
HOCKEY EASTERN ONTARIO

One Team, One Mission, One Goal



Bulletin: 2021/22-30

To: District Chairs, CCHL, EOJHL, NCJHL, SHEO, Special Hockey

CC: HEO Board of Directors, HEO Staff

From: HEO RTH Implementation Task Team

Date: January 3, 2022

Re: **COVID 19 – Provincial Announcement return to Step 2 of the Reopening Plan**

Due to increasing COVID-19 infections including the ever-growing appearance of the highly infectious OMICRON variant in our communities, The Province of Ontario announced today that it is returning to Step 2 of the Reopening Plan based on **O. Reg. 263/20: Rules for areas in Step 2.** [O. Reg. 263-20.pdf](#)

Starting Wednesday January 5, 2022, in accordance with provincial regulations, ***all indoor sport and recreational fitness facilities, including gyms, will be closed, except for athletes training for the Olympics and Paralympics and select professional and elite amateur sport leagues. Outdoor facilities will be permitted to operate but with the number of spectators not to exceed 50 per cent occupancy and other requirements.***

Currently, HEO programming does not conform to the provinces definition of “Elite Amateur Sports Leagues”. For your information, the permitted Elite Amateur Sport Leagues per the Province of Ontario can be found in the link above:

Therefore (as per provincial legislation) HEO programming will be paused effective 12:01AM Wednesday January 5th, 2022 and will not resume until the Province of Ontario removes the current restrictions or makes changes to the current legislation (**O. Reg. 263/20**), either of which would provide HEO with a clear roadmap on how to proceed.

This pause includes participation in Indoor Sport outside of the Province of Ontario.

As difficult as this is, we must all do our part to stop the spread of this virus at its current rapid pace. Hopefully we are able to get this under control quickly so we can return to hockey as soon as possible.

We understand your frustration with ever-changing provincial and municipal regulations and requirements. We are all looking forward to moving past COVID-19 and returning to the game we love. Thank you all for your patience and understanding once again as we navigate through this latest (and hopefully, last) phase of the COVID-19 Pandemic.

As always HEO will keep you informed as soon as we receive any updated information from either the Province of Ontario, any of the four local public health units, Health Canada, or Hockey Canada.