

RETURN TO PLAY PLAN



Return to Hockey
Framework Version 2
Sept 29, 2020





Section 1

Letter Prom the President

On March 12, 2020, the 2019-20 hockey season came to a premature end as Hockey Canada, the Ontario Hockey Federation (OHF) and the Victorica/Durham Minor Hockey programs were cancelled due to the coronavirus pandemic. COVID-19 has impacted every Canadian province and territory, and this has created a very different landscape in our daily lives.

With a focus on the health of our players and the changing needs of our hockey families, the goal of our Return to Play Plan is to provide a comprehensive framework for getting our game back up and running and providing a secure environment for the members of Millbrook District Minor Hockey Association (MDMHA) to return to the sport that we all love.

In alignment with Hockey Canada's Safety Guidelines and the Ontario government's *Guidance for facilities for sports and recreational fitness activities during COVID-19, MDMHA* has developed a return-to-hockey framework specific to our circumstances here in Millbrook. Our plan is a fluid and living document that will require revisions as we move into the fall and throughout the 2020-21 season. This plan has been developed to assist Association, volunteers and families in getting our players safely back on the ice. The health and safety of our members and their families have been our number one priority throughout this planning process. Hygiene, return to-play protocols, and the use of facilities must be aligned with the restrictions and guidelines as established by the Peterborough County Health Unit and the Township of Cavan South Monaghan.

We would like to thank the MDMHA Members, and Board for working through this crisis, knowing that when we are on the other side of this, we will all be stronger as a result.

Bree Pearce President





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DISCLAIMER

The information included in this document is current to the time of publishing and is the minimum standard for Return to Hockey with Millbrook District Minor Hockey Associations jurisdiction. The document is aligned with the Public Health Guidelines of the Government of Ontario and the Peterborough County Public Health Unit as well as Hockey Canada's Return to Hockey Safety Guidelines and the Ontario Hockey Federation's Return to Hockey Framework. However, recommendations may change depending on local, provincial and national circumstances; local resources should also be consulted for up to date information. Where anything within this document conflicts (i.e.: is less restrictive) with Public Health requirements, including regulations, members must comply with Public Health requirements and adapt as required.

Return to hockey is not without risks, including potential exposure to COVID-19. While the MDMHA is making all reasonable efforts to minimize the risk of exposure to the disease through the development and implementation of this Game Plan and Return to Hockey Strategy with guidance from health authorities, the MDMHA does not and cannot guarantee that there will be no risk of exposure and transmission to those who participate in on or off-ice activities

As information changes, this document will be amended as necessary, and the revisions will be circulated to the MDMHA membership in a timely manner.





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Section 2

Checklist to Success

Definitions

"Organization" means any Division, Division member or Affiliated Group as defined in MDMHA Rules and Regulations.

"*Team*" means any group that includes players, Team Officials, on-ice instructors, volunteers, Organization administrators etc. who gather for an MDMHA-sanctioned hockey activity on and/or off the ice and "*Participant*" means any one of them.

"Team Official" means the Team's coach, assistant coach, manager, trainer or other team official registered with the League.

Review & Follow

- Return to Play Plan
- Hockey Canada Return to Hockey Safety Guidelines
- Ontario Hockey Federation Return to Hockey Framework
- COVID-19 Return to Sport Guidelines (Appendix A)

Plan

- 1. Create a Covid-19 response team by Sept 30
- 2. A member of the Covid-19 response team to meet with the local facility operator(s), obtain their reopening plan adhering to the COVID-19 Return to Sport Guidelines (Appendix A)
- 3. Team Official (on/off the ice) Protocol:
 - i. Team communications responsibilities specific to COVID-19 Facilities Guidelines a. Meet with *Covid-19 response team*
 - b. Explain the role of the *Covid-response team* to players and their parents/guardians and to Team Officials
 - ii. Complete/collect Screening Template (Appendix B) for each Participant and each player's parent/ guardian/caregiver before each training session and keep records of the results of these submissions.
 - iii. Complete Team Registry (Appendix C)
 - iv. At the Facility
 - Follow the Return to Play Plan
 - Follow the individual facility's specific reopening COVID-19 Facility Guidelines
 - Follow MDMHA Hockey Structure Guidelines (Appendix D)

Be safe and have fun!





