

# Caledonia Oldtimers Hockey



## 2020-21 Season Plan

### Ice Times and Season Start:

- Ice Times
  - Sundays @ 10pm Clark Pad
  - Sundays @ 10:30pm Almas Pad
  - Mondays @ 9:30-10:30pm Clark Pad
  - Mondays @ 10:00-11:00pm Almas Pad
- Season Start
  - Targeting October 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> to start the season
  - The start of the season could be push back by 1 or 2 weeks based on the late opening of registration. The ice contract was not completed until September 30<sup>th</sup>. This is almost one full month behind schedule, which has delayed registration and all other activities we need to complete to start the season.
- Christmas Break
  - Our intention is to play over the Christmas break. Since we are starting a week late and could make to push the start back by 1 or 2 weeks, unless things change, we plan on playing Monday December 28<sup>th</sup>
- End of Season
  - The league will consider when our year ends. If there is the need to pause the season, we will consider extending the season into April. While it is too early to tell if this will be needed, the executive has discussed it and felt that the members should be aware of this option.

### 2 Stages to our Season:

Our Season will be broken into 2 stages or parts or stages:

- Stage 1 – Full Season Registration
  - October thru March
  - 50 Player Cohorts
    - Reduced Numbers to allow for Cohorts of 50 players.
    - Two Divisions of 4 Teams each
    - No Cross Play Between Divisions
  - 5on5 Hockey
  - Payments will be split into 2 Parts
    - 1<sup>st</sup> Payment due upon Registration
    - 2<sup>nd</sup> Payment due January 2nd
- Stage 2 – Traditional Hockey without COVID Restrictions
  - Our League reserves the right to remove COVID restrictions should the situation allow it.
  - This stage is not based on specific timing, just that we will return to 5on5 hockey when it is safe to do so and we have alignment with the province, the county and CARHA in moving ahead in this fashion.
  - This may allow us to add more players to the league or to add spares skaters.
  - This may allow us to go back to one 8 team division.
  - At this time, we have no way of knowing whether or not this is possible for the 2020-21 season.

### Reduced Numbers and Controlled Cohorts (Divisions):

- 2 Groups (Cohorts) – Norris and Adams Divisions
  - 4 Teams in each Division
  - We required to maintain a 50-Player Cohort
- Team Composition – Limited by 50-Player Cohort
  - 11 Skaters per Team

- 1 Goalie Per Team
  - No Spares - See below
  - Maximum Total Roster Size is 12
    - $4 \times 12 = 48$
- 1 or 2 Refs per Game:
- We are working with Referees to determine how we will proceed this season.
  - We have 2 challenges with referees this season:
    - With games being played over two nights it is more difficult to get refs to come for only one game
    - The referees in our league are tired of the abuse they have taken over the past few seasons. The result is that we have a number of local officials who no longer want to officiate in our league.
  - These two items in combination are making it difficult to get refs for our league.
  - This could and will impact our league as follows:
    - There is a chance that we may only have one ref per game or will have to pay a premium to get 2 refs to come out.
    - Overall, we our players must treat officials better.
    - We as a league will have to treat our officials better especially in the case of one ref – if there is only one official, they are going to miss more calls, they cannot be in positions for everything.
    - We will likely institute stiffer penalties for verbal altercations with referees. This is something the league will be looking at.
  - This matter has not been finalized yet, but will have an impact on our season.
- Spares
- There will be no spare skaters this season
  - There will be only spare goalies this season
    - 1-2 spare goalie per Cohort
    - Total of 2-4 Spare Goalies between 2 Cohorts
    - In an emergency situation where 1 of the 2 spare goalies in a Cohort cannot fill in for a missing goalie and we have to share a spare goalie between Cohorts, the goalie in question that spares in the opposing Cohort one week cannot return to their own Cohort the next week. They would need at least one week off before playing back in their Cohort, allowing 14 days between playing in opposite Cohorts.
  - Teams will be able to borrow players from another team in the event that they are short
    - This must be done in advance through the Spares Coordinator
    - The Spares Coordinator will confirm that both team reps must agree to spare platers from other teams playing.
    - Since each division will play one game Sunday and one Monday, teams can borrow from the two teams in their division not playing a game on a night that they are short.
  - If teams are short, team reps can talk prior to the start of a game and agree to play 4on4 instead of 5on5

## Game Format

- 5on5
- 11 Skaters and 1 Goalie Per Team
  - 2 Spare Goalies per Cohort
  - No Spare Skaters
- Penalties
- Penalties will be no different then in the past.
  - We put one player in the box and then all subsequent players are to serve penalties from their bench
    - Second and subsequent penalized player to sit in the middle of the bench
    - After the first player leaves the box and there is stoppage in play before the second penalty expires, the player serving the penalty serving on the bench is to return to the penalty box to serve the remainder of their penalty.

