



Rayside Balfour Minor Hockey Association

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www.rbmha.on.ca



On behalf of the Rayside Balfour Minor Hockey Association, I would like to welcome everyone to the upcoming hockey season.

We are now accepting partial payment for our up and coming season, you can send us an e-transfer to rbmha@eastlink.ca, when doing so it is very important to list the participants name and division so we can apply the payment to your account. You can also send a check to our PO box address listed above, again be sure to indicate the participants name and division. Third option is to contact our registrar at rbmharegistrar@eastlink.ca to make a telephone appointment for a credit card payment. Any issues with payments can be directed to our registrar. We are now asking for 50% of the yearly fee, this will cover the first half of the season up to December 19th.

Hockey will look different this year, I will briefly highlight what we are proposing base on guidelines passed down from the NOHA, under the guidance of the OHF. We are at stage 3, Return to Practice and Play as of September 1st, 2020. Please visit the link below for more information:

https://www.ohf.on.ca/media/l3pair4n/ohf-return-to-hockey_0731.pdf

Basically, we can play a modified game of 4 on 4, or 3 on 3. We would have teams made up of up to 9 players plus one goalie. We will play in leagues of no more than 50 participants. Our leagues of 50 in the various divisions will be made up of mostly RBMHA participants and possibly teams from other organizations that commit to playing exclusively in our league of 50, it has been suggested by the NOHA to work with Onaping Falls Minor Hockey with respect to league play.

Player affiliations will not be allowed this year, no players playing in other hockey leagues will be allowed to participate. No participant of any non-sanctioned league can play within RBMHA or any association governed by the NOHA. For any goalie shortages we will use any goaltender within that league of 50 to participate on any of the teams at the discretion of the convenor who will ensure that all goalies are utilized fairly.

Games will be played with two straight time 22 minute periods with faceoffs only at the beginning of each period. Modified rules closely resemble that of the 3 on 3 leagues that many local kids have participated in. Details of game play can also be found in the return to hockey framework in the link above. This year as always we are trying to focus on development over competition.

We will all have to follow the regulations passed on by the City of Greater Sudbury which will limit the use of its facilities. We are allowed a maximum of 25 participants on the ice including coaches. Dressing rooms will have limited time use and lower than normal occupancy. We will expect participants to be dressed when they arrive at the rink and dressing rooms limited to putting on skates and helmets. Dressing rooms can be used only 20 min before your ice time and to be vacated 20 min after your ice time. Spectators will have to social distance 6 feet between household bubbles, and wear a face covering. Players are required to wear face coverings when they are not engaging in physical activity. Players are asked to social distance while they are waiting to enter the ice and are not to all congregate in one small space. Emphases will focus on social distancing in drills and game play, no contact on the ice is the goal. Each facility will have their own rules on occupancy numbers. All patrons must self-screen prior to entering. If any patron answers yes to any of the questions that are posted, they are not permitted to enter the facility. Prior to use, participants must provide the City of Greater Sudbury with a signed waiver form for each participant using the ice. A drop off box will be provided at the entrance.

At RBMHA, as usual, we will be looking at providing two ice times a week for U7, U9, and U11. Three ice times a week for U13, U15, U16, and U18. This will be a mixture of practices and games unique to each division's required programming. We are also planning on merging the U16 & U18 to make more teams to compete with.

Because of smaller rosters we will have a higher number of teams than usual and we are still looking for more coaching applicants. Our coaching application can be found on our website.

We will utilize the ice that the city provides us which can be anywhere in the city, we are confident that the Dr. Edgar LeClair Recreation Centre (Azilda Arena) will open although we have not received an official notice of this.

We are committed to providing fair and safe play for all participants, fans and coaches. I hope you enjoy this unique season and that we can foster the spirit of good sportsmanship for all.

If there are any questions or concerns, please reach out to the appropriate party within our board. Our contact list can be found on our website or at the following link:

http://www.rbmha.on.ca/organizations/3395/contact_page

I would also like to thank the many volunteers who are working hard to help make this year a great success.

Sincerely,



Steve Ryan

1st Vice President, RBMHA

(Acting President)