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Section 3

MDMHA Health and Safety Guidelines

These guidelines are meant to support MDMHA Organizations, Team Officials, and stakeholders in returning to their hockey-related activities. This includes, but is not limited to, associated on and off-ice activities (including administrative), coaching, and adhering to the approved COVID-19 Return to Sport guidelines (Appendix A).

However, concerning actual hockey-related activities, the following must be demonstrated:

Enviornment and Expectations

- Arrive at the facility 10 minutes before the designated start time for the hockey-related activity.
- Leave the facility immediately following the hockey-related activity. All participants are expected to vacate the facility within 10 minutes of the end of the session.
- Physical distancing of two (2) metres (six feet) will be maintained before, during, and after hockey- related activities, except where otherwise stated in Hockey Canada's Safety Guidelines and/or the Ontario Hockey Federation's Return to Hockey Framework.
- •Only one support person can accompany a player to a hockey-related activity from U4 to U15, no support person will be allowed for U18.
- Any parent meetings will be, weather permitting, be held outside, or conducted electronically. If that is not possible, these activities must be done in such a way to maintain physical distancing as much as possible, and in groups not exceeding 10 individuals

Equipment

- All players will be expected to provide their own water bottles, which must be filled at home and labeled with the player's name. The sharing of water bottles is prohibited.
- The sharing of hockey equipment is prohibited unless it is goaltender equipment at the house league level which has been properly cleaned and disinfected
- Where possible, players and Team Officials should plan to arrive and depart the facility dressed in their hockey equipment.
- •While on the ice, players and Team Officials must always leave their helmet and gloves on.
- Face masks must be worn at all times by players and Team Officials. Players can remove their face masks during physical activity
- To limit touchpoints during and after hockey-related activities, Team Officials should keep, distribute, and collect each piece of on-ice equipment that belongs to their team (e.g.: coaching whiteboard, cones, pucks). Team Officials' responsibilities include:
 - o Minimizing gatherings while instructing from the whiteboard, and keeping participants physically distanced as much as possible.





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Personal Protective Precautions

- •The health screening of a team's players, Team Officials and administrators is mandatory. A health screening registry must be maintained. This will be done in-person via MDMHA's iPads prior to every single activity. It should be noted that if multiple activities are being held during the same day, one health screening will suffice.
- Any follow-up action from the screening process must follow the details set out in Sections 4 and 5 of the *Return to Play Plan*.
- Hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette must be adhered to in accordance with the Guidelines issued by the Public Health Agency of Canada, the Ontario Ministry of Health, Peterborough County Public Health Unit and Hockey Canada.
- •Masks or face coverings are required in all indoor public spaces, except while performing physical activity.

Communication

- MDMHA will make the Return to Play Plan available to members via:
- •The www.millbrookhockey.com website.
- Information will also be distributed to all members through direct emails, social media and in person at the facility.

Members and Teams:

- MUST abide by the Return to Play Plan.
- •One member of the covid-19 response team must walk through the details of the *Return to Play Plan* and the COVID-19 guidelines of both facilities before the season begins. A meeting is also to take place with all members and Team Officials to review the plan. The following protective measures to keep everyone safe can help reduce the risk of infection or spreading infection to others.
- Keep two meters (six feet) distance from others
- Wear a mask or face cover in indoor public spaces and when you can't keep physical distance. Masks can be removed during physical activity.
- Clean your hands often. Use soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after using the washroom and before and after play if hands are visibly dirty.
- Use an alcohol-based (70-90 percent) hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available
- Avoid touching for face, especially your eyes, nose or mouth, with unwashed hands
- Cough or sneeze with your elbow or a tissue, not your hand. Immediately throw the tissues in the garbage and wash and sanitize your hands.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick
- Stay home if you are feeling unwell





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Section 4

Screening

Prior to attending arenas or team functions, every Participant must do the <u>self-assessment for COVID-19</u> on the Ontario Ministry of Health website and if they do not pass the assessment they should not attend until they pass the assessment and do not have signs and symptoms of COVID-19.

