



Vancouver Island Amateur Hockey Association

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MEMORANDUM

April 13, 2021

TO: MHA Presidents
FROM: Jim Humphrey, VIAHA President
COPY: VIAHA Officers
SUBJECT: Return to Play as of April 11. 2021

As of this date youth sports remain restricted to Phase 2 activities. Even outdoor sports require physically distanced practices and no games. There has been no indication from the Provincial Health Officer that this is going to change in the near term. The numbers of positive Covid-19 cases has reached record highs in the past few weeks with the variants being more easily transmissible and more virulent.

On a positive note the number of people who have been vaccinated increases daily and if, as suggested, this decreases the number of cases we can anticipate a gradual loosening of restrictions. The vaccine rollout has not been without its challenges with supply issues and side effects from Astra Zeneca but we are told that every person who wants the vaccine will be able to have it by late summer, many with two doses. Timelines are uncertain but we hope to be able to begin the 2021-2022 season with few or no restrictions.

We are maintaining close contact with BC Hockey and, through them, with viaSport and the Provincial Health Officer. They are the ones that will tell us when we can return to play. BC Hockey is keeping a close eye on the situation as they are interested in running their "AAA" camps in late Spring or early summer.

The message we give to our players and their parents should be that we expect a near normal season but with a possible delay of 2-3 weeks in early September before getting back to full activities.

Yours sincerely,

Jim Humphrey
VIAHA President