



To All IMHA Members,

The IMHA Board of Directors would like to take the opportunity to thank everyone for their continued patience and understanding through the last few months. We know that this has not been easy, there is still a lot of uncertainty and this season will not be “normal”. The Board appreciates the fact that you have chosen to return to our association to play hockey this season. On behalf of the entire Board of Directors, thank you.

As we have said before, this will not be a normal season. There are many things that will be out of our control, things that may seem unnecessary, and things that we may not want to do. We must remember that we are trying to follow the rules, regulations and guidelines so that we are able to deliver the best possible hockey program to the athletes in our association in the safest way possible. The safety and health of our members is our top priority. We will need everyone’s co-operation for that to happen.

Please keep in mind that the following Return to Play Plan for IMHA is subject to change at any time. We are constantly monitoring the changes regarding AHS guidelines, Hockey Alberta updates and Town of Innisfail regulations. When new information is available, we will pass it on as soon as we are able.

Thank you again for choosing Innisfail Minor Hockey. We appreciate your support and look forward to seeing everyone at the rink starting September 14th.

Stephen Bates
IMHA President



IMHA Return to Play Plan

- **Arena Rules, Regulations and Guidelines**
 - **If you or your child are sick or showing any COVID symptoms, please STAY HOME.**
 - Please arrive at the arena **15 minutes** prior to your ice time. **DO NOT ARRIVE EARLIER.** The arena doors will be locked.
 - Players are to come to the arena fully dressed in their equipment. Only skates, helmet and gloves should have to be put on at the arena.
 - U18 players that drive themselves to the arena are permitted to come to the arena with their “under equipment” attire under their street clothes and dress in the lobby in the 15 minutes prior to your ice time. **There are no dressing rooms or showers available at this time.**
 - All players **MUST** check in at the IMHA table prior to each of their sessions.
 - All players **MUST** complete the COVID-19 self assessment screening and fill out the Hockey Alberta Contact Tracing Sheet prior to each session.
 - U7, U9 and U11 players will be permitted to have one parent enter the facility with them to tie skates, get helmets on, etc. Any parent entering the facility to assist their child must also complete the COVID-19 self assessment screening and fill out the Hockey Alberta Contact Tracing Sheet prior to each session. Once the player is ready, the parent **MUST** leave the facility through the west doors of the lobby. **NO SPECTATORS ARE PERMITTED AT THIS TIME.**



- Players should only bring a bag large enough to fit their helmet, gloves and skates as they will have to take the bag with them to the bench area in the arena.
 - Players are to bring their own water bottles for their sessions. Water bottles should be clearly labelled with the player's name and should be washed after each session. **There is to be no sharing of water bottles.**
 - Players **MUST exit the facility through the west lobby doors within 10 minutes** of their session being completed.
 - Parents and players are to obey physical distancing markers set out in the arena.
 - Masks are not mandatory at this time and may be worn as each individual/family deems necessary.
 - **These rules, regulations and guidelines may change at any time. Please watch your email, IMHA Website and the IMHA Facebook page for updated information.**
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- **Hockey Programming**
 - The following points describe the current plan for our Association's 2020-21 hockey season. **Please note that any of these points could change at any time based on any number of factors. IMHA will communicate any changes as we are able.**
 - Ice sessions for U11 – U18 will begin on September 14, 2020
 - Ice sessions for U7 and U9 will begin on September 26, 2020
 - **If your child is sick or showing any COVID symptoms, please KEEP THEM HOME.**
 - The Fall Ice Schedule has been sent out via email and will be posted on the IMHA website and IMHA Facebook page. This schedule is complete up to the Thanksgiving weekend. **Please check regularly for changes and/or updates to this schedule.**



- IMHA will be conducting formal evaluations for the U11 – U18 age groups in preparation for potential league play in CAHL. **Finalized team rosters may be delayed due to waiting for AA tryouts to be completed.**
 - U7 and U9 age groups will be divided into equal teams for house league play. U7 and U9 teams from Bowden have been invited to join us.
 - All age groups will be cohorted as per AHS Guidelines so that we have the flexibility to conduct evaluations and intra-squad game play. **Any players that are part of another cohort (3 on 3, AAA/AA tryouts, etc) are subject to the 14-day waiting period before joining an IMHA cohort.**
 - The Regular Season Practice Schedule for the remainder of the season (after Thanksgiving) will be made public as soon as the IMHA Board is able to finalize it. As of today, the Town of Innisfail has not provided any information regarding if or when the Red Ice surface will be open this season. If the Red Ice surface does not open, it will mean a 68% reduction in available ice time for our Association and some changes with regards to our hockey program.
- **Innisfail Minor Hockey Guidelines**
 - IMHA intends to follow the Rules, Regulations and Guidelines as set out by the Government of Alberta and Alberta Health Services (AHS) in our return to playing hockey. This includes rules surrounding cohorts, screening, mini-leagues, reporting, etc. **It is our expectation that all members of our Association do the same.** For more information please go to <https://www.alberta.ca/assets/documents/covid-19-relaunch-sports-physical-activity-and-recreation.pdf>



- **Individuals that choose to not follow the Rules, Regulations and Guidelines as set out by the Government of Alberta, AHS, Town of Innisfail and IMHA may face disciplinary action up to and including expulsion from IMHA.** We have over 230 players in our association. Your choices can lead to a very successful season or a complete shutdown of our Association. Please make the right choices for you, your family and the other members in our Association.
- **Verbal abuse of any IMHA Board members, IMHA volunteers or Town of Innisfail Staff members will not be tolerated. Any occurrences of this type of behaviour will be forwarded to the IMHA Discipline Committee for further review and possible disciplinary action up to and including expulsion from IMHA.** There are many people that have put countless hours into getting our kids back on the ice. Remember that these people are likely just as frustrated as you are with all of the new rules and guidelines. They are just trying to keep everyone safe, healthy and ensure our hockey program does not get shut down.