



Updated September 30, 2020

Caledon Minor Hockey Association Members:

Following approval of our Return to Play Plan by the OMHA on September 18, 2020 and subsequent securing of our insurance and ice time, and following the policies and procedures outlined in our prior communications, CMHA returned to action on September 26, 2020. By October 4, 2020, all players will have had the opportunity to hit the ice. We appreciate your patience as we execute our plan.

CMHA will be offering Tiered programming this season. To be clear, at this time there is NO Representative Hockey or Houseleague Hockey. There is JUST HOCKEY. In saying that, Tiers will be largely based on the 2019-2020 rosters (i.e. Tier 1 is taken from the 2019-2020 REP rosters and Tier 2 is taken from the 2019-2020 RS and HL rosters). There will be multiple groups in each Tier. There are a few terms you need to familiarize yourself with:

Tier – This denotes a level of hockey for organizational purposes; We have Tier 1 and Tier 2

Bubble – This is a group of players who can practice, train, develop and play together on the ice. A bubble includes team coaches and staff. A bubble may not exceed 50 persons, thus there may be more than one bubble in a Tier.

Group – This is a sub-division of a Bubble. There will be more than one group under each Bubble (i.e. Group A, Group B, Group C). This division is made so we can reduce the number of players on the ice at one time and again, will largely be based on the 2019-2020 rosters.

Team – This term is for when game play scenarios are approved. Each Bubble will be divided into teams that will play against each other. The maximum number of skates on any team is 9 skaters and 1 goalie. These are the teams that will be entered into the Hockey Canada database. All players, regardless of Tier will be entered onto a Team Roster.

Thus, this season, you will need to be aware of what Tier your player is on, what Bubble your player is in, what Group your player is in and finally what Team your player is on in order to navigate the scheduling. Trust me, it is not as complicated as it seems once we get going.

There will be many questions I am sure about where a player is to be and there will be some allowance for player movement, but this will occur over the next couple of weeks and may be more limited in some age groups than others, simply based on our registration numbers. We will also be doing informal evaluations to try and make sure our players are practicing and playing at the appropriate levels and we will communicate with parents and players if we feel changes may be warranted or beneficial to the player. Again, our numbers will dictate what we can do. Please



be patient and if you have specific questions, please contact me directly as the coaches are taking their direction on this from myself and the executive.

For the first few weeks, ice is only being allocated to us one week at a time and rest assured we will get the schedule up and out as soon as possible so you have as much notice as possible. We expect by mid to late October that we will have a consistent schedule for the remainder of the season.

Other points to note are that Tier 1 will be offered the opportunity to participate in 3rd party development sessions (additional cost will apply) and that we will be also introducing 3rd party development into our Tier 2 programming.

Information and updates are being provided to us on a near daily basis and things are changing constantly. It is imperative that you continue to check your email and voicemail frequently and ensure we have the correction contact information on file. You should also monitor our website for updates and our social media channels.

The remainder of this document provides the most up to date protocols, procedures and policies for our Return to Play. It is MANDATORY that you read and understand this document as if you are at the arena and your player is on the ice, it is EXPECTED that you have read and understand these as all MEMBERS will be held to the HIGHEST STANDARD to ensure we can continue our hockey season.

REMINDER: The deadline to register/pay and be guaranteed placement in a Tier and/or Bubble is October 4, 2020. Following that, a waiting list may apply.

Should there be any questions, please contact me directly or reach out to a member of the CMHA Executive.

