



HOCKEY CALGARY

INFORMATION BULLETIN

Date: November 16, 2020 #20-10
To: HC Membership
From: Kevin Kobelka – Executive Director
CC: HC Board, HC Governors, HC League Chairs

SUBJECT: Hockey Calgary – Planned Restart – Post Nov. 27

As per the Government's announcement and the HC Bulletin dated Nov. 12, all hockey related activities under the Hockey Calgary umbrella are cancelled from Nov. 13 – 27. As an organization we are extremely disappointed with the decision to cancel team sports. We have worked hard with all involved to ensure our programs were operating in a safe manner and in accordance with the guidelines provided by AHS.

We will now shift our attention to the restart of hockey post Nov. 27. The following information outlines the plan for '**Community Hockey**' following the pause.

1. Next Steps for Return to Hockey – Post Nov. 27

- Hockey Calgary will maintain the plan as agreed upon with Member Associations, and **start the 'Competition Phase' of the season on December 1, 2020**
 - o While it is disappointing to have a 2 week pause, this pause came at the same time we were to transition to the 'Competition Phase' of our season
 - o We are guaranteed to have 100% compliance for a 14-day isolation period prior to re-starting in our new teams/cohorts
 - o When players return following the pause they will be sorted into their new teams and re-start with that group
 - o Member Associations will communicate these teams to the players over the course of the next 2 weeks (prior to Nov. 27)

2. Competition Phase Summary

- o Scheduled Games start Dec. 1, 2020
- o There are four 3-week cycles planned, until the end of the season
- o Each Cycle will operate as follows:
 - 2 weeks of practice (development) where teams will skate with only the 16-19 players that have been assigned to their team (some ½ ice)
 - 1 week of game play, where team will play 1 other team in their division 3 times over the course of a week (total of 32 – 38 players competing), for U9 teams will only play 2 games during this time frame.

- Following the game week, the ‘competition cohort’ will begin dissolution and each team will practice on their own for 2 weeks (14-days) to reset the cohort.
- Teams will then partner with a different team forming a new ‘competition cohort’ to play another series followed by a 2-week practice/isolation period.
- This process will continue. Teams will play a total of 4 different teams during the ‘Regular Season’, barring any other delays.
- This same format has been being utilized in other leagues in the province and the HC ‘Elite’ Program since October with a great deal of success

| Cycle 1 | | | | Cycle 2 | | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------------|--|--------|---|-----------------------------|--|--------|
| | Week 1 | Week 2 | Week 3 | | Week 4 | Week 5 | Week 6 |
| Cohort Action | 'Competition Cohort' formed | 'Competition Cohort' teams isolating from each other | | Cohort Dissolved. New cohort can be formed | 'Competition Cohort' formed | 'Competition Cohort' teams isolating from each other | |
| Teams | Team A vs. Team B | Team A and Team B Separately | | | Team A vs. Team C | Team A and Team C Separately | |
| Activity | Gameplay | Team Practices | | | Gameplay | Team Practices | |

3. Next Steps & Timelines

- Schedule is completed in draft form, this draft is to be released to the Associations the week of November 16, final draft to be available on November 24
 - **NOTE:** If hockey is met with further cancellations, we will **not** be drafting new schedules and re-scheduling games. When play is resumed, we will pick up the schedule at that date

We are confident that this ‘Competition Phase’ plan is aligned with AHS guidelines and is equally as safe as the ‘Development Phase’ plan that was operated in October & November. It continues to provide development for our athletes but is supplemented with some traditional game play one week out of every three.

Once again, I want to thank our Member Associations and our volunteer network for the tremendous amount of work that has been done this year to make our program safe. It is unfortunate that it has come to this, but we can only hope that the pause is only for 2 weeks. We know this is not easy and we are aware that there are those that do not support the Alberta Government’s decision. Hockey Calgary is continuing to communicate with Hockey Alberta to ensure our voice is heard at the government level.

Until we play again please do everything you can to reduce the spread of Covid-19, so we can get back in the arenas by November 28.

Regards,



Kevin Kobelka
Executive Director