



## **OWHA Member Update July 14, 2021**

### ***REBUILDING TOGETHER***

#### **ONTARIO NEWS RELEASE – July 9/21**

Ontario Moving to Step Three of Roadmap to Reopen on July 16

Continuing Improvements in Key Indicators Allowing Province to Safely Expand Indoor Settings and Capacity Limits.

#### **OWHA RETURN TO HOCKEY**

##### **WHERE WE ARE**

- Looking forward to moving into Step 3 in all or most of Ontario.
- At all times, OWHA must follow health and safety requirements of all levels of government including PHU's and facilities with the strictest requirement in place.
- At all times, OWHA Insurance is through Hockey Canada and is **ONLY** in place for OWHA sanctioned activities that meet all OWHA requirements.
- Some areas may remain in Step 2 and any area may move at any time.
- **There are limited in-person OWHA sanctioned activities permitted in Step 1 and in Step 2 and expanded activities in Step 3.**

#### **ONTARIO GOVERNMENT**

##### **ROADMAP TO REOPEN**

Roadmap to Reopen outlines three steps to easing public health measures, guided by the following principles:

- **Step One** An initial focus on resuming outdoor activities with smaller crowds where the risk of transmission is lower, and permitting retail with restrictions. This includes allowing **outdoor gatherings of up to 10 people**, outdoor dining with up to four people per table and non-essential retail at 15 per cent capacity.
- **Step Two** Further expanding outdoor activities and resuming limited indoor services with small numbers of people where face coverings are worn. This includes **outdoor gatherings of up to 25 people**, outdoor sports and leagues, overnight camps, personal care services where face coverings can be worn and with capacity limits, as well as indoor religious services, rites, or ceremony gatherings at 15 per cent capacity.
- **Step Three** Expanding access to indoor settings, with restrictions, including where there are larger numbers of people and where face coverings cannot always be worn. This **includes indoor sports** and recreational fitness, indoor dining, museums, art galleries and libraries, and casinos and bingo halls, with capacity limits.

#### **Ontario Government**

##### **STEP 3**

O. Reg. 520/21: RULES FOR AREAS IN STAGE 3

<https://www.ontario.ca/laws/regulation/r21520>

IMPORTANT: Please click on the above link to review the important information.

## **VACCINATION INFORMATION**

### **PUBLIC HEALTH ONTARIO**

<https://www.publichealthontario.ca/en/diseases-and-conditions/infectious-diseases/respiratory-diseases/novel-coronavirus/vaccines>

## **VACINATIONS**

### **COVID-19 Vaccines**

Immunization is widely recognized as one of the most effective interventions for reducing the impact of infectious diseases.

As safe and effective COVID-19 vaccines are approved for use and become available, Public Health Ontario (PHO) is working very closely with the Ministry of Health, local public health units and other health system partners to provide scientific expertise, data and resources for the successful implementation of COVID-19 vaccine programs.

PHO is actively monitoring, reviewing and assessing relevant research related to COVID-19 vaccines. Please visit the [Synopsis of Key Articles](#) webpage to find summaries of new articles on COVID-19 vaccines.

This page will be updated as more information becomes available.

## **ONTARIO GOVERNMENT**

<https://covid-19.ontario.ca/covid-19-vaccines-ontario>

### **COVID-19 vaccines**

Vaccines are safe, effective and the best way to protect you and those around you from serious illnesses like COVID-19.

Vaccines work with your immune system so your body will be ready to fight the virus if you are exposed. This can reduce your risk of developing COVID-19 and make your symptoms milder if you do get it.

Our supply will not arrive all at once, so distribution will happen in stages. The goal is for everyone in Ontario to be able to get a COVID-19 vaccination if they want one as soon as enough doses are available from manufacturers.

## **OWHA RETURN TO HOCKEY**

### **SUMMARY STEP 3**

#### **ACTIVITY PERMITTED BY THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.**

- Indoor sports and recreational fitness facilities with capacity limits.
- Indoor meeting and event spaces with capacity limits.

## **WHAT IS REQUIRED**

Following

- ALL Health & Safety Guidelines.
- ALL OWHA Requirements.

**IMPORTANT: THE MOST RESTRICTIVE IS MANDATORY.**

### **Approved Applications from OWHA prior to any proposed activities.**

#### **Requirements that continue.**

- Pre-screening.
- Contact tracing.
- Physical Distancing.
- Masks.
- Facility requirements based on %, area and maximums.
- Compliance with All Health and Safety and OWHA requirements.

