



HOCKEY CALGARY

UPDATED
August 27, 2020

**COMMUNITY,
HOUSE, &
REC HOCKEY
STREAMS**

RETURN TO HOCKEY

AUGUST 27 UPDATE



WHAT HAS BEEN UPDATED?

Based on feedback from our Member associations and updated information from Hockey Alberta and the Government of Alberta, the following updates are included in the **AUGUST 27 VERSION** of the Return to Hockey Plan:

1. Clarification on the **'1 Sport Cohort'** and updated [Government Cohort Guidelines](#)
 - a. The Government of Alberta cohorting guidelines state "Athletes should not belong to multiple sports mini-leagues; they should select one sports cohort for the duration of Stage 2."

Within the Hockey Calgary program, we will follow these guidelines. Players, coaches, and referees will only be assigned to 1 cohort at a time.

Families have choices. When making decisions, we ask families consider the health of all participants as it relates to their cohort involvement outside the Hockey Calgary program.
2. Updated information on [Contact Tracing and Symptom Screening](#)
 - a. Hockey Calgary will be using TeamSnap's new 'Health Check' feature to fulfill its mandatory daily symptom screen and contact tracing requirements.
 - b. Detailed instructions will be distributed to all members
3. Inclusion of dressing rooms and players' benches as part of the 'field of play'
 - a. Cohort members do not need to maintain physical distance in these areas
 - b. Physical distanced programs and individuals must always maintain distance
4. Updated Community Hockey sections
 - a. [Sorting/Evaluations](#) – Maximum 30 individuals on the ice
 - b. [U7](#)
 - i. No scheduled games during the 'Development Season'
 - ii. Updated cohort structure options
 - c. [U9-U18](#)
 - i. Inclusion of permittance for associations to further evaluate with a cohort after its creation (referees are not permitted)
 - d. [Competition Season](#)
 - i. Note that mini-teams may change to align with tiering grid (ex. number of Tier 1 mini-teams may differ from the amount of evenly balanced mini-teams in an association's Cohort 1)
5. Addition of a [House League](#) section
6. Addition of an [RHC \(Recreational Hockey Calgary\)](#) section
7. Updated [Mask/PPE requirements](#)
8. Updated information on [Referees/On-Ice Officials](#)

- a. **Referees must be part of the cohort if they are used**
 - b. For safety concerns, Hockey Calgary is working with Central Region to place permanent officials in certain cohorts
9. Updated information on [Coaches](#)
- a. Clarification on 'Cohort' vs. 'Physical Distanced' coaches
 - i. U11 and older age categories are permitted to have 'Cohort' coaches provided there is room in the cohort (determined by the association)
 - ii. U7 and U9 coaches can be either 'Cohort' or 'Physical Distanced' coaches
 - b. Certifications/Training updates
10. Updated [FAQ](#) section

Please click on the various links for further detail related to each update/addition.

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1 INTRODUCTION

Hockey Calgary has actively engaged with Hockey Canada, Hockey Alberta and our Member Associations in developing a ‘Return to Hockey’ plan that allows our young athletes to get back on the ice and enjoy the benefits of the great game of hockey. This plan will provide answers to many of the numerous questions that are being asked regarding how Hockey Calgary will operate under the current Alberta Health guidelines and restrictions. Unfortunately, each answer will likely elicit another 10 questions on how the program will run. In the current everchanging environment we are doing our best to keep up to date with government guidelines and keep our membership informed.

The Hockey Calgary - Return to Hockey Plan is current as of **August 26, 2020** and is based on the requirements of the Government of Alberta as of this date. As the situation evolves Hockey Calgary will update accordingly to remain in compliance with requirements.

As you read this document please note ‘this is the new normal’ in our current environment, this is not a typical hockey season, and it will look different. The plan has not been developed to stagnate player development, in fact we are hopeful that it will ensure our athletes continue to grow both on and off the ice. There are basically 4 Phases to the Hockey Calgary plan that will be outlined in this document:

1. Prep Phase – focus is on development and conditioning in preparation for the upcoming season, this phase will take place in August.
2. Sorting/Evaluation Phase– This phase will take place in September and will be for the sole purpose of creating like skilled ‘Cohort Groups’ of less than 50 players. This process will be done through ‘Physically Distanced’ skill-based evaluations.
3. Development Season Phase – Once players are sorted into ‘Cohorts’ they will now be able to practice and compete in ‘Mini Games’ with the other members of this Cohort. Players will not be permitted to play against teams or players outside of their cohort until government restrictions are lifted. This phase will begin when cohorts are formed in late September/early October.
4. Regular Season/Competition Season Phase – This is the final phase of our plan, and basically has 2 options, if all restrictions are lifted we will return to the ‘traditional’ Hockey Calgary program. If the restrictions are not removed, then following the winter holiday break (14-day isolation) Hockey Calgary will look at revising the cohorts and developing some inter-association play.

2 PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

The guidelines in place have forced us to think differently on how we operate. While the program may look different it was developed to meet the needs of the players and focused on achieving the following key objectives:

1. **Safety!** Create a safe, healthy hockey environment for our players, coaches and volunteers
 - Safety is paramount, this plan was built in compliance with the Alberta Government Guidelines, and to minimize the risk of all participants
2. **FUN!** Maintain a culture of Fun!! Where participants can enjoy the game they love
 - Hockey Calgary is excited to resume operations that allows kids to be kids
3. **Development!** Create competitive hockey environment that allows players to develop and grow
 - Development is essential and can be accomplished in both the practice and game play environment
4. **Tiering!** Provide an environment where players are grouped in appropriate skill levels
 - Tiering ranges may look slightly different than in the past. However, they will be close, and we believe they will be within an appropriate range for skill development.
5. **Game-Play!** Create an environment where some 'Game Play' exists
 - Games may operate in a variety of creative formats (5v5, 4v4, 3v3, etc.)
6. **Flexible Transition!** Allow for flexible transition within our program between government phases/stages as information and protocols change

3 REQUIREMENTS (Alberta Gov't, HA, Hockey Canada)

1. Within the current Alberta Government Phase 2, there are 2 formats we can use to operate our programs. Hockey Calgary and our Member Associations will utilize both of these formats in achieving the goals of our program:

- **With Physical Distancing** – all participants must remain 2 metres apart at all times, including coaches
 - Skill based programming, focus on development
- **Using Cohort Groups (Mini-Leagues)** – up to 50 participants grouped together to participate in a program – no physical distancing required on the ice surface, however, it is required to maintain a 2-metre distance when on the bench & in dressing rooms.
 - Cohort Groups must remain together for duration of 'Stage 2' unless participants enter into a 2-week (14 day) isolation period, after which they can move to a new cohort group
 - **NOTE: *The Government of Alberta cohorting guidelines state "Athletes should not belong to multiple sports mini-leagues; they should select one sports cohort for the duration of Stage 2."***

Within the Hockey Calgary program, we will follow these guidelines. Players, coaches, and referees will only be assigned to 1 cohort at a time.

Families have choices. When making decisions, we ask families consider the health of all participants as it relates to their cohort involvement outside the Hockey Calgary program.

- Programs should operate within a specified, community, zone, region, where travel is limited
2. No competitions or other interactions with other teams/cohorts will be permitted during Alberta Government Phase 2. Only training camps, skill development and system implementations within the team/cohort will be permitted at Stage 2. Competitions will be allowed but only within the team/cohort (more details later in document).

