



HOCKEY CALGARY

INFORMATION BULLETIN

Date: February 3, 2021 #21-03
To: HC Members & Member Associations
From: Kevin Kobelka – Executive Director
CC: HC Board, HC Governors

SUBJECT: Hockey Calgary Cancellation of 2020-21 Traditional Season

Since our last communication to Hockey Calgary families surrounding the survey results there has been further notification from both the Alberta Government and Hockey Alberta around the path forward for youth sports in the pandemic environment.

On the afternoon of January 29th, the government communicated the following:

- 'Community' youth sports will NOT open in stage 1.
- 'Community' youth sports opening appears to be in stage 2, (March 1 at earliest)
 - o Stage 2 details:
 - Stage 2 will be realized only if hospitalizations fall below 450.
 - There were no clear protocols outlined for how youth sports would open in stage 2, but we can assume, that it would NOT be in a game format, and there would be some # limitations at this time.

On February 2nd, Hockey Alberta released a memo stating the following:

- HA traditional '**League Play**' will be cancelled for the 2020-21 season.
- Minor Hockey Associations would be free to offer developmental programs, if their arenas remained open, restrictions are lifted, and they are interested in doing so.

The Hockey Calgary Membership Survey revealed that:

- a. A significant portion of members wanted to continue the current playing season or extend it.
- b. There was also a large % of families who would rather end the season immediately.
- c. Providing refunds was important.

Based on this new information and the results of the survey Hockey Calgary has made the following decision:

Effective February 3rd, 2021 the Board of Directors and Member Associations of Hockey Calgary have made the difficult decision to cancel the remainder of the 2020/2021 'Traditional Hockey Season' and focus on providing a development program for members that wish to participate.

NOTE: This includes all of Hockey Calgary leagues and programs including Junior B and Junior C, which were not included in the Hockey Alberta Announcement.

It has always been the hope of Hockey Calgary to return to scheduled league play, however the current restrictions, timelines and ice availability does not make that feasible. **Hockey Calgary and our Member Associations will work together to provide some developmental programming into the spring should public health restrictions be lifted, we secure access to ice, and our members be interested. These programs are not part of the existing program and will be 'opt in' only.**

Hockey Calgary and our Member Associations will be working to provide fair refunds to our members over the coming days. We are waiting for final confirmation of refund amounts from Hockey Alberta and Hockey Canada that we can pass on to our Associations, who can in turn pass on to the families. More information will follow by the end of the week.

The Board of Directors and Member Associations of Hockey Calgary did not take this decision lightly and believe that this outcome addresses the wishes of our membership by providing both future programming as well as an ability to end the hockey season if they so choose. We would like to thank our members for being patient throughout this trying season and we regret the premature end of the 2020/2021 hockey season. We plan to support our Member Associations as much as possible with community run programming.

Finally, we would like to thank our Members, Member Associations and volunteers for their on-going patience and understanding as we navigate this unique season. We are disappointed in the outcome of the announcement by the government on January 29th but remain optimistic that we will be back in arenas in some form soon.

Regards,



Kevin Kobelka
Executive Director