All Participants should be aware of signs and symptoms of COVID-19, including:

- Fever (i.e. chills, sweats)
- Cough that's new or worsening
- Difficulty breathing
- Hoarse voice
- Difficulty swallowing
- Sore throat *
- Runny nose *
- Stuffy or congested nose *
- Sneezing *
- Loss of taste or smell
- Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea
- Headache that's unusual or long lasting
- Shortness of breath
- Muscle aches that are unusual or long lasting
- Unusual fatigue or lack of energy
- Not feeling well
 - * Not related to seasonal allergies or other known causes or conditions

If you answer yes to one or more of these symptoms, please self-isolate and call Ontario Telehealth at 1-866-797-0000 for further assessment by a nurse who will direct you to the most appropriate level of care such as your healthcare provider or a COVID-19 Assessment Centre.

You will not be allowed to participate in an MDMHA-sanctioned activity unless cleared to do so by a health- care provider or Assessment Centre and you are symptom-free for 24 hours.

Participant screening and registry:

Participants must be screened by a *Covid-19 Response Team member* prior to entering the facility for any (on or off-ice) session for symptoms of COVID-19 as per the requirements of the Ontario Chief Medical Officer of Health. The screening process will be in-person via and MDMHA iPad prior to the session. This information and the screening requirements will be covered in detail during the training session.





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Participants exhibiting signs and symptoms consistent with COVID-19 should not be present at any facility. This includes anyone attending the training session such as players, Team Officials, volunteers, parents/guardians, Organization members, etc.

Screening questions are updated regularly by the Ontario Ministry of Health. Currently, a positive screen is any one (1) on the list of symptoms updated at https://www.ontario.ca/page/covid-19-stop-spread#section-0 If a participant has symptoms:

The following are recommended steps for players, Team Officials, parents and guardians for participants who are sick or showing symptoms of COVID-19. It is important to remember that public health authority guidelines and advice from physicians must be followed in any situation where a participant is sick. For participants or parents/guardians of participants **who are sick or showing symptoms of COVID-19**, they are to advise the Team's coaching staff that they will not be attending and will immediately follow the steps below.

These records are to be maintained by the Covid Response Team for a period of 30 days. Records are confidential and must be securely stored (e.g. locked in a drawer) and be disposed of in a secure manner (e.g. shredding)





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If you have tested positive for COVID-19: Participants or parents/guardians of participants **who have tested positive for COVID-19** are not required to publicly disclose any medical information, how- ever they will be required to abide by the relevant Public Health Unit's directions. The Participant may not participate in any hockey related activity for 14 days as per Ontario Ministry of Health guidelines and **cannot return to hockey until cleared by Public Health**, which is a minimum of 14 days from when symptoms began. Follow the steps outlined below.

Immediate removal from hockey environment for **Positive COVID Test** anyone in the home **Public health to contact Covid Response team to** Follow public health submit log of hockey directions related activities for tracing Identified contacts should **Participant confidentially** follow directions and contacts public health who will advise on return to play advice provided by public health





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Section 8

Insurance for Members of MDMHA

The MDMHA is relying largely on advice from Hockey Canada and the Ontario Hockey Federation in respect of return to play insurance and risk management matters, and the information contained in this "Game Plan", and in this section in particular, is reproduced from Hockey Canada's Return to Hockey Safety Guidelines and Seasonal Structure document. Hockey Canada and its Members are actively working on updating risk-management protocols related to Return to Hockey guidelines post-COVID-19.

Hockey Canada has advised as follows:

• Under Hockey Canada's current General Liability policy which has been renewed for the 2020-21 season, the following is the definition for a 'bodily injury' which is insured:

"Bodily Injury" means bodily injury, sickness, disease, mental injury, mental anguish or nervous shock sustained by a person, including death resulting from any of these at any time.

- COVID-19 would fall within the definition more specifically, under "disease".
- Liability claims against Hockey Canada always need to be proven by the third party, so continuing to update and enforce risk-management guidelines as new risks emerge, such as COVID-19, are imperative.
- As with all claim scenarios, the insurance company would investigate all claims presented against any Member of Hockey Canada that falls within the 'bodily injury' definition and would confirm coverage based on the framing of the allegations.

It will also be important to review new municipal rink/private rink facility contracts post-COVID-19 for all rentals; in all likelihood, they will now contain a new clause which absolves the municipality/private facility owners of any liability related to COVID-19.