3. Member Associations MUST track all participants & interactions, maintaining records in a secure location for 14 days from completion of activity. This is to be done as part of a daily check-in procedure for participants. (see Protocols section)
 - Hockey Calgary will be utilizing TeamSnap’s new ‘Health Check’ feature to track interactions and symptom screen participants
 - Any participant who answers YES to any of the questions must NOT attend or participate in the program and may not return until they have completed the Isolation Requirements as defined by the Government of Alberta
4. Ensure that Member Associations follow Facility Guidelines
 - Facilities MUST adopt standards as per the Government of Alberta, which may differ slightly depending on the facility
 - Associations must understand these standards and follow them, as owners and operators Facility Management will have the final say
 - Associations will work closely with ‘home’ arenas when developing protocols
 - Facilities not ‘Hockey Associations’ will determine spectator access, dressing room use and may have stronger requirements with regards to participation
 - Hockey Calgary does not have the authority to determine spectator permissibility or capacity at any facility
5. Masks/PPE (Personal Protective Equipment)
 - On August 1, 2020 the City of Calgary Face Coverings Bylaw will be in effect.
 - The Bylaw mandates that face coverings (masks) be worn in the following places that will impact minor hockey:
 - i. Public indoor spaces (malls, grocery stores, retail businesses, churches)
 - ii. City of Calgary facilities (Recreation centres, City Hall, City of Calgary buildings)
6. League Play
 - Traditional league play is NOT permitted
 - Mini Games are only permitted within your Cohort
7. Tournaments & Travel Permits (HA page 16)
 - Tournaments are NOT permitted during Phase 2 of the Alberta Government relaunch (Development Season)
 - No travel permits or tournament sanctions will be approved during this phase

[Hockey Alberta – Return to Hockey - UPDATED](#)

4 PROTOCOLS AND SAFETY

We cannot stress enough that the safety and well-being of our players, coaches, volunteers, and families is of utmost importance. This section details several Hockey Canada, Hockey Alberta, and AHS guidelines and resources and should give confidence that Hockey Calgary will have a focused effort working with all stakeholders to ensure a healthy and safe environment for hockey.

At this time, we cannot answer the question of “what will happen if there is a positive case?” AHS is treating every situation differently and are not providing concrete ‘what ifs’. We must simply follow reporting guidelines and take direction as it is given.

Involvement

The Government of Alberta cohorting guidelines state “Athletes should not belong to multiple sports mini-leagues; they should select one sports cohort for the duration of Stage 2.”

Within the Hockey Calgary program, we will follow these guidelines. Players, coaches, and referees will only be assigned to 1 cohort at a time.

Families have choices. When making decisions, we ask families consider the health of all participants as it relates to their cohort involvement outside the Hockey Calgary program.

Contact Tracing and Symptom Screening

Hockey Calgary and its member associations must track all participants and interactions, maintaining records in a secure location for 14 days from completion of activity. This is to be done as part of a daily check-in procedure for participants.

Hockey Calgary will be utilizing the new ‘**Health Check**’ feature on **TeamSnap** to symptom screen and track all interactions. [Detailed instructions \(coming soon\)](#)

Anyone who is sick or has been in contact with someone who has COVID-19 is not permitted to attend practices or games. Familiarize yourself with the symptoms of COVID-19 and follow AHS and Government guidelines if you are not feeling well. **DO NOT ATTEND HOCKEY ACTIVITIES IF YOU ARE SICK.**

More detail will be available shortly.

[Government of Alberta - Symptoms](#)

[Isolation Requirements](#)

Reporting

Members and sanctioned partners are to report any COVID-19 cases as required by Alberta Health Services, member hockey association, league, and facility. Hockey Calgary must be notified immediately after Alberta Health has been notified.

[Hockey Canada - Reporting a Positive COVID-19 Case](#)

Hockey Canada Guidelines/Resources

Hockey Canada, Hockey Alberta and its 13 Member Branches have built a comprehensive Safety Guidelines document, along with an FAQ document, to provide direction and support as organizations (administrators, coaches, managers, safety staff, trainers), parents and players prepare to return to hockey. The information included in these documents should be reviewed regularly, as it provides a solid framework to follow for any organization (and its members) as Return to Hockey planning is undertaken.

[Hockey Canada Safety Guidelines.](#)

The Safety Guidelines provide guidance on a safe and positive return to hockey experience for our participants and stakeholders. Sections include:

- Insurance Coverage.
- Hygiene Requirements and Checklist.
- Recommended Return to Hockey Procedures.
- What to do if there is a positive COVID-19 test.
- Junior Hockey guidelines.
- Guidelines for Officials.

Responsibilities

Parents and players also play key roles in the Return to Hockey. Their responsibilities include:

- Stay at home if experiencing any symptoms.
- Become educated on the safety protocols and procedures prior to attending session and adhere to them while at the session.
- Ensure each player has his/her own water bottle which is sanitized prior to each session, and his/her own hand sanitizer (for use in dressing room).
- Ensure equipment is dried, cleaned and/or sanitized following each session.

- Arrange appropriate transportation to and from the session.
- Refrain from cheering and yelling as it presents a high risk of spreading droplets.
- Do not spit, blow nose freely or release any bodily fluid anywhere in any facility due to an extremely high risk of virus transfer.

A detailed outline of responsibilities of Administrators, Coaches and Managers, Safety Person and Trainer, Players and Parents can be found in the Hockey Canada Safety Guidelines – Roles and Responsibilities (Appendix 6).

[Hockey Canada Roles and Responsibilities.](#)

Masks/PPE (Personal Protective Equipment)

All programs and activities are expected to follow the guidelines put in place by the Government of Alberta, the municipality and facility with respect to the wearing of masks in public areas. During all Hockey Alberta sanctioned activity it is recommended that coaches, team officials, instructors, players, volunteers and parents that will be interacting with a Team (for example, assisting with equipment in the dressing room), wear masks when they are not separated by a physical barrier or are unable to keep a two-metre distance from all other participants. Other personal protective equipment may be appropriate depending on the task as well (e.g. First Aid).

When participating via Cohorting:

- Players and team officials are not required to wear masks in the dressing room, on the player's bench or in the penalty box area, or on the ice.
- **These areas are considered within the “field of play” for the sport.**

When participating via Physical Distancing:

- Players and team officials must maintain two-metre physical distancing, and wear masks within the dressing room.
- Players may only remove their mask immediately prior to placing their helmet on and leaving the dressing room to go to the ice.
- Team officials are to wear masks while on the bench but can remove them while coaching/instructing on the ice.

5 FACILITIES

Hockey Calgary does not own or manage any of the arena facilities within the Calgary area. The individual facilities have implemented protocols to meet the requirements of Alberta Health. They also have the ability to strengthen these guidelines if they feel it is important to the safe operations of the facility.

As user groups it is our responsibility to follow the requirements as outlined by each individual facility and ensure that we are respecting the premises. The facility management has the ability to cancel any and all bookings and stop the Hockey Calgary program from operating in their building. **Not respecting the facilities protocols and procedures jeopardizes the entire Hockey Calgary program.**

Please note that each facility may have slightly different protocols in place, therefore upon entering a facility for the first time families are encouraged to read the information posted at the entrance and follow the guidelines. Areas that may be different within each facility include the following:

Entrance & Exit time – generally this varies between 15-30 minutes before & after each session

Dressing Room Usage – some are permitting with limited #'s, some are not permitting at all

Showers – for the most part facilities are not offering this option

Fountains – most facilities have closed their fountains, so it is important that players fill their water bottles before arriving at the arena

Time between ice sessions – most are at 15 minutes, but a couple remain at 30 minutes

On Ice Capacity – some are allowing up to 50 (which is the maximum size), but some have limited on ice #'s to 25, this is an important one to understand before going to the rink

Spectators – some are permitting spectators, some are not, some are allowing 1 per participant, once again this is the decision of the facility and must be respected.

Please be aware that these guidelines can be modified or changed as we move through the season, we will do our best to provide updates.