## Events

- At this time the league must suspend all events outside of playing hockey. Meet the team night, wing night, the golf tournament and the year end event have been placed on hold. Unfortunately, we have no choice in this matter. If we are allowed to resume these activities, we most certainly will.

- Year-End and Playoffs
  - The intention is to hold a year end event and playoffs.
  - At this time, it is unclear what we will and will not be allowed to do.
  - As the season progresses, we will assess the situation and announce details as we get closer to the end of the season.

### Back-Up Plan if we cannot hold Organized Games

- Worst case - Organized Shiny
  - This could be instituted as a response to limited group settings to 25 or less, whereby 50 person Cohorts are not longer allowed by the province, county or local public health office.
  - Up to 4 Groups with each having
    - 20 Skaters
    - 2 Goalies
  - Basically, it would be like shiny
  - No Refs, no Timekeepers
  - Switch up Teams after 3 or 5 weeks, within your group
  - Simply just for fun and having a skate

### COVID Related Health and Safety Measures:

- Please refer to the Haldimand County Rules and Policies for the HCCC facility.
  - Our league will be bound by all these rules.
  - These rules are subject to change and will be distributed to our league.
- Masks are required for all league members at this time:
  - Mask On when entering the arena, Helmet On-Mask Off, Helmet Off-Mask On
  - These polices are dictated by Haldimand County
  - Anyone wanting to be exempt from wearing a mask for medical reasons, will need to provide the league medical documentation from a doctor indicating the reasons why the person in question is exempt from wearing a mask. This documentation must also indicate that their medical condition does not pose a health risk by their participation in sport, including hockey.
- Participants will be able to enter the arena 15 minutes prior to their scheduled rental time.
- All participants will need to vacate the premise within 15 minutes of the end of the rental
- Showers will not be permitted at this time
- Spectators will not be permitted at this time
- Dressing Rooms are not available at this time – this is a county decision not our league's.
- Coaches and Non-Players will not be permitted at this time
- Player Attendance and Contact Tracing
  - Our intention is to use the TeamSnap app to handle this requirement from the county.
  - This will require the following:
    - All players must use the TeamSnap app on their phone, computer or tablet
    - All players must advise in advance if they are attending or not
    - All players must complete a health screen
  - There will be no exceptions granted for players on the use of the TeamSnap app. Any player not doing so will be addressed through the discipline policy detailed below.
- Players/Participants shall limit all physical contact outside the normal parameters of adult recreational hockey (i.e. there shall be no handshakes, no celebrations after goals)
- Players/Coaches/Participants must use individual water bottles
  - The sharing of water bottles is prohibited
  - The league will include a water bottle for each player with registration