New lease agreements will need to be carefully scrutinized given that organizations will potentially have little control over cleaning/sanitizing of rented premises and shouldn't be expected to take on all liability related to COVID-19 pertaining to the use of these facilities.

Finally, it should be noted that many insurance companies are implementing Communicable Disease/ COVID-19 exclusions on all policies either immediately, or upon renewal.





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Section 9

Facilities - What to expect at the rink:

Arena Occupancy Management: To be in line with provincial and municipal public health guidelines to a maximum of 50 people (occupancy/capacity and appropriate distancing markers/physical barriers will be managed by arena staff/township employees in both facilities used by MDMHA – as per their Re-Opening plans which can be reviewed here: <u>Cavan Monaghan Community Center</u>, and <u>Bewdley Community Center</u>

Entry for Practice: Players (and accompanying support person where allowed according to township guidelines) will be allowed facility entry (per township guidelines) 10 minutes before the start of their scheduled ice time. Players (and accompanying support person) will be screened using our Return to Hockey – Health Screening Questionnaire via online form. To be completed prior to each entry to practice for each person entering the facility. Persons must be screened as negative for Covid to enter for practice or as a support person.

- Players will dress except for skates and helmet prior to entering the facility for U16
- Players must bring their own water bottle filled at home
- No equipment bags will be allowed to come into the facility for U16
- Masks must be worn by all players and support people in accordance with Public Health Guidelines implemented for Peterborough city and county August 1, 2020
- 2 iPad will be provided for use at the door to complete the online form prior to admittance to practice
- Each person will be required to complete the form using the iPad after using hand sanitizer
- The iPad will be used in alternating rotation and will be sanitized using a Health Canada Approved Wipe prior to being used by the next person
- Entry will be supervised by 2 MDMHA designates at each practice to ensure compliance
- Forms will be collated and kept in a secure online location to be utilized if needed for contact tracing

Facility Use: Will be limited as laid out by the Townships/arena staff. MDMHA designates will ensure that distancing guidelines are followed as per the Public Health, and Township requirements. Players U16 and below will be permitted bench use (marked for appropriate spacing by the arena staff/township) at the CMCC facility where the players may remove their mask and don their skates. CMCC will provide U18 with an assigned dressing room. The Bewdley Community center will provide appropriately set up dressing rooms for all age groups.

On Ice Use: Teams of no less than 5, no more than 10 will occupy the ice for their time slot with the appropriate bench staff according to the <u>appropriate OHF stage of hockey</u>

After Practice: players will be given 10 minutes to remove skates and re-mask to exit the facility through the designated doors (with accompanying support person where appropriate). The facility will then be cleaned/sanitized by the township/arena staff prior to the next usage





APPENDICES





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Appendix A

COVID Return to Sport Guidelines

The following must be demonstrated in any return to sport plans:

Environment

- •How physical distancing will be maintained before, during, and after activities at the location the activity occurs, following the physical distance guidelines.
- •How the activity will limit the number of people within a facility.
- •How the activity will limit the congregation of people in shared areas (i.e. common space where participants are checked-in and out of, washrooms, changing rooms, equipment rooms, etc.).

Equipment

- •How the activity will limit the necessity of shared equipment.
- •How shared equipment will be managed, cleaned and disinfected before and after each use.

Personal Protective Precautions

- •How enhanced cleaning and disinfection will be managed, including high touch surfaces (i.e.: benches, washrooms, chairs, door knobs, etc.)
- How participants will be encouraged to practice good hygiene.
- •How participants will be educated to ensure those who are unwell and symptomatic do not participate in the activity. Testing information can be found here.

Communication

- How participants will be informed of the safety precautions that they must follow, implemented by the Organization.
- How your plan will be communicated to all participants.
- If possible, maintaining a participant registry, (names, dates, time, and contact info) to facilitate potential public health contact tracing.

In addition to the provincial public health measures, Organizations must adhere to any measures implemented by Hockey Canada, the Ontario Hockey Federation and the facilities in which they operate.





you currently

Appendix B

Screening Tool - https://millbrookhockey.com/Forms/2673/Return to Hockey - Health Screening Questionnaire/

The screening must be done before each MDMHA-sanctioned activity including individual skills sessions, practices and games.