6 REFUNDS

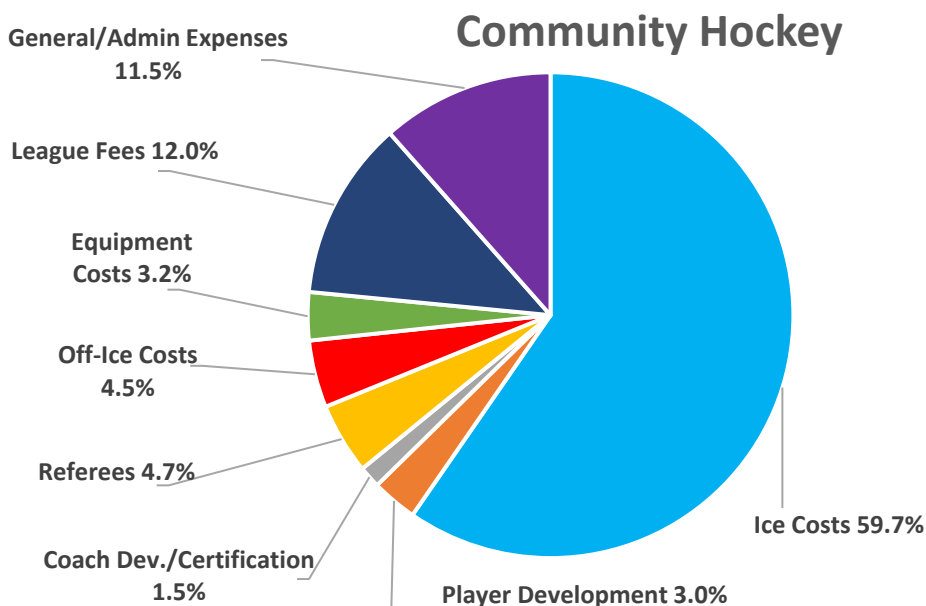
Hockey Calgary does not control member association hockey fees or refund policies. Each association will be in control over their own refund policies. However, it is very important that we understand the landscape we are current operating in for the 2020-21 season.

We are in very unprecedented times and unfortunately that makes predicting the future incredibly challenging. There is far too much uncertainty to have concrete refund policies in the event of a lockdown or quarantine that may affect the duration or length of the season.

In the event the season length is affected by a lockdown or a cohort is required to quarantine for a period, Associations will do everything in their power to be fair to their members. However, please understand that there are several considerations and factors that impact how registration dollars are spent.

Some expenses are fixed and will be difficult to recuperate in the event of a cancelled season, while other expenses may be easier to recoup with enough notice. It is not possible to determine any of those details at this point, but please know that Hockey Calgary and its membered associations will do everything they can to ensure fair treatment of players and families and return as much of their registration fees as possible in the unfortunate event that the season length is negatively impacted.

As a reference, please see the average breakdown of how community hockey registration fees are spent:



7 RETURN TO HOCKEY

A safe return to hockey that meets the guidelines of Stage 2 of the Government of Alberta's Relaunch strategy is paramount. As mentioned earlier in this document there are two ways Hockey Calgary can operate programs, either **Physically Distanced** or using **Cohorts (Mini-Leagues)**. Hockey is a contact sport and while we can operate skill development sessions that keep players physical distanced, we understand that in order to meet all of the key objectives of our program, we will need to use a cohort model for various phases of our return to play.

Government of Alberta Guidance for Sport, Physical Activity and Recreation – Stage 2:

Mini-Leagues: Cohorting Participants

- *Mini leagues are a way to cohort individuals who participate in a sport or physical activity in close proximity of others.*
 - *Mini-leagues help to mitigate risk of widespread transmission by limiting the number of individuals in close contact.*
- *In Stage 2, 50-person mini-leagues can be formed for sports or physical activity that involve participant interaction at a distance of less than 2 metres.*
 - *The 50-person maximum includes coaches/staff, instructors, participants from multiple teams, officials, and volunteers.*
- *Each mini-league can be comprised of multiple teams, but still only a total of 50 individuals.*
 - *Game play should be limited to teams in the same mini-league.*
- *Teams in different mini-leagues should not play each other. **Athletes should not belong to multiple sports mini-leagues; they should select one sports cohort for the duration of Stage 2.***
- *Mini-leagues should remain together during Stage 2 of Relaunch and only play within the same geographical region (e.g., within a neighbourhood, town or municipality, AHS Zone).*
- *It is recommended that mini-leagues be supervised by a responsible person whose role is oversight over maintenance of the group and other public health guidance.*
- *For more information on cohorts, please see the [Cohort Guidance](#).*

[Click here for the full document](#)

COMMUNITY HOCKEY

HOCKEY CALGARY PHASES

The primary concern for Hockey Calgary is that any programs offered focus on the health and safety of all participants. The intent is not to re-create the regular season structure, but to offer development, modified game play, and fun before proceeding to the regular season.

Phase	Timing	Activity
Prep	August 14-30, 2020	<p>Programs must be delivered using:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Physical distancing <p>Types of Programs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Off-ice sessions Skills camps Development programs
Sorting/Evaluations	August 31, 2020	<p>Programs must be delivered using:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Physical distancing <p>On-ice skills-based sorting sessions designed to group like skilled players into cohorts for the 'Development Season'</p>
Development Season	<p>After cohort/team formation</p> <p>Approximately End of Sept/Beginning of October</p>	<p>Programs must be delivered using:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cohorting <p>Following the 'Sorting/Evaluations' component, players will be grouped into cohorts of 36-48 players (depending on the age category).</p> <p>Within these cohorts, 4 evenly balanced 'mini-teams' of 9-12 players will be created. Cohorts and 'Mini-Teams' can practice and play mini-games against each other.</p> <p>Types of Programs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> On-Ice Practices Off-Ice Training Regional' Game Play (3v3, 4v4 or 5v5)
Regular Season	TBD	<p>Programs will be delivered will limited or no group/cohort restrictions (return to normal).</p> <p>Transition from previous cohort 'Development Season' into traditional hockey team sizes.</p> <p>Types of Programs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> On-Ice Practices Off-Ice Training League Play
OR 'Competition Season' (if necessary- in place of the 'Regular Season' component)	January 4, 2021	<p>Programs will be delivered using:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cohorting <p>Transition from previous 'Development Season' will occur using a 2-week break over the winter holidays, allowing new Cohorts to be created across multiple associations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 'Mini-Teams' from 4 different associations will be grouped into a new cohort allowing for expanded 'game-play' <p>Types of Programs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> On-Ice Practices Off-Ice Training Semi-Regional' Game Play (3v3, 4v4 or 5v5)

NOTE: In the event that we are still in a restricted state and are not able to transition to the 'Regular Season Phase' by the new year, Hockey Calgary will transition into the 'Competition Season Phase' providing expanded competition across multiple associations.

SORTING/EVALUATIONS

The purpose of the Sorting/Evaluations phase is to group like skilled players. This process is like the evaluation and tiering process that occurs each year. The key difference is that to ensure the safety of the players and to help reduce the number of player to player contact, these sessions will be entirely Physically Distanced. Once in formal Hockey Calgary Cohorts, players are permitted to engage in drill where they will come into close contact with other players.

Tiering ranges may look slightly different than in the past. However, they will be close, and we believe they will be within an appropriate range for skill development. As always, coaches are encouraged to group players into similar skill abilities for different drills and station work to allow for regression and progression of drills.

Sorting Guidelines:

1. All Associations will follow a similar plan (not necessarily the same drills)
2. All Associations will use 'Physical Distancing', skill-based drills to Sort/Evaluate the players in the organization into cohorts
3. Evaluation Sub-Committee
 - Tasked with setting guidelines & protocols for sorting/evaluation as it pertains to:
 - Approving drills – all sorting drills must be approved to access appropriate distancing on the ice
 - Information Sharing - Associations will have the opportunity to submit drills for approval. Upon approval, drills will be added to a 'drill bank'
4. U7 – Minimum 2 sorting/evaluation sessions prior to assigning cohorts
5. U9 to U18 – Minimum 3 sorting/evaluation sessions prior to assigning cohorts
 - Associations are free to further evaluate players in scrimmages and close contact drills after they are placed in cohorts. However, once in cohorts, players cannot change cohorts without a 14-day isolation period
6. U11 Player Pathway
 - Every effort should be made to offer all aspects of the U11 Player Pathway. However, Hockey Calgary and Hockey Alberta understand the complexities around

hockey for the upcoming season. Associations should keep an open line of communication with Hockey Calgary as it pertains to any deviation from the Pathway.

