



Woolwich *Girls* Minor Hockey Association

October 22, 2020

OWHA Update

Last night members of the board participated in an OWHA virtual meeting. The purpose of the meeting was to update all associations on best practices as we move through different playing stages in different centers. The meeting highlights are available on the OWHA website.

Reminders were expressed that we are still under emergency orders, are in a global pandemic and associations that are located in current hot spots (Toronto, Peel, Ottawa and York Regions) have been rolled back to modified stage two protocols. The OWHA emphatically reminded all on the call that we are to be mindful of all of the return to play rules approved and sanctioned by the OWHA.

In our area, as we move forward, we need to focus on a few things as follows:

1. As we begin to play in four on four or three on three games it is VERY important we review these game rules. These modified rules have been posted on our website. Coaches will need to know these rules well and may have to work with their players, coaching staff, and on-ice officials throughout the beginning of the games in order to make sure we are following the protocols to keep us all safe. This is not the normal hockey that we all know. These rules are to promote play with physical distancing.
2. The OWHA does NOT support any extra games practices or training sessions not sanctioned by OWHA. Any activity with a group of members of your training group **MUST** be approved and sanctioned by the OWHA and the association. If you are participating in any extra activity the OWHA has stated that the activity must include all players from your training group. Mixing training groups is not permitted. If you are on the ice outside of or in addition to the practices and games allotted by Woolwich girls minor hockey and by extension the OWHA you risk bringing sanctions against our association as well as yourself and the players who are participating in these extra practices, games, or training sessions etc.. These sanctions include but are not limited to removal of membership in WGMHA and in the OWHA.

3. We have an extreme privilege presently, to be able to play modified hockey. If these return to play guidelines and sanctioned play are not followed, the Province may remove all sport for the duration of the pandemic.

Please familiarize yourself with the guidelines and rules.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Woolwich Girls Minor Hockey via email at info@woolwichwild.com.