



Message to the Membership Update on Pause of Minor Hockey In Okotoks

First, we want to thank all the members who reached out last night with kind words as the hockey world gets put on pause. Thank you to all volunteers who have helped get players back on the ice over the past months. The efforts made during our return to play has truly taken a community of volunteers and tremendous hours to re-start hockey.

As hard as it is to lockdown for two weeks, we will continue our efforts and preparation to relaunch on November 28th, 2020. The Covid-19 pandemic has been a challenge but if we can continue to be flexible, adhere to the regulations and have a great attitude we can get back to the sport we love!

OMHA & OOAA Teams must not circumvent the pause by holding practices, games or competition during this pause set by Alberta Health Services. Teams that violate the pause will be subject to disciplinary actions and immediate suspension assessed to the head coach and other team officials.

Teams are **not permitted** to:

- Practice as a Team, **as the goal is to limit large group exposure**. This includes indoor facilities, outdoor rinks, out of town arenas. (You cannot take your team to Stavely or Vulcan to practice or play games.) Do not take your team and book Ice under a different name. Hockey Alberta confirmed this morning they will be immediately suspending Coaches and Teams from further participation along with fines from Alberta Health Service.
- All Team gatherings, Team dryland training, parties and team events are to be put on pause.
- If you have booked Ice, facilities or planning a team event, please cancel it immediately.

We understand other communities do not have the same lockdown measures, but there is nothing we can do about this with regard to hockey in Okotoks. Destructive e-mails to the OMHA & OOAA board will not be tolerated as it is truly out of our control. We are volunteers here to support getting our players on the ice and will do our best to see hockey return to Okotoks.

The tentative date planned for hockey activities to resume is Saturday, November 28th, 2020 which will be dependent upon public health guidance as outlined and governed by Alberta Health Service Pandemic COVID-19 Response System.

Thank you for your continued support and understanding as OMHA & OOAA along with the entire hockey community works through this challenging time.

Please stay tuned for upcoming schedule announcements in the coming weeks.

Geoff Stewart
OMHA president

Dan Laplante
OOAA President

OHMA Executive

OOAA Executive