- Minimum 2 pre-sort sessions (previously 4)
 - Start dates indicated in the U11 Player Pathway should be followed
 - Hybrid Goalie's – Minimum 2 sorting/evaluation sessions at each position (minimum 4 total)
7. Goalies – Associations will determine how many goalie-only sessions are offered, however, like the player sessions, a minimum of 3 sorting/evaluation sessions must be offered.
8. Once an age category has completed the 3 sessions
- Rank the players top to bottom based on skill
 - Create the Cohorts of 30-48 players (age category and registration dependent)
 - Further clarification and guidelines will be communicated based on number of players registered at each association, per division
9. All coaches and evaluators must remain physically distanced during sorting/evaluation sessions
10. For physically distanced evaluations, as per Hockey Alberta, **“a maximum of 30 individuals are permitted on the ice at any one time. The recommendation is that there are only 16-24 players on the ice at one time.”**

II DEVELOPMENT SEASON

Association Based Play

For each age category Associations create similar sized Cohorts of no more than 50 players based on rankings from the physically distanced sorting/evaluation sessions. These Cohorts will now be locked for the either the entirety of the Alberta Phase 2 relaunch, or until December 20 where Hockey Calgary will have the opportunity after the 2-week winter holidays to create new cohorts.

Cohorts

- 30-48 players (depending on age category and registration breakdown)
- Players can now compete as a group (practice & play together as per any other season)
- Associations can choose to practice with the entire cohort on the ice (assuming they meet facility guidelines), or split them into smaller groups (likely 2 groups of 18-24, but may depend on age category)
- Within the Cohort the groups can change and move around (up to the association)
- Within the Cohort, 'Mini-Teams' will be created to facilitate game play

'Mini-Teams'

- Associations will create 3 or 4 evenly balanced 'Mini Teams' of 9-12 players (with goalies) within each cohort (NOTE: there are min. & max. sizes to mini teams based on division)
- Associations have the ability to rebalance 'Mini Teams' if they are not competitive
- Intro to Hockey may run U7 cohorts as a 'program' and only split into teams for game play – rosters may vary often
- Coaches can be assigned to a 'Mini Team' or moved around to share resources and expertise (up to the association)
- Games will be scheduled by each Association in partnership with Hockey Calgary
 - Hockey Calgary will determine guidelines for number of games, length, use of officials, bench protocol, etc.

(See Appendix I for visual of the Sorting/Evaluations → Development Season Cohorts process)

NOTE: As per the Government of Alberta and Hockey Alberta, Tournaments will not be permitted during this phase.

Benefits of the model

- Groups players into similar skill abilities
- Opportunity for players to develop
- Facilitates some game competition
- 3/4 'Mini Teams' provide variety in competition
- 'Mini Teams' size means more ice time for players
- 'Mini Teams' size helps with dressing room utilization & bench spacing when games are played – spacing in dressing rooms and on benches is mandatory as per Hockey Alberta, AHS, and the Government of Alberta
- Ease of scheduling within the association
- Reduced travel - meets the government recommendation of keeping kids more 'regionally based' during this stage of return to play
- Players are playing with and against their peer group (friends)
- Association cohorts are likely more in line with community and school programs, therefore confining the spread
- If an outbreak occurs it is easier to shut down a cohort in 1 Association, or a full Association as opposed to shutting down the entire program



U7 TIMBITS

Familiarity

- Maintaining Jr. and Sr. 1-year age groups in U7 Timbits
- Maintaining Cross-Ice Games
- Game play will be 4v4 or 3v3 if short players
- No officials

Cohorts

- Use skills-based physical distancing sessions to sort players into groups (Cohorts)
- Player Cohort sizes for U7 are up to a maximum of 40 (excluding coaches)
 - Cohorts can be created 1 of 2 ways depending on registration numbers:
 - 2 regular sized U7 Timbit teams (17-20 players)
 - Teams will not change upon transition to the ‘Regular Season’ (sizes remain the same)
 - Program based model with no formal teams (ex. 30 Timbit players in each cohort, no formal team or one large informal team)
 - Formal teams will be made upon transition to the ‘Regular Season’
- Cohorts are smaller in U7 to allow for coaches to be part of the cohort
 - Allows coaches to be in contact with the younger players to better assist with their development, injuries, crying players, etc.
 - ‘Physically distanced’ coaches are permitted to coach provided they maintain appropriate physical distancing
 - [For more detail please refer the Coaches section](#)
- Create balanced Teams/Cohorts across & within Cohorts (as always done)
 - All cohorts are evenly balanced
 - Ie. Jr./Sr. Timbits have 110 players, create **3 ‘Balanced Cohorts’** of 34-40 players (Recommended 36)
- In ‘Development Phase’ cohort can only play informal mini games during practices
- No formal games until 2021



U9 (formerly Novice)

Familiarity

- Maintaining 2-year age groups in U9
- Maintaining ½ Ice Games
- 4 'Tiers' in U9 (transition to 'Regular Season')
- Game play will be 4v4 or 3v3 if short players
- Rotating Goalies will be used in U9
 - Guidelines will be set for proper sanitization of shared goalie equipment within the cohort

Cohorts

- Use skills-based physical distancing sessions to sort players into groups (Cohorts)
- Player Cohort sizes for U9 are 30 or 36-40 (Recommended 36)
 - Hockey Calgary has set guidelines for cohort sizes depending on total registration in each age category. These guidelines are based on the current Tiering Grid and will help to ensure appropriate skill gap within each cohort ([See Appendix II](#))
- Cohorts are smaller in U9 to allow for coaches to be part of the cohort
 - Allows coaches to be in contact with the younger players to better assist with their development, injuries, crying players, etc.
 - 'Physically distanced' coaches are permitted to coach provided they maintain appropriate physical distancing
 - [For more detail please refer the Coaches section](#)
- Easy to move to 2 teams once we transition to the 'Regular Season' (18-19 players)
- Create Cohorts based on sorting/evaluation ranking
- 'Mini-Teams'
 - Within each Cohort create balanced 'Mini Teams' of **9-10 players** (no goalies)
 - 3 or 4 'mini-teams' per cohort (depending on registration numbers)



U11/U13 (formerly Atom and Peewee)

Familiarity

- Maintaining 2-year age groups
- Maintaining full-ice games
- Tiering structure and grid will remain the same (transition to 'Regular Season')
- Game play will be 5v5, 4v4 or 3v3 during the 'Development Season Phase'. Opportunity to try new formats and have different themes

Cohorts

- Use skills-based physical distancing sessions to sort players into groups (Cohorts)
 - Associations are permitted to further evaluate players in scrimmages and close contact drills after they are placed in cohorts. However, once in cohorts, players cannot change cohorts without a 14-day isolation period
- Cohort sizes for U11/U13 are 36-48 (Recommended 40-44)
 - Hockey Calgary has set guidelines for cohort sizes depending on total registration in each age category. These guidelines are loosely based on the current Alberta One Standardized Tiering Grid and will help to ensure appropriate skill gap within each cohort ([See Appendix III](#))
- Cohort sizes are larger which leaves little room for coaches to be part of the cohort
 - The majority of coaches will be 'Physically distanced' and must maintain appropriate physical distancing
 - 'Cohort' coaches are permitted provided the overall cohort size does not exceed 50 participants
 - [For more detail please refer the Coaches section](#)
- Easy to transition to 3 teams of 15-16 players for 'Regular Season'. Note: there may be room to move up a handful of players from the lower cohorts who have excelled to that point of the year
- Create Cohorts based on sorting/evaluation ranking
- 'Mini-Teams'
 - Within each Cohort create balanced 'Mini Teams' of **9-12 players** (with goalies)
 - 3 or 4 'mini teams' per cohort (depends on registration & association preference)
- Practice and play games within Cohort
 - Association can split the Cohort for practices and maintain the same split, or can change freely between sessions



U15/U18/U21 (formerly Bantam, Midget, and Junior)

Familiarity

- Maintaining current age categories
- Maintaining full-ice games
- Tiering structure and grid will remain the same (transition to ‘Regular Season’)
- Game play will be 5v5, 4v4 or 3v3 during the ‘Development Season Phase’. Opportunity to try new formats and have different themes