Sincerely,

Richard Archer
VP Rep, CMHA



CMHA – RETURN TO PLAY PROTOCOLS/POLICIES/PROCEDURES

KEY POINTS

- 1) The health and safety of our players, parents, officials and volunteers is the top priority of the CMHA and accordingly, we will operate in full compliance and within the guidelines put forth by the Ministry of Health, Ontario Hockey Federation, Ontario Minor Hockey Association, Town of Caledon and Region of Peel Health Authorities.
- 2) While the OHF and OMHA have created a framework for return to hockey, the Region of Peel and Town of Caledon will determine what policies and procedures are followed in our facilities.
- 3) The CMHA mandate during this period is to make every effort to ensure that any player wanting to play hockey in Caledon this season, is afforded that opportunity to play in Caledon (subject to the residential boundaries and rules and regulations put forth by the OHF and OMHA).
- 4) **Traditional Representative and Houseleague programming is not offered this season (i.e. there are no try-outs at this time). In their place, CMHA will be offering a tiered hockey program.**
- 5) The number of Tiers/Bubbles/Groups/Teams will be dependent on the number of registrants, available ice time, and the health and safety protocols put forth by the Ministry of Health, Hockey Governing Bodies and Town of Caledon. These numbers will be set by the CMHA Executive with input from our coaches.
- 6) Tiering of players will be significantly based on the 2019-2020 season rosters. There will be some allowance for player movement as the policies and procedures will permit, but movement may not be possible in all age categories.
- 7) The maximum number of players allowed in a single hockey 'Bubble' is 50. Our Bubbles may contain less players.
- 8) The maximum number of players allowed on the ice surface by OHF regulation and Town of Caledon Policy is currently 30. This includes coaches and officials.
- 9) The **OVERWHELMING FOCUS** of the CMHA hockey program this year will be on **PLAYER DEVELOPMENT**. 5 on 5 Gameplay is not being offered. Rep Hockey is not being offered. There are no AA, A, AE, MD teams, although we will make every effort to have players skating and practicing with other players at the appropriate skill levels.
- 10) The Program is subject to change as the pandemic situation evolves.
- 11) **It will take everyone's cooperation to make this program a success and keep us on the ice!**



PROGRAM DETAILS

PLAYER/COACH GROUPINGS

- 1) **The deadline to register and be guaranteed placement in a Tier and/or Bubble is October 4, 2020. Following that, a waiting list may apply.**
- 2) Players will be placed in 'Tiers' based significantly on the 2019-2020 rosters. Tier 1 will be based on the REP rosters from last year and Tier 2 will be based on the RS and HL rosters from last year. In some cases, age groups (i.e. Major and Minor) may be combined in a Tier.
- 3) Within a Tier, players will be placed in a hockey 'Bubble' which will not exceed 50 players. Players within that bubble will be permitted to practice, play, train, and attend development sessions together within the CMHA program. Players will not be permitted to skate with players from other bubbles. **As per OHF and OMHA guidelines, if a player is rostered with CMHA (i.e. a Hockey Canada sanctioned program) they are not permitted to be rostered in a Non-Sanctioned (i.e. outside tournament team) league or association after September 30, 2020 (please consult the documented on Sanctioned vs. Unsanctioned Hockey for details).**
- 4) When possible, coaches will only operate within a Tier/Bubble where the majority of their age group players are placed. However, coaches and other on-ice volunteers are permitted to be rostered on two teams based on current guidelines so when required, could participate in 2 Bubbles. CMHA will be seeking the help of additional coaches and volunteers as needed.

PROGRAM OFFERINGS

All Return to Play will follow the OHF Return to Hockey Framework (Please consult this document available online for details). **We are currently in Phase 3B of the return to play framework.** Game Play scenarios are not permitted in this phase. **Game Play scenarios are permitted in Phase 3C.** It is unknown when we will be approved to move into Phase 3C. OMHA rosters (to be used for when game play scenarios are permitted) this season will be comprised of a MAXIMUM of 9 skaters and 1 goaltender.

The following is an outline of our plan:

- 1) All Tiers will receive a minimum of 2 ice slots (60 minutes per slot) per week. This will be covered in your CMHA registration fee.
- 2) All players will receive a practice jersey and socks. Rep jerseys are not being used at this time.