- Players/Coaches/Participants are prohibited from attending if they are ill, or they show any signs or have been around someone who is ill. If a player is or has been ill, or is showing any symptoms (2 or more) of being ill from being around someone who is ill, they should self-isolate and not return to play for a minimum of 14 days or upon a negative COVID-19 test result – the test results will need to be provided to the league.
  - Players who are self-isolating as they are awaiting a COVID test result are ineligible to play.
  - Players who are self-monitoring as they have been in contact with someone awaiting a COVID test result are ineligible to play.
  - Players who are ill or is showing any symptoms (2 or more) of being ill are ineligible to play, regardless of whether they are being tested for COVID or not.
- The league asks that all players who have received a positive COVID test notify the league immediately so that we can take the appropriate actions to protect our players.
- Should a player in the league have a positive COVID test, the league will follow the guidance of the Local Public Health Office to determine how the situation is handled.
- The use of individual antibacterial hand sanitizer is recommended before and after games
  - At this current time, the county has provided hand sanitizer as you enter the arena and near the ice pad after you leave the rink
  - Should the county decide not to provide hand sanitizer, the league will look into whether or not it will provide hand sanitizer for the players.
- Players/Coaches/Participants should avoid touching their eyes, nose or mouth
- Players/Coaches/Participants must cover their mouth and nose with a tissue or into your elbow when coughing or sneezing
- Players/Coaches/Participants are to be mindful and abstain from spitting
- Players/Coaches/Participants should wash their hands frequently and before and after each game or practice
- Additional Safety Measures – we recognize that every player is in a different situation. Some players may want to take additional measures to protect themselves this season. While these are not mandatory, we highly recommend all players consider these options:
  - The use of a full facial visor is recommended for all players except goaltenders
  - The use of full facial visor with additional barrier
  - Face Masks worn while on the Bench
  - Face Masks worn during play
- At this time, we are asking players not to wearing neck type scarfs or “gaiters”. Should these get caught on anything, they could potentially pose a health and safety risk to our players. Only items that can easy break away or come off the player’s body should be warned during play.
- PLEASE NOTE THAT THESE RECOMMENDATIONS ARE A GUIDELINE ONLY AND SHOULD NOT BE CONSIDERED AN EXHAUSTIVE LIST OF THE RISKS AND PRECAUTIONS ASSOCIATED WITH THE RETURN TO ADULT RECREATIONAL HOCKEY. THESE RECOMMENDATIONS ARE FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES ONLY AND DO NOT CONSTITUTE HEALTH OR LEGAL ADVICE. AT ALL TIMES IT IS THE PLAYERS/PARTICIPANTS RESPONSIBILITY TO ASSESS AND MANAGE THE RISK ASSOCIATED WITH THE RETURN TO HOCKEY AND HOCKEY RELATED ACTIVITIES. THESE GUIDELINES DO NOT REPLACE OR OVERRULE ANY NATIONAL, PROVINCIAL, TERRITORIAL, MUNICIPAL, OR ANY OTHER APPLICABLE PUBLIC HEALTH LAWS OR REGULATIONS. CARHA AND THE CALEDONIA OLDTIMERS HOCKEY ASSOCIATION SHALL NOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY LOSSES, CLAIMS OR DAMAGES RELATING TO COVID-19 ARISING UPON THE RETURN TO ADULT RECREATIONAL HOCKEY.

## Registration

- Open Registration
  - Originally our intention was to go back to open registration, however due to COVID and Cohort restrictions this is not possible.

- Other than the 2019-20 season (due to reduction in skaters on each team), the league has always held open registration. This being said, it is not a viable option due to the reduction in our league size due to COVID and Cohort restrictions.
- Limited Access to Registration
    - Due to the reduction in the number of skaters we have in the league, we will be holding spots for Returning Players from the 2019-20 season and then Spare Players from the 2019-20 season before opening up to New Players
    - Registration will open for Returning Players from the 2019-20 season only for 4 Days
      - Oct 5 thru Oct 8
    - Registration for Spare Players from the 2019-20 season only for 2 Days
      - Oct 9 & Oct 10
    - Then registration will be opened up to the general public (for those that meet the age requirement)
      - Oct 11
  - Registration is First Come First Serve
    - Registration will first come first serve
      - Spots will be given to players in the order that they register
      - Our registration report is date and time stamped so the league is 100% clear on the order of registration
    - We will require a minimum of 40 skaters and 4 goalies to hold a division of 4 teams (cohort)
      - This will require 80 skaters to hold two divisions (cohort).
    - If we fall short of the 80 skaters and 8 goalies
      - We will have only one division of 4 teams
      - the first 48 skaters will receive spots in the league
      - the first 4 goalies will receive spots in the league
      - the next 2 goalies will receive spare spots in the league
      - The league will be held on Monday night and the Sunday ice times will be cancelled
      - All players who do not receive a spot will be issued a full refund.
  - Fees
    - Skaters – \$400, not including the processing fee
    - Goalies – \$300, not including the processing fee
    - Processing Fee - \$10
      - This year, the league will cover part of the processing fee and reduce the processing fee to \$10.
    - Non-Eligibility Charge – \$25
      - Players who sign up but do not qualify for the restricted registration. Anyone signing up for restricted registration that does not qualify for the returning player or returning spare player group will have their registration rejected and their fees returning minus a \$25 processing charge.
    - Based on the cancellation of the 2019-2020 season, we are offering registration at a reduced rate. Registration should be at \$460, plus a \$15 processing fee, given the limits we have to put in the number of players in each cohort. Players are receiving a savings of \$65, which would exceed any refund that would have been offered at the end of the 2020 season.
    - Registration will be split into 2 Parts
      - 1<sup>st</sup> Payment Due upon Registering
      - 2<sup>nd</sup> Payment Due January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2021
      - Skaters
        - 1<sup>st</sup> Payment \$250
        - 2<sup>nd</sup> Payment \$150
      - Goalies
        - 1<sup>st</sup> Payment \$200
        - 2<sup>nd</sup> Payment \$100
  - Waivers – Players will expect to sign the following waivers as part of the registration process. Refusing to agree to these waivers will result in a player being unable to register.
    - CARHA Waiver must be signed by all players. Each player will have to sign the CARHA waiver. This is separate from the registration process. Information will be sent out to fill the forms in from CARHA through an online link. All players must sign this waiver or are ineligible to play.