Name:	• •	Date:	Time :	Phone:	Em	ail:	
		ll questions mus y of these symp		order to par	ticipate	e in any and all ad	ctivity. 1. Are
1. 2.	with som	st 14 days have neone with a co I daysm have yo	nfirmed case	of COVID-19	9?		Yes No
3.	Person w Breathin	vho is either cur	rrently sick w	ith a cougl	h, feve	r or difficulty	YesNo
4.	who has i	return from outsi traveled outside	ide Canada in	the last two	weeks?	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	YesNo YesNo
lf parti	icipant ar	nswers Yes to th	ne screening,	they should	d self-i	solate and conta	ct Ontario
Telehe	ealth. If pa	articipant passe	s the screeni	ng above, p	olease	also ask:	
Do yo	A fever 3 Chills* Cough the Barking of Shortness Sore Thre Difficulty Runny not Lost sense Pink eye Headach	nat is new or wo cough, making ss of Breath* oat* v swallowing* ose, sneezing o se of taste or sn * ue that is unususe e issues? (Nause	orsening* whistling noi r nasal congo nell* al or long las	se* estion*`	Yes Yes Yes Yes Yes Yes Yes Yes Yes Yes Yes	- No - No - No - No - No - No - No - No	





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•	Exteme tiredness that is unusual*	Yes	_ No
•	Faling down often*	Yes	_ No
•	For Young children & infants: sluggish or lack Of appetite *	Yes	_ No

This questionnaire must be completed by each individual prior to participation in EACH on ice or off ice activity.

Please call 911 if you are experiencing:

- 1. Severe difficulty breathing (struggling for each breath, can only speak in single words).
- 2. Severe chest pain (constant or tightness or crushing sensation).
- 3. Feeling confused or unsure where you are.
- 4. Losing consciousness.

If you are in any of the following wish groups, we ask that you speak with your physician prior to participating.

- 1. 70 years old or older.
- 2. Getting treatment that compromises (weakens) your immune system (for example, chemotherapy, medication for transplants, corticosteroids, TNF inhibitors).
- 3. Having a condition that compromises (weakens) your immune system. (For example, diabetes, emphysema, asthma, heart conditions.)
- 4. Regularly going to a hospital or health care setting for a treatment. (For example, dialysis, surgery, cancer treatment.)

If you answer yes to one or more of these questions, please call Ontario Telehealth for further assessment by a nurse. A participant is not allowed to participate in any hockey related activity or attend the facility.

^{*} Not related to seasonal allergies or other known causes or conditions





Appendix C

MDMHA Participant Screening Registry

Date:		Facility Name:					
Start Time of Session:		End Time of Sessi	End Time of Session:				
Covid re	esponse:	Phone #:					
#	Player/Coach Name (First/Last)	Team/Group	Contact Number	Answered "No" to all screening questions			
1							
2							
3							
4							
5							
6							
7							
8							
9							
10							
11							
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Appendix D

Hockey Structure

As we move toward getting back on the ice, it is important to ensure that we remain flexible so that we can adapt to Ontario public health guidelines as they change. It will be important to ensure that the needs and wants of both our current and prospective players are always front of mind. As we move through each period, we will need to ensure that our hockey association is equipped with the proper communication tools and given appropriate time to adjust. While there are going to be challenges along the way, this is an opportunity for increased collaboration and innovation for hockey in our province.

MDMHA will be adhering to the appropriate OHF Stages of Hockey as outlined below. Currently we are starting in stage 3b and will be taking our lead from the OHF and the Peterborough County Health Unit on if and when we can proceed to the next stage.