- 3) The first 2-3 weeks of the Return to Play Plan will encompass 'Development/Informal Evaluation Skates' meant to get the kids back on to the ice and skating and to learn how to physical distance on the ice. We expect to group the kids by age for these skates. All kids will hit the ice before October 4, 2020. If you are not contacted by that time, please contact me directly.
- 4) Our goal is to have practices with no more than 20 players (we will attempt for even less but this will be determined by the amount of ice available) on the ice to ensure effective training, high repetition and limit time standing around on the ice.
- 5) Practices will be run by the coaching staff selected for that Bubble.
- 6) Prior to game play being permitted (i.e. Phase 3C), both weekly sessions will be practice/development.
- 7) Once game play is permitted, the players inside a Bubble will play on their respective 9 + 1 person teams within their Bubble (i.e. a Bubble of 40 kids would have 4-6 teams and would play each other much like an intramural league). At this juncture play outside of the Bubble is not permitted.
- 8) Game formats and rules are outlined in the OHF Return to Hockey Framework (2 x 22-minute periods etc.). This will be communicated in detail prior to any game play.
- 9) As things progress, play between Bubbles and against adjacent centres and centres within our health unit may be possible. We will provide updates if and when this occurs.
- 10) The number of games and practices will be determined once we have our final registration numbers and ice time allocations finalized from the Town of Caledon.
- 11) The U5 and U7 (formerly Hockey School and Initiation Programs) will continue to follow the Hockey Canada Guidelines for those age brackets.
- 12) The U8 and U9 (formerly Tyke/Novice) will continue to follow the Hockey Canada guidelines for those age brackets (i.e. Cross Ice Hockey, Blue Pucks etc.).
- 13) If we are permitted to return to 5 v 5 hockey in the traditional sense, we will communicate with our members regarding the resumption of try-outs etc. at the appropriate time.



HEALTH & SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS

As noted, the health and safety of our players, coaches, officials, volunteers and members is our primary concern. Please review the following prior to attending any CMHA sanctioned events.

Self-Assessment

Each member should be self-assessing on a daily basis (parents should be screening their players at home using the OHF Health Screening Questionnaire) and if there is presence of symptoms of illness or COVID-19 or signs of any illness, however arbitrary they may be, appropriate precautions (i.e. self-isolation and/or quarantine) should be taken and the player should not attend. In the event that illness is detected at the arena, the player will be removed and will be unable to return until a negative COVID test is produced or the illness has resolved as per medical advice. Doctor's notes will be required for return to play after illness.

At no time, should you attend a CMHA event or facility if you are feeling unwell. Doing so can place the entire team/bubble/program at risk.

Arrival at Arenas

Please do not arrive at an arena any more than 15 minutes prior to your start time. Upon arrival, please line up at the appropriately marked entrance and practice physical distancing until an employee lets you in to the arena. You will then undergo screening. Screening may be done by a Town of Caledon Employee or a CMHA Team Member (executive or coach). You will have to provide your name and contact information and sanitize your hands. Masks are required at all times (players and parents). Players are to arrive dressed in all gear except helmets, gloves and skates which can be put on inside the arena.

Screening

Each participant/member wishing to enter a CMHA event (Town of Caledon facility) will undergo screening by a Town of Caledon employee and/or a CMHA member. Screening will include completing a COVID-19 health questionnaire (verbally or in writing), hand sanitizing and providing contact information and signing in on the OMHA/Town of Caledon sign in form. No exceptions will be made. If required by the Region of Peel, temperature may also be taken and recorded.



Face Masks

A face covering that securely covers the mouth, nose and chin is required inside all Town of Caledon facilities at all times. **No exceptions.** Players may remove their masks to put on their helmets and while on the ice but must replace them as soon as they exit the ice and remove their helmets. Parents/Spectators, your masks must remain on for the duration that you are inside the building.

Spectators/Parents

At this time (i.e. as of September 30, 2020), the Town of Caledon is permitting one spectator/parent per child inside the facility (subject to building occupancy limits). This parent/spectator may assist in tying skates and getting player onto ice and then is to find a spot to watch in a designated area. **DO NOT ENTER AREAS THAT ARE MARKED AS DO NOT ENTER.** Please obey all signage and arrows etc. When in the arena, if you are in a sitting area, space yourselves apart by at least 2 chairs. If at ice level, space yourselves apart by 1 or 2 panes of glass. Do not congregate in groups.