## **OWHA RETURN TO HOCKEY**

### **STEP 3**

#### **NEW PERMISSIONS FOR AREAS IN STEP 3**

- Indoor activities are permitted within requirements.
- All participants **MUST** be registered and meet all OWHA requirements.
- Physical distancing and masks are required at all times off ice.
- Players masks are optional while on-ice.
- Team staff & non-players must wear masks at all times.
- Masks must meet standards and cover the nose, mouth and chin.
- Practices with Scrimmages are permitted without modified regulations.
- Player groups may be mixed – no limit of 50 in an extended group.
- Access to benches is permitted within facility requirements.
- Access to dressing rooms is permitted with masks, physical distancing, and screened monitors if facility allows.
- Spectators permitted within facility requirements.
- Time to arrive and depart facility within facility requirements.

#### **NOT PERMITTED AT THIS UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**

- Travel Outside Ontario
- Participation with teams from outside Ontario
- International/USA Transfers
- Hockey Games
- League Play
- Tournaments
- Overnight Camps and Activities
- Bus transportation
- Any off-ice activities without physical distancing and masks

#### **NOT PERMITTED AT ANY TIME**

- Unsanctioned activities

## **OWHA RETURN TO HOCKEY**

### **STEP 3**

- OWHA Next Members' call – August 10, 2021
- Player Identification/Selection/Tryouts for OWHA registered players – commencing August 13/21 for areas in Step 3 or beyond.
  - Players within your own association
  - Brand new players
  - Previously registered players with OWHA require Permission to Skate on OWHA Form
- Tournaments for OWHA registered teams
  - commencing October 1/21 for Ontario & Canadian teams
  - Application posted on OWHA website.
  - OWHA encourages associations to work together on proposed dates. OWHA may sanction multiple tournaments on the same date.
  - OWHA Tournament Committee to oversee approvals.
  - Committee Application on OWHA web site

### **League Play**

- Will be more local with less travel and limited to inside Ontario.
- Coordinated through the OWHA office.
- Working with participating associations
- Working with Volunteers
- Sharing Best Practices
- Posting Job Application

### **Exhibition Games**

- All exhibition games against non-OWHA registered teams require pre-written approval from the OWHA.
- All exhibition games must be recorded on RAMP.
- No exhibition games are permitted until further notice.

### **Provincial Championships**

- April 7- 10, 2022 if they can take place in regular or adapted format.

### **GENERAL INFORMATION - REMINDERS**

- Applications for programming must be submitted on the OWHA form, meet compliancy requirements, and receive prior written approval from OWHA.
- All participants, players, staff, and executives/board members must register in RAMP for 2021-2022 season.
- All participants must be registered, and all staff must meet requirements such as certification, VSS/CRC, RIS and must follow all policies & procedures such as 2-deep.
- Rowan's Law – Concussion protocols
- Associations & Independent Teams are reminded of the importance of transparency of fees based on the uncertain aspects of hockey/Covid. There must be a refund policy in place for each Association.
- Tryouts may be permitted commencing August 13, 2021, for registered OWHA players.
- U7 and U9 must follow the timing in the player pathway.
- Permission to Skates is required unless players are currently registered with the association hosting any activities including but not limited to practices and player evaluations/selection sessions.
- We encourage associations to work with players and other associations in the best interests of players.
- Tampering is not permitted, and a player registered with an association may not be approached to play for another association without the permission of her current association.
- Remember to be prepared for player evaluations if the Covid-19 situation worsens and tryouts are not possible.

### **High Performance**

- Women's World Championship currently planned for August in Calgary.
- Ontario Summer Games 2021 were cancelled.
- Ontario Summer Games 2022 will be hosted in Mississauga.
- Ontario Summer Games 2024 will be hosted in London.

**Under 18**

- OWHA will be sending 2 teams to the U18 National Championship in Dawson Creek, B.C. October 31 to November 7, 2021.
- Applications for Team Staff are posted on the OWHA website.
- Player selection is by invitation only.
- OWHA camp will start September 1, 2021, in the GTA.
- Esso Cup (Female U18 club championship) currently scheduled in spring 2022.

**Clarifications**

Any questions or comments relating to the OWHA Return to Hockey Framework should be submitted to the OWHA office at [applications@owha.on.ca](mailto:applications@owha.on.ca).