Cohorts

- Use skills-based physical distancing sessions to sort players into groups (Cohorts)
 - Associations are permitted to further evaluate players in scrimmages and close contact drills after they are placed in cohorts. However, once in cohorts, players cannot change cohorts without a 14-day isolation period
- Cohort sizes for U15/U18 are 36-48 (Recommended 40-44)
 - Hockey Calgary has set guidelines for cohort sizes depending on total registration in each age category. These guidelines are loosely based on the current Alberta One Standardized Tiering Grid and will help to ensure appropriate skill gap within each cohort ([See Appendix IV](#))
- Cohort sizes are larger which leaves little room for coaches to be part of the cohort
 - The majority of coaches will be ‘Physically distanced’ and must maintain appropriate physical distancing
 - ‘Cohort’ coaches are permitted provided the overall cohort size does not exceed 50 participants
 - [For more detail please refer the Coaches section](#)
- Easy to transition to 3 teams of 15-16 players for ‘Regular Season’. Note: there may be room to move up a handful of players from the lower cohorts who have excelled to that point of the year
- Create Cohorts based on sorting/evaluation ranking
- ‘Mini-Teams’
 - Within each Cohort create balanced ‘Mini Team’ of **9-12 players** (with goalies)
 - 3 or 4 ‘mini teams’ per cohort (depends on registration & association preference)
- Practice and play games within Cohort
 - Association can split the Cohort for practices and maintain the same split, or can change freely between sessions
- U21 (Jr. C) will follow a different plan. To be determined.
- There will be both **body checking and non-body checking cohorts**

III

REGULAR SEASON

Hockey Calgary will follow the lead of the Government of Alberta, Alberta Health, and Hockey Alberta to determine when it is appropriate to transition from the 'Development Season' to a return to normal 'Regular Season'. We are optimistic that we will be able to transition to a traditional 'Regular Season' in accordance with past season timelines. However, we will only do so when it is safe and when the approval has been given.

One of the key objectives of the Hockey Calgary Return to Play plan is to allow for flexible transition between our phases. Hockey Calgary's 'Sorting/Evaluations' and 'Development Season' phases are designed with the intent to transition easily to a traditional 'Regular Season'.

If and when we are able to transition cohorts will be split into formal teams and sizes. The plan as written does not require that 'full evaluations' need to be redone or completed again for this transition. Players have already been evaluated base on their skill during the 'Sorting/Evaluations' phase.

Furthermore, coaches and associations will be able to factor in hockey IQ, compete level, and improvement over the 'Development Season' prior to forming teams. Associations, in partnership with Hockey Calgary, will determine the process for forming teams.

There are many ways of transitioning and forming teams which do not require a full redo of evaluations. Associations can use coach feedback and evaluations from within the cohort as these coaches should have an in-depth knowledge of their cohort and mini-team. Alternatively, and/or in addition, associations will have the ability to organize more formal evaluation sessions within each cohort prior to creating final team placements if they so choose. As always the Association will have full oversight of this process, more details will be determined.

Therefore, formal teams will not be created based solely on skill-based evaluations and players will be able to advance on their previous ranking. With this scenario, teams should be more accurately sorted for the 'Regular Season' than they have been in the past.

([See Appendix V](#) for visual of the Development Season → Regular Season process)

IV COMPETITION SEASON (if necessary)

In the event that we are still in a restricted state at the conclusion of 2020 (Alberta Government and Alberta Health Services still requires a 'Cohort' model), Hockey Calgary will employ the following 'Competition Season'.

The intent of this component is to create a structure that emulates and somewhat replaces a traditional regular season while adhering strictly to the guidelines of the government and AHS.

In this component, cohorts will be created using 'Mini-Teams' from multiple associations. This model increases variety of competition and allows associations to play against each other after the 'Development Season'.

Following a 2-week break over the winter holidays where cohorts are not participating in hockey activities, Hockey Calgary will be able to create new Cohorts.

These cohorts will be tiered in a format similar to the HA Standardized Tiering Grid. Therefore, mini-teams may change from the 'Development Season' to the 'Competition Season' to ensure parity.

Cohorts

- Calgary will be divided into 3 Regions **(TBC, subject to change)**
 - South – Blackfoot, Bow Valley, Knights, Southwest
 - West – Glenlake, TW, Springbank, Bow River
 - North – Crowfoot, NWW, McKnight, SVHA, (Saints, U18 only)
 - GHC 'mini-teams' will be regional and may be a part of any of the 3 Regions
- Create Cohort Groups across the 4 Associations
- I.e. Cohort 1
 - Bow River 'Mini-Team' of 10-12 players
 - Springbank 'Mini-Team' of 10-12 players
 - Glenlake 'Mini-Team' of 10-12 players
 - Trails West 'Mini-Team' of 10-12 players
- Must practice & compete with 'mini-teams' from the same cohort

Benefits

- Increased competition at the optimal time of the season
- New opponents
- Will create similar game-play experience to the past (normalcy)

Challenges

- Coordination of ice for practicing – 4 Associations schedulers would have to work together to coordinate all practices for 4 Associations, or 2 Associations would pair up to practice with each other
- More travel – shared practices will be across associations which may increase travel. Additionally, if there is an outbreak it may cause a shutdown to expand across multiple associations and cohorts.
- Lose ability to share and group coaches

([See Appendix VI](#) for visual of the Development Season → Competition Season process)

NOTE: As per the Government of Alberta and Hockey Alberta, Tournaments will not be permitted during this phase.

HOUSE LEAGUE HOCKEY

Hockey Calgary and its member associations work together to operate 4 regional House Leagues across the city:

- SCHHL (South Calgary House Hockey League)
- NCHL (North Calgary House League)
- WCHL (West Calgary House League)
- NWHL (North West House League)

Each league faces different challenges as it relates to ice, registration, and scheduling. For the 2020-21 season, the different House Leagues may have different structures. However, all leagues will maintain the key features of House League hockey

Familiarity

- Maintaining current age categories
- Maintaining ½ ice games in U9 and full ice games in U11 and U13
- 2 ice times per week on consistent days – 1 practice and 1 ‘game-like’ ice time
- Cohorts/teams will remain evenly balanced
- Same number of ice times as in previous seasons
 - Minimum 28 ice times (excluding evaluations)

Cohorts

- Cohorts may be amalgamated or may remain association specific
- Structure
 - Mini-Team structure
 - Cohort is split into 3-4 mini-teams of 9-12 players for practices and games
 - Program structure – similar to RHC
 - Within the cohort, 2 evenly balanced teams will be created for 3-5 game mini-series (length to be determined by the association)
 - Following the series, jerseys will be washed by Jersey Volunteers, and 2 new teams will be created for another 3-5 game mini-series
 - Coaches can work together to run practices or can run practices with their ‘current’ mini-series team
- Opportunity to try new game play formats (5v5, 4v4, 3v3, etc.)

RECREATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE (RHC)

Familiarity

- Maintaining current age categories
- Maintain a full game play program (6 development sessions for U13)
- 2 game ice times per week on consistent days
- Cohorts/teams will remain evenly balanced – same process
- Same number of ice times as in previous seasons
- Game play will typically be 5v5, however, if required, a 4v4 or 3v3 format may be considered

Cohorts

- Cohort sizes for RHC are 24-40 (including goalies)
- Coaches can be either be:
 - ‘Cohort’ coaches where physical distancing is not required
- OR
 - ‘Physically distanced’ coaches who must maintain appropriate physical distancing at all times
 - [For more detail please refer the Coaches section](#)
- Game-play
 - In phase 2 of the Alberta relaunch, permanent teams will not be created with in the cohort
 - Process:
 1. Within the cohort, 2 evenly balanced teams will be created for 4-6 game mini-series (length to be determined by RHC)
 2. Following the series, jerseys will be washed by Jersey Volunteers, and 2 new teams will be created for another 4-6 game mini-series
 3. This process will continue until it is safe to move to a ‘Regular Season’
 - The changing teams and mini-series provide some variety of competition while following all AHS and Government of Alberta guidelines
- Referees – Hockey Calgary is currently in discussions with Central Region to have permanent officials assigned to all RHC cohorts (TBD)

8 REFEREES (TBD)

During the 'Development Season', and as per Hockey Alberta:

- “As this component involves practices and inter-squad play only, on-ice officials are not necessary. If officials are used, given the challenges of physical distancing on the ice, those officials **must be included as part of the identified Cohort.**”

Due to this requirement, Hockey Calgary will **not** be able to provide officials to all cohorts. Officials can only be assigned to 1 cohort and many of our officials are also players, who would already be assigned to a cohort as a player and therefore unable to officiate in a cohort. Coaches should be used to manage the games where officials are not provided.

