this cohort/bubble.

### **Rostering**

Teams will be rostered to a maximum of 9 players + 1 goalie.

In unique circumstances where Association Registration numbers may dictate, Rosters above this number will be considered, only with the approval of the Regional Director. In such cases, there is no change to the maximum number of players permitted in any bubble/cohort. (See Information Bulletin #: 201027-007-I)

Five (5) Team Officials can be rostered to each team, however, one Coach and one Trainer can be on the bench during 3v3 & 4v4 games in order to maintain physical distancing on bench.

All Team Entries will carry a fee of \$25.00\*

### **Representative Hockey**

During Stage 3, there will no Traditional Representative Hockey Leagues and no Team Tryouts.

### **Programming Models -**

Programming can be internal to an association or joint programming:

1. Internal Programming – Play within MHA; Tier players according to skill level to create cohort/bubble
2. Joint Programming –
  - a. Two (or more) small MHAs (same PHU) partner to provide programming due to small numbers (mixed)
  - b. Two (or more) MHAs (same PHU) partner to play against each other – tiered/similar skills level

### **AAA Zones**

Some PHUs have more than one AAA Zone; some only have one AAA Zone

1. Internal Programming – Play with AAA Zone to create cohort/bubble
2. Joint Programming –
  - a. AAA Zone partners with Feeder MHA (same PHU) partner to provide programming
  - b. Two (or more) AAA Zones (same PHU) partner to play against each other and create their cohort/bubble

### **Game Play**

Following a minimum two-week development phase for any new programs, modified 3 on 3 or 4 on 4 game play with No Physical Contact hockey may begin.

All Game Play is within local Public Health Unit.

All Game Play must be conducted in conjunction with the local PHU and facility rules for the purpose of sanitation and physical distancing.

Suggested programming structures are located in Appendix E and Game Rules are located in Appendix F.

### **Player Movement**

As stipulated in the OHF RTP Framework, Players can stay where they were rostered in 2019-20 or return to their home association.

#### **AAA**

Players can stay where they were rostered in 2019-20 or return to their home association. There will be no OHF AAA Waivers available in Stage 3.

#### **Non Resident Players (NRP)**

Players can stay where they were rostered in 2019-20 or return to their home association. There will be no new NRP player movement in 2020-21.

#### **Players who moved Associations via Regulation 3.5**

Players can stay where they were rostered in 2019-20 or return to their home association. This would not be considered as counting toward the two (2) seasons as defined in Policy 4.1.b).

#### **House League**

Players can stay where they were rostered in 2019-20 or return to their home association.

#### **New Players**

MHAs need to have a plan for a player who has moved in or player who did not participate last year and put them in appropriate level

#### **LOR**

Players in the LOR that were imports in 2019-2020 have the option to stay with the Association they were registered with for 2019-2020 or return to their home association.

For 2019-2020, imports in the GTHL at U13 and above in 2019-2020 may stay in the GTHL and register with any team in the GTHL or return to their home association for 2020-2021.

### **Team Officials & Qualification Requirements**

Revised qualification requirements for this year per Hockey Canada and the OHF are to be confirmed.