



ONTARIO HOCKEY FEDERATION

400 Sheldon Drive, Unit 9, Cambridge, Ontario N1T 2H9
T: 226 533.9070 F: 519 620.7476
www.ohf.on.ca

Proud Branch Of



To: OHF Members and Registered Minor Hockey Associations/Clubs/Teams
From: Phillip McKee, Ontario Hockey Federation Executive Director
Date: Thursday, June 27, 2019
Regards: Rowan's Law Implementation

The Ontario Hockey Federation has been working with Hockey Canada on the implementation of Rowan's Law since the adoption of the Rowan's Law Concussion Safety on March 7, 2018. The Ontario Hockey Federation is in full support of the intent of Rowan's Law to create awareness of concussion, change the culture on concussion and provide safe sport participation.

The Ontario Hockey Federation was informed by the Ministry of Tourism Culture and Sport on June 18, 2019 that the Rowan's Law Act and Regulations must be implemented by July 1, 2019. Therefore, after July 1, 2019 every Player, Team Official and On-Ice Official (parent as well if individual under 18) in order to register/participate must review the OHF Concussion Code of Conduct and the appropriate Concussion Awareness Resources.

Requirements

- All Registrants registering July 1, 2019 or after must have completed the review information and acknowledgement prior to registration/participation.
- All Team Officials currently registered will be required to complete the review of information and acknowledgement prior to August 30, 2019.
- All Registrants registered prior to July 1, 2019 must complete the review of information and acknowledgement prior to participation in the first game.

The Ontario Hockey Federation has met with the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport and continues to exhaust all avenues to delay the implementation. The Ontario Hockey Federation will keep you informed of any progress.

The Ontario Hockey Federation have provided the following method for the Minor Hockey Association/Club/Team to validate that the Players and Team Officials that Register with the Minor Hockey Association/Club/Team to have acknowledgement of the OHF Concussion Code of Conduct and the Ontario Governments Concussion Awareness Resources.

- Players and Team Officials will be required to review the material in person or on-line and sign the OHF Rowan's Law Acknowledgement Form prior to being eligible to Register/participate.
- It will be the responsibility of the Minor Hockey Association/Club/Team to retain a copy of the Acknowledgement Form, through one of the following methods:

Method 1:

- Retain a hard copy of the OHF Rowan's Law Acknowledgement Form for a period of 7 years for each Registered Participant;

Method 2

- Scan and upload a copy of the OHF Rowan's Law Acknowledgement Form (PDF format naming the form "*Rowan's Law Acknowledgement Form – participant name*") to each participant's profile in the HCR under the Documents & Memo section.

OHF Members





Audit Process

The OHF will randomly select a minimum of fifteen (15) Minor Hockey Associations/Clubs/Teams within the current season to ensure compliance has been met within the legislation under Rowan's Law. The purpose of the audit is to randomly select Minor Hockey Association/Clubs/Teams to ensure compliance and to validate submissions of these forms. The Audit Process in the first year also reduces the amount of work required by all parties.

The Audit process will require the Minor Hockey Associations/Clubs/Teams to produce the OHF Rowan's Law Acknowledgement Forms that have been retained for comparison and review with the players that have are Registered/participating in programming.

Honour System

Outside of the Audit Process for this implementation for the 2019-2020 Season it will be based on an Honour System. Each Minor Hockey Association/Club/Team is verifying that when they submit a Roster for approval that the Minor Hockey Association/Club/Team have receipt of an OHF Rowan's Law Acknowledgement Form for each Registered Participant on the Roster.

On-Ice Officials

All On-Ice Officials will receive the OHF Concussion Code of Conduct and Ontario Government Concussion Awareness Resources as part of the on-line recert or their introduction clinic for the 2019-2020 season and will be managed by the OHF and its Members.

The Ontario Hockey Federation understands this is increased workload and are working on a technical solution for the 2020-2021 season, however, to comply with the Ontario Government Laws within the thirteen (13) days the OHF has been provided there will be considerable work in the short term. The OHF has lodge complaints to the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport and continue to work on your behalf.

If you have concerns with the implementation timelines that were established by the Ontario Government please address those concerns by emailing:

- Dan.jacobs@ontario.ca; and copying info@ohf.on.ca

If you have questions about the logistics please contact your Member.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Phillip McKee'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a prominent 'P' and 'M'.

Phillip McKee
Executive Director
Ontario Hockey Federation

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