The Hockey Calgary Operations Council (made up of Association Presidents) has requested the use of officials for certain divisions and levels of hockey for the purposes of player safety. Hockey Calgary is currently working with Central Region with the goal of permanently assigning officials to all **U15 and U18 Body-Checking cohorts**, all **Elite cohorts**, and all **RHC cohorts**. These officials would not be players within the Hockey Calgary program and therefore only be assigned to 1 cohort as an official.

Details still need to be finalized, but please note this is an initiative, not a guarantee.

Certification and Training:

For new officials, and returning Level I and II officials, in-person certification clinics will not start until after Thanksgiving weekend. The current targeted start date is the weekend of October 17-18, but that is subject to change based on developments within the province regarding COVID-19.

For Levels III-VI officials, they are eligible to sign up for virtual (video conference) session to obtain their certification for 2020-21. These clinics will be available starting in late September.

For any official who was certified in the 2019-20, that certification remains valid until January 31, 2021. Normally, certification from the previous season remains valid until December 31, but for this season, Hockey Canada has provided a special exemption extending that deadline by one month.

Clinic registration will begin in mid-September (specific date TBD). Check the Hockey Alberta Officials website (officials.hockeyalberta.ca) for updates and current information pertaining to officiating and the 2020-21 season.

These revised timelines for clinics and certification align with on-ice officials are not required until the Modified Competition Season component of the Return to Hockey Plan. Once officials begin to work on the ice, Hockey Canada has developed a set of [COVID-19 officiating guidelines and an FAQ](#)

9 COACHES, TEAM OFFICIALS AND OFF-ICE OFFICIALS

Coaching:

Coaches can be designated in 1 of 2 ways:

1. 'Cohort' Coach
 - a. A coach who is a part of the cohort and does not need to maintain distance from players
 - b. *NOTE: a coach can only be a 'Cohort Coach' in 1 cohort at a time*
2. 'Physical Distanced' Coach
 - a. A coach who must remain 2 metres apart at all times from all participants. This includes in the dressing rooms and on the players' bench

Important Notes:

- Coaches can only belong to one cohort and therefore, they can only be a 'Cohort' coach in one cohort. However, they are permitted to be a 'Physical Distanced' coach for multiple cohorts. Furthermore, a coach can be a 'Cohort' coach in one cohort and a 'Physical Distanced' coach in another cohort.
 - Ex. A coach can be a 'Cohort' coach with a U7 team, and a 'Physical Distanced' coach with a U13 team (or vice versa)
- Hockey Calgary has intentionally left more room in U7 and U9 cohort numbers to allow for plenty of 'Cohort Coaches' at the younger ages to assist with close development
- Coaches are permitted to be 'Cohort' coaches at the U11 and older levels, provided the total cohort size remains 50 or less (including any potential officials). Please consult with your association if interested.
- Coaches are permitted to be 'Physical Distanced' coaches in U7 and U9 provided they always maintain appropriate distance

Identification – Hockey Calgary and its member associations are working on a protocol to visually identify 'Physical Distanced Coaches' on the ice so that players are aware of who they need to maintain appropriate distance from at all times.

Masks/PPE (Personal Protective Equipment):

Please see the [Protocols and Safety section](#) information for mask/PPE requirements for coaches.

Certification and Training:

Hockey Alberta will maintain the same requirements for all Coaches and Team Officials for the 2020-21 season (November 15 deadline), with the addition of an online Hockey Canada Return to Hockey Safety Guidelines module for all head coaches. The module is now available.

[RETURN TO HOCKEY SAFETY MODULE](#)

The list of current coaching requirements is available: [COACH EDUCATION](#)

Off-Ice Officials (timekeepers and scorekeepers):

During the 'Development Season', all games are considered inter-squad (inter-cohort) and do not require an official game sheet.

Hockey Calgary is actively working with facilities to determine the appropriate usage of timekeepers and scorekeepers to operate the game clock.

10 FAQs

General:

- Q. The Association based cohort model sounds a lot like House League. Why are the fees for community hockey similar to past seasons and not closer to House League fees?
- A. From a cost standpoint, the main difference between Community Hockey and House League is the amount of ice sessions players receive for their registration. Community Hockey teams receive significantly more ice times compared to House League.
- Q. Are players allowed to opt-out of the development/early phases and rejoin for the Regular/Competitive seasons?
- A. No, players must be registered with Hockey Calgary from the beginning.
- Q. Can my child be involved in multiple sport cohorts? For example, can they be in a soccer cohort as well as a hockey cohort?
- A. The Government of Alberta cohorting guidelines state “Athletes should not belong to multiple sports mini-leagues; they should select one sports cohort for the duration of Stage 2.”

Within the Hockey Calgary program, we will follow these guidelines. Players, coaches, and referees will only be assigned to 1 cohort at a time.

Families have choices. When making decisions, we ask families consider the health of all participants as it relates to their cohort involvement outside the Hockey Calgary program.

- Q. Why do we have to have mini-teams? Why can't we just do regular team sizes in the cohort?
- A. Mini-teams will allow more opponents within a cohort to provide a variety of competition and to operate a program that better resembles a normal season.

Sorting/Evaluations:

- Q. Why 3 skates for just skills-based sorting?
- A. More sessions mean a larger sample size for the evaluators. If a player has an abnormally poor or good skate, it will impact their overall ranking less, creating a more accurate score of a players' average ability. This was agreed to by the Association Presidents who were members of the sub-committee.

- Q. Do sessions need to be a certain length?
- A. No. Sessions can be shorter if the Association believes they can evaluate the players through all of the planned drills.
- Q. How will game play, hockey IQ, and compete level be evaluated?
- A. These factors will likely not be evaluated to their normal extent at the beginning of the year. However, players will likely be evaluated on these variables for a greater period prior to forming traditional teams for Phase 3 play. Players will play within their Cohort for an undetermined period where they can be evaluated on these variables. For example, the player with the #50 ranking after skills-based sorting could move up to #1 after evaluating these variables during Phase 2. Theoretically, teams will be more accurately sorted for Phase 3 that they ever have been in the past.
- Q. Why do evaluation drills need to be approved? Can't associations just do what they want?
- A. Hockey Calgary is committed to the safety and well-being of all participants. In order to mitigate the risk of a shutdown or quarantine of our program, we need to be sure we strictly adhere to the AHS and Hockey Alberta guidelines. By having a process of approval we can ensure we have completed a proper risk assessment of our on ice physical distancing sessions, which will give confidence to AHS and Hockey Alberta that we have done our due diligence and are running our program to their satisfaction.
- Q. Would elite releases need to isolate for 14 days prior to participating in community evaluations?
- A. No. Technically they would be going from a cohort, to physically distanced evaluations, which means they are not entering a new cohort. However, if evaluations take less than 14 days, they may need to sit out the balance before engaging with their assigned community hockey cohort.

Contact Tracing/Screening

- Q. How will Hockey Calgary handle contact tracing and symptom screening?
- A. Hockey Calgary will be using TeamSnap's new 'Health Check' feature. Details and instructions will be sent to all members. Please view this short video to get a better understanding. [Click Here](#)
- Q. What happens if a player answers yes to any of the symptom screening questions?