THERE ARE NO IN AND OUT PRIVILEGES. Once you are in you are in. If you exit the building, you will not be permitted back in until the ice time is over.

At this time, siblings and family members are not permitted in the arena. In cases where there are no other options, please discuss with the arena staff or Town of Caledon staff if an exception can be made. CMHA is not permitting siblings or other family members. If an exception is made, the sibling/family member is to be at your side at all times and must also be wearing a mask.

NOTE: These policies will be strictly enforced. At the arena, you will be given a single warning. If at subsequent times the same people are found in contravention again, you will be asked to leave the premises. Following that, if further contraventions are noted, your privileges to attend may be revoked entirely. We cannot risk possible contamination of the facilities, illness or ministry inspection related contraventions. This would result in shut down of our entire program and loss of hockey. **WE EXPECT YOUR COOPERATION.**

Please only enter and exit where intended and do not prop open any doors (i.e. for smoke breaks) as this allows humidity into the arena and destroys the ice surface.



Facilities

At this time, only the ice surface and the designated dressing rooms for player skates/helmets are to be used. Do not get players dressed in areas that are not intended for that purpose. If you have questions, please ask. Showers are not available. Other areas including lobbies and other common areas are not available for use. Use only designated washrooms as noted by signage.

At this time, a maximum of 7 skaters can be in a dressing room at Mayfield and a maximum of 10 skaters can be in a dressing room at Caledon East. Most have X's marked on the benches for spacing. If a room is full, go to the other room (most ice times have 2-3 rooms assigned to them)

On Ice

All practices, games and development sessions will be run in a manner that physical distancing is maintained. Please consult the OHF Return to Play Framework for details.

Outside the Arena

While waiting for players, if parents/spectators are outside they are not to gather in groups, but are to practice physical distancing. Waiting in your vehicle is the best option.

Departing the Arena

Following their ice time, players are to exit the ice immediately and remove their helmets, gloves and skates and replace their facemasks (and remain in the dressing room if being used) until they are told to exit. They will then exit the arena following the directional signs and complete getting undressed outside. All members should be away from facility property within 15 minutes of exiting the ice.

In case of Illness

In the event that a member becomes ill at a CMHA sanctioned event, they will be removed from the ice time and can return when a negative COVID test is received or they have isolated and been approved for return to play by a medical professional (doctor note required). Parents of anyone who becomes ill should contact the Peel Regional Health Authority for further guidance.

If anyone affiliated with our program tests positive for COVID-19, all appropriate measures, (i.e. contact tracing, isolation, cancellation of ice etc.) will be taken under the guidance of the local health unit and appropriate communication will be sent out to all members.



At all times, player and family privacy will be protected, but we will enforce our duty to report if required.

KEY DATES

Registration Deadline to guarantee a spot – October 4, 2020

FINANCIAL

The CMHA registration fee will cover the basic program of 1 game and 1 game/practice per week plus the cost of a practice jersey and socks.

Additional fees may apply for our CMHA Development Sessions and more information will be available in the coming days/weeks regarding this program.

ICE TIME

All ice time is dependant on what we can secure from the Town of Caledon. There may be less ice available due to cleaning and disinfection procedures that need to be put in place to ensure the safety of all individuals.

Currently ice is only being released in weekly increments, so please check your messages frequently as we will give only as much notice as we can regarding ice times.

As in prior seasons, players who wish to have the House League experience and our Tiered as such can expect to be on the ice 2 times per week (1 time per week for our youngest division). Players who previously played Representative Hockey and are Tiered as such can expect to be on the ice a minimum of 2 times per week but will have options to be on the ice 3-4 times per week once the plan is fully executed.

PLANNING AHEAD

In the case we are able to resume a traditional hockey season, we will communicate our plans to host try-outs and development skates well in advance via our website and social media channels.