OHF Stage	Ontario Gov. Stage	Outline	Player Contact	# of Participants¥	Structure	Travel
STAGE 1 Return to Ice	Phase 2 Stage 1	Strict On-Ice Physical Distancing Skill Development Only Off-ice Training & Activity Limited/No Use of Bench Variety of On-Ice Set Ups	None	Limited to 10 in group including instructor	Private Instruction Association Instruction Team Instruction	Community Based Only
STAGE 2 Return to Practice	Phase 2 Stage 2	Strict On-Ice Physical Distancing Group Skill Development Off-ice Training & Activity May be Limited Use of Bench	None	Limited to 15 in group including instructor	Private Instruction Association Instruction Team Instruction	Community Based Only
STAGE 3a Return to Play	Phase 2 Stage 3	Strict On-ice Physical Distancing Off-ice Training & Activity Limited or Normal Use of Bench	No Physical Contact	Maximum of 25 for individual training	MHA/Leagues/Teams May be Modified Game Play or Cohort Groups	Limited Public Health Unit (PHU)
STAGE 3b	Phase 2 Stage 3	Strict On-Ice Physical Distancing Off-Ice Training & Activity Limited or Normal Use of Bench Registration of Players for the 2020-2021 programming Allocation of Player Groups Group Training Prep Phase	No Physical Contact	Maximum of 30 for individual training and game play	Registration is based on last year's registered Association.* No program offered by MHA eligible to move for a program within PHU. MHA providing some form of programming, must stay where registered last year, exception, players on AAA Waiver and LOR movement have option to stay or return home. Leagues are Ontario Health Maximum of 50 (July 27) and based on the PHU.	Limited Public Health Unit
STAGE 3c	Phase 2 Stage 3	Group Training/Practices with Physical Distancing Game Play 3 v 3 or 4 v 4, with No Physical Contact	No Physical Contact	Maximum of 40 for individual training and game play	Registration is based on last year's registered Association.* No program offered by MHA eligible to move for a program within PHU. MHA providing some form of programming, must stay where registered last year, exception, players on AAA Waiver and LOR movement have option to stay or return home. Leagues are Ontario Health Maximum of 50 (July 27) and based on the PHU.	Limited Public Health Unit





STAGE 3d	Phase 2 Stage 3	Group Training/Practices with Physical Distancing Game Play 3 v 3, 4 v 4, 5 v 5, with No Physical Contact	No Physical Contact	Maximum of 40 for individual training and game play	Registration is based on last year's registered Association.* No program offered by MHA eligible to move for a programwithin PHU. MHA providing some form of programming, must stay where registered last year, exception, players on AAA Waiver and LOR movement have option to stay or return home. Leagues are Ontario Health Maximum of 50 (July 27) and based on the PHU.	Limited Adjacent Public Health Units
STAGE 3e	Phase 2 Stage 3	Group Training/Practices with Physical Distancing Game Play 3 v 3, 4 v 4, 5 v 5, with No Physical Contact	No Physical Contact	Maximum of 40 for individual training and game play	Registration is based on last year's registered Association.* No program offered by MHA eligible to move for a program within PHU. MHA providing some form of programming, must stay where registered last year, exception, players on AAA Waiver and LOR movement have option to stay or return home. Leagues are Ontario Health Maximum of 50 (July 27) and based on the PHU.	Expanded Local Health Integrated Network
STAGE 4 Return to Regular Competition	Phase 3	No On-Ice Physical Distancing Regular Practice Off-ice Training & Activity Standard Competition May be Normal Use of Bench	Contact Allowed	Regular Team Sizes	Rules TBD MHA/Leagues/Teams Regular Game Play	Expanded Tournament Year end events

Disclaimer: The content of the chart if there is discrepancy is superseded by the contents of the specific sections for each Stage in the OHF Return to Hockey Framework.

Our proposed Team structure based on current numbers is:

Proposed Team Structure:

Age Group	Number of Teams	Support Person Allowed	Plan for Phase 2 Stage 3C
U4	1	1 per player	n/a
U7	3/4	1 per player	Intermural
U8	2	1 per player	Plan to travel within PHU*
U9	2	1 per player	Plan to travel within PHU
U11	4	1 per player	Plan to tier and travel within PHU
U13	3	1 per player	Plan to tier and travel within PHU
U15	2	1 per player	Plan to tier and travel within PHU
U18	4	None	Plan to tier and travel within PHU

^{*} Players that played the 2019-2020 seasoning the GTHL will follow GTHL rules for movement as well as criteria laid out in the OHF Return to Hockey Framework for AAA Waiver and LOR.

[¥] Number of Participants is a maximum number outlined by the OHF for sanctioned programming, however, all participant numbers are dictated by the restrictions for gathering that have been established by the Ontario Government, local Public Health Unit, facility or Member. Maximum numbers are based on the largest ice surface 100x200 and should be adjusted accordingly for smaller ice surfaces and/or age and size of players.