- A. Any participant who answers YES to any of the questions must complete the Government of Alberta Isolation requirements prior to returning to any hockey related activity. [Isolation Requirements](#)

COVID-19

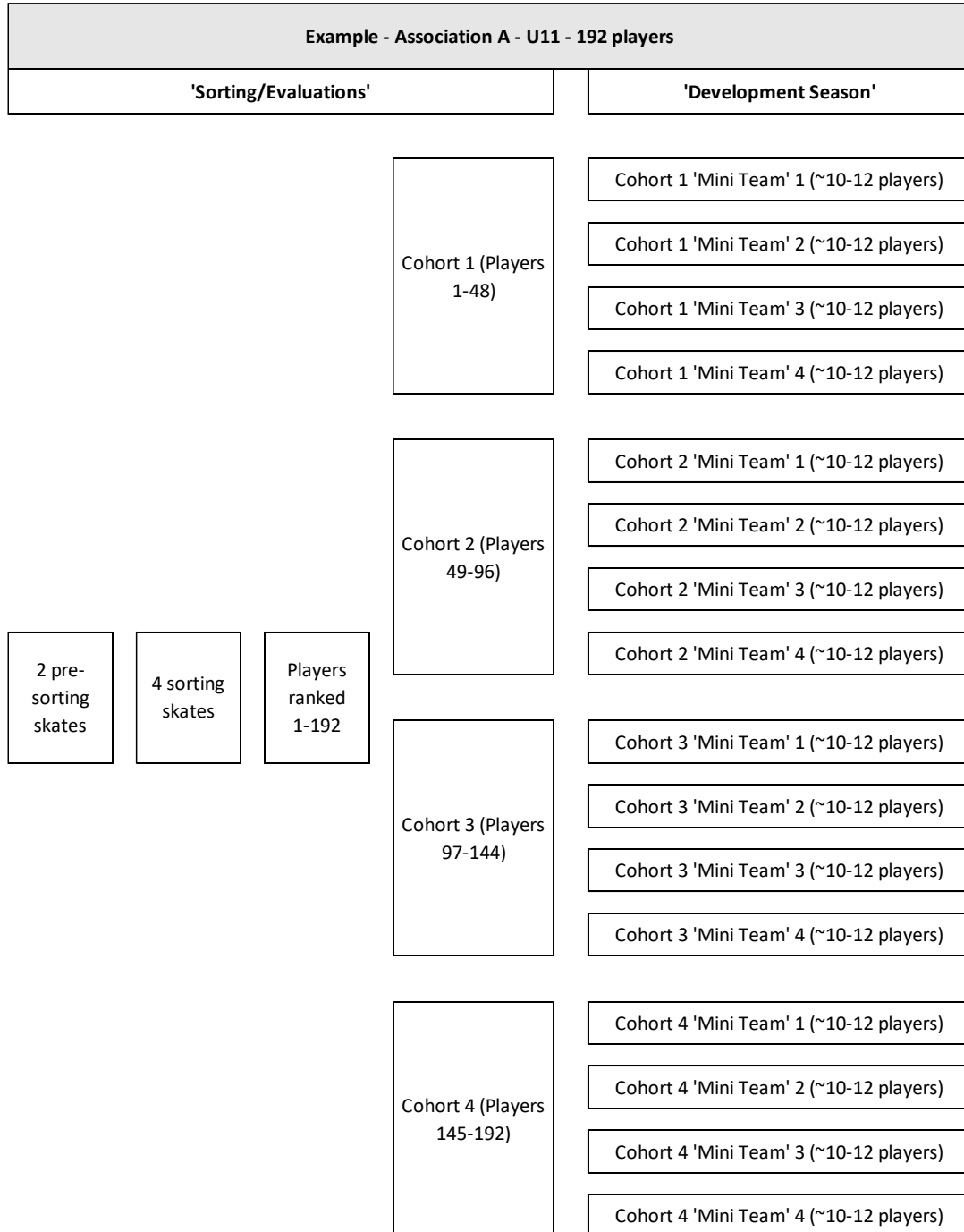
- Q. What happens if there is a positive test in a Cohort? If that participant gets tested and the result is negative, can they return to the activity?
- A. There will be a formal reporting process if any participant contracts COVID-19. Hockey Calgary will take all direction from the Alberta Health Services. We do not have any more clarity at this time and may not have any more clarity as our programs begin. AHS is treating every situation differently and are not providing concrete 'what ifs'. We must simply follow reporting guidelines and take direction as it is given.

Coaches

- Q. Are coaches part of the cohort number?
- A. Coaches will either be classified with a cohort as a 'Cohort' coach or a 'Physical Distanced' coach. 'Cohort' coaches are part of the cohort, do not need to physically distance and are part of the cohort number. 'Physical Distanced' coaches must always maintain appropriate distance from all members and are not part of the cohort number. Most of the coaches at the U7 and U9 level will be 'Cohort' coaches. Most of the coaches at the U11 and older levels will be 'Physical Distanced' coaches, however, 'Cohort' coaches can be used at this level provided the cohort does not exceed 50 total members.
- Q. Can a coach be part of a 'Cohort' coach in one cohort and also a 'Physical Distanced' coach with a different cohort?
- A. Yes
- Q. What happens if a coach notices a player is showing symptoms before or during participation?
- A. Like an injury, coaches will have full authority to deny a player participation if they believe the player is sick. Coaches will be given resources to help assist them. However, if parents and players are honest in their pre-participation symptom screening, we should avoid any situation where a coach must deny participation.

11 APPENDICES

APPENDIX I



APPENDIX II

U9 Cohorts (3 and/or 4 mini-teams)

Mini Team Size Range 9-10

Players	Balanced Mini-Teams in each Cohort						TOTAL
	Cohort 1	Cohort 2	Cohort 3	Cohort 4	Cohort 5	Cohort 6	
60-80	30 or 36-40	30 or 36-40					2
90-120	30 or 36-40	30 or 36-40	30 or 36-40				3
120-160	30 or 36-40	30 or 36-40	30 or 36-40	30 or 36-40			4
160-200	40	30 or 36-40	30 or 36-40	30 or 36-40	30 or 36-40		5
202-240	40	36-40	36-40	30 or 36-40	30 or 36-40	30 or 36-40	6

NOTE:

1. Cohorts can have either 3 or 4 mini-teams
2. Cohorts do not need to have the same number of players and mini-teams (ex. Cohort 2 has 4 mini-teams, Cohort 3 has 3 mini-teams)
3. Mini-Teams sizes MUST fall in a range of 9-10 players each
4. Cohorts with 3 mini-teams must be rostered at 10 players (30 total)
5. Cohorts with 4 mini-teams can be rostered between 9-10 players (36-40 players)
6. Mini-team roster sizes within each cohort must be within 1 player from each other
7. If numbers fall outside of the ranges above, consult with Hockey Calgary
8. Any deviation from this grid must be approved by Hockey Calgary
9. Associations with 3 and 4 mini-team cohorts in the same age category should have their 4 mini-team cohorts in their middle cohorts, followed by their top cohort, with their bottom cohort as the last place a 4th mini-team should be added. This is similar to the 'doubling' that occurs in the standard grid (ex. 146 players - C1 (36 players), C2 (40 players), C3 (40 players), C4 (30 players)).

Note: Cohorts can have 3 or 4 evenly balanced mini-teams. Please be aware that moving to 3 mini-teams reduces the amount of teams to compete against.

APPENDIX III

U11 and U13 Cohorts (3 and/or 4 mini-teams)

Mini Team Size Range 9-12

Players	Balanced Mini-Teams in each Cohort					TOTAL
	Cohort 1	Cohort 2	Cohort 3	Cohort 4	Cohort 5	
72-96	36-48	36-48				2
108-144	36-48	36-48	36-48			3
144-182	36-48	36-48	36-48	36-48		4
180-240	36-48	36-48	36-48	36-48	36-48	5

NOTE:

1. Cohorts can have either 3 or 4 mini-teams
2. Cohorts do not need to have the same number of players and mini-teams (ex. Cohort 2 has 4 mini-teams, Cohort 3 has 3 mini-teams)
3. Mini-Teams sizes **MUST** fall in a range of 9-12 players each
4. Cohorts with 3 mini-teams must be rostered at 12 players including goalies (36 total)
5. Cohorts with 4 mini-teams can be rostered between 9-12 players including goalies (36-48 players)
6. Mini-team roster sizes within each cohort must be within 1 player from each other
7. If numbers fall outside of the ranges above, consult with Hockey Calgary
8. Any deviation from this grid must be approved by Hockey Calgary
9. Associations with 3 and 4 mini-team cohorts in the same age category should have their 4 mini-team cohorts in their middle cohorts, followed by their top cohort, with their bottom cohort as the last place a 4th mini-team should be added. This is similar to the 'doubling' that occurs in the standard grid (ex. 156 players - C1 (36 players), C2 (48 players), C3 (36 players), C4 (36 players)).

Note: Cohorts can have 3 or 4 evenly balanced mini-teams. Please be aware that moving to 3 mini-teams reduces the amount of teams to compete against.

APPENDIX IV

U15 and U18 Cohorts (3 and/or 4 mini-teams)

Mini Team Size Range 9-12

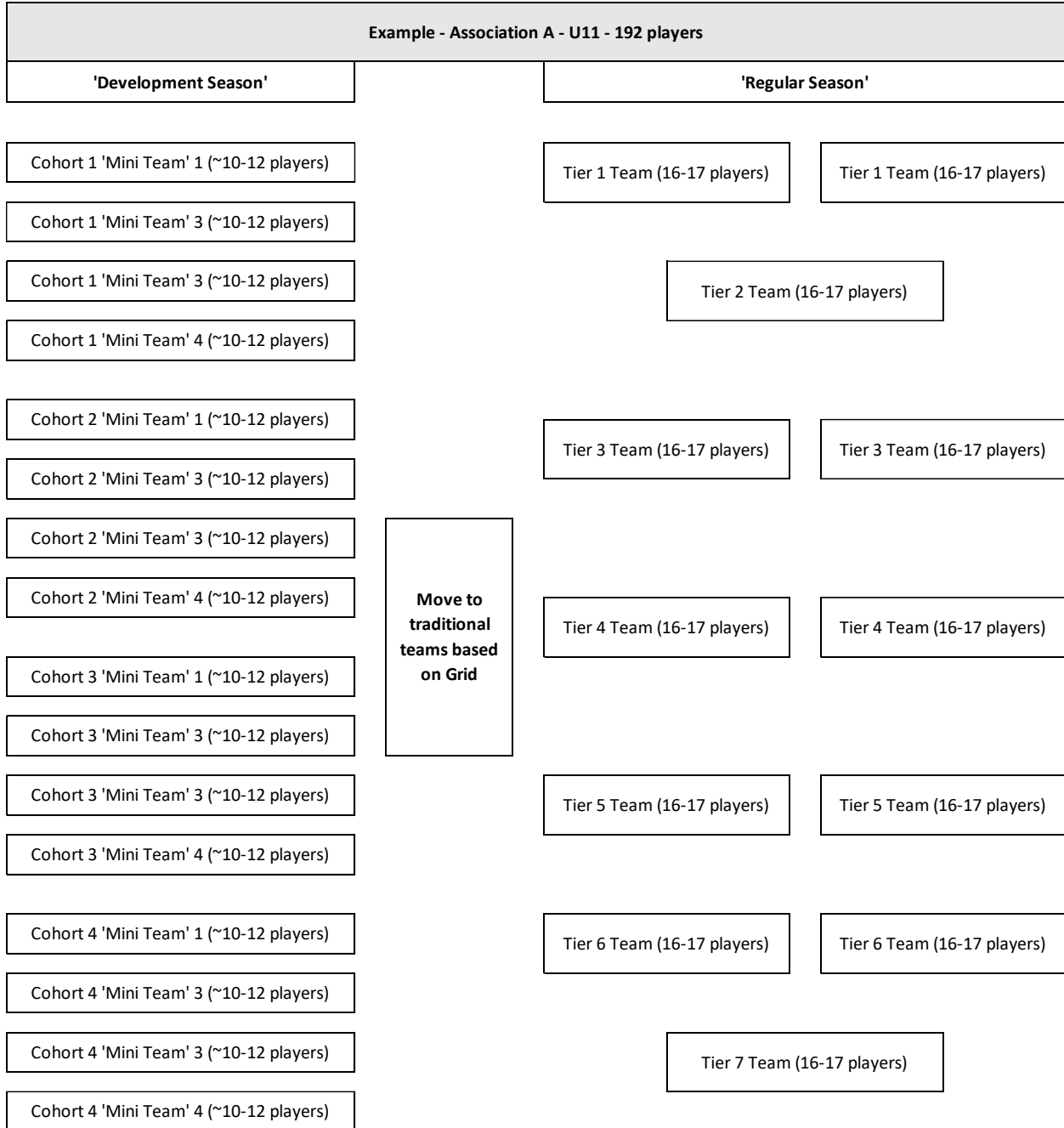
Players		Balanced Mini-Teams in each Cohort						TOTAL
		Body Checking			Non-Body Checking			
		Cohort 1	Cohort 2	Cohort 3	Cohort 1	Cohort 2	Cohort 3	
0-71		Even Split			Even Split			2
72-96		36-48			36-48			2
108-120	Option 1	36-48			36	36		3
	Option 2	36	36		36-48			3
121-144	Option 1	48			36-48	36-48		3
	Option 2	36-48	36-48		48			3
144-192		36-48	36-48		36-48	36-48		4

NOTE:

1. Cohorts can have either 3 or 4 mini-teams
2. Cohorts do not need to have the same number of players and mini-teams (ex. Cohort 2 has 4 mini-teams, Cohort 3 has 3 mini-teams)
3. Mini-Teams sizes MUST fall in a range of 9-12 players each
4. Cohorts with 3 mini-teams must be rostered at 12 players including goalies (36 total)
5. Cohorts with 4 mini-teams can be rostered between 9-12 players including goalies (36-48 players)
6. Mini-team roster sizes within each cohort must be within 1 player from each other
7. If numbers fall outside of the ranges above, consult with Hockey Calgary
8. Any deviation from this grid must be approved by Hockey Calgary
9. Please be aware that when we move to the Regular Season, all body-checking cohorts will be required to play in body-checking divisions 1, 2, and 3.

Note: Cohorts can have 3 or 4 evenly balanced mini-teams. Please be aware that moving to 3 mini-teams reduces the amount of teams to compete against. Please be aware that having 4 mini-teams allows the association more flexibility to put more players on the ice (24) for practices.

APPENDIX V



APPENDIX VI

Example - Association A - U11 - 192 player		
'Development Season'		'Competition Phase' (if necessary)
Association X Cohort 1 'Mini Team' 1 (~10-12 players)		Association X Cohort 1 'Mini Team' 1 (~10-12 players)
Association X Cohort 1 'Mini Team' 2 (~10-12 players)		Association Y Cohort 1 'Mini Team' 1 (~10-12 players)
Association X Cohort 1 'Mini Team' 3 (~10-12 players)		Association Z Cohort 1 'Mini Team' 1 (~10-12 players)
Association X Cohort 1 'Mini Team' 4 (~10-12 players)		Association W Cohort 1 'Mini Team' 1 (~10-12 players)
Association Y Cohort 1 'Mini Team' 1 (~10-12 players)		Association X Cohort 2 'Mini Team' 1 (~10-12 players)
Association Y Cohort 1 'Mini Team' 2 (~10-12 players)		Association Y Cohort 2 'Mini Team' 1 (~10-12 players)
Association Y Cohort 1 'Mini Team' 3 (~10-12 players)	Winter Break (reset for new Cohorts)	Association Z Cohort 2 'Mini Team' 1 (~10-12 players)
Association Y Cohort 1 'Mini Team' 4 (~10-12 players)		Association W Cohort 2 'Mini Team' 1 (~10-12 players)
Association Z Cohort 1 'Mini Team' 1 (~10-12 players)		Association X Cohort 3 'Mini Team' 1 (~10-12 players)
Association Z Cohort 1 'Mini Team' 2 (~10-12 players)		Association Y Cohort 3 'Mini Team' 1 (~10-12 players)
Association Z Cohort 1 'Mini Team' 3 (~10-12 players)		Association Z Cohort 3 'Mini Team' 1 (~10-12 players)
Association Z Cohort 1 'Mini Team' 4 (~10-12 players)		Association W Cohort 3 'Mini Team' 1 (~10-12 players)
Association W Cohort 1 'Mini Team' 1 (~10-12 players)		Association X Cohort 4 'Mini Team' 1 (~10-12 players)
Association W Cohort 1 'Mini Team' 2 (~10-12 players)		Association Y Cohort 4 'Mini Team' 1 (~10-12 players)
Association W Cohort 1 'Mini Team' 3 (~10-12 players)		Association Z Cohort 4 'Mini Team' 1 (~10-12 players)
Association W Cohort 1 'Mini Team' 4 (~10-12 players)		Association W Cohort 4 'Mini Team' 1 (~10-12 players)