- Waiver regarding Refund Policy – as part of the registration process, all players will have to sign a waiver indicating that they have read, understood and accept the refund policy.
- Waiver regarding Attendance and Contact Tracing – as part of the registration process, all players will have to sign a waiver indicating that they have read, understood and accept the policy regarding the use of TeamSnap for these purposes.
- Waiver regarding Obeying COVID Policies from CARHA, the County and The Caledonia Oldtimers Hockey Association. This will be a statement that they have read, understood and accept the discipline policy outlined below.
- Waiver indicated that players understand spots are being offers on the basis of order of registration and they will be assigned on a first come, first serve basis. We cannot guarantee anyone a spot in the league this season.

### Policy Changes:

- We reserve the right to change these policies without notice. The pandemic is a fluid situation that changes so rapidly that these policies and procedures have been created at a moment in time based on the current conditions in the community. The league reserves the right to change and or implement new policies and or procedures at anytime, so that we may stay current with situation and adhere to requirements placed upon our league.
- All policy changes will be distributed to the league immediately upon receiving board approval.
- All policy changes resulting from directives from the province, county, local public health office or any other governing authority shall be effective immediately. These will be distributed to the league immediately upon receiving.
- We will create a page on our website dedicated to having the last documents related to COVID for our league posted for all members to refer to.

### Discipline:

- We reserve the right to remove players from our league if they cannot adhere to the policies we have put in place for this season.
- Internal Complaints regarding these policies in place this season:
  - Internal Complaints are considered to be a written complaint that is sent to the Health & Safety Coordinator, President or Vice-President stating the specific actions/events and the person(s) the complaint is being made against.
  - The complaint will be investigated.
  - Should the complaint be deemed credible and going against the policies outlined here, the following will occur:
    - The league will issue 1 warning to the player(s) in question
    - It may result in immediate removal from the league based on circumstances
    - The league will remove the player(s) in question from the league on second complaint without refund
- External Complaint regarding the Special Policies in place this Season (i.e. the County):
  - The complaint will be investigated.
  - Should the complaint be deemed credible and going against the policies outlined here, the following will occur:
    - The league will remove the player(s) in question from the league without refund
    - Depending on the nature of the complaint, the league may choose to only issue a warning on the first incident – players should not rely only receiving a warning.
    - The league will remove the player(s) in questions from the league on second complaint without refund, if the player is not removed on the 1<sup>st</sup> incident
  - Any mistreatment of county staff will result in immediately removal from the league without refund
- All Warnings and Removal from the League will be issued by 1 of 3 methods:
  - Face to Face Meeting

- Phone/Conference Call
  - Video Call
- External complaints, especially from the county are very serious as they can result in fines for the league, loss of ice time this season and possibility the cancellation of the ice contract in future seasons, resulting in the potential closure of the league.
  - Removal of a player from the league will require a vote from the Executive.
  - Due to COVID, concerns and perception of personal health and safety, external complaints are not subject to appeal.

### Refund Policy:

- All refunds will be subject to a \$50.00 non-refundable administration fee, regardless of the reason a refund is requested or if the season ends early due to COVID related matters.
  - o The \$50 fee covers the following:
    - Registrations costs related to Credit Card Payments (PayPal Fees)
    - Insurance
    - Socks
    - Website, TeamSnap, Survey Monday
    - Taxes
    - Ice Costs
    - Water Bottles
    - General Operating Costs
- Refunds requests from players will be issued as follows:
  - 100% refunded if notified in writing by October 18
  - If notified in writing after October 18 and before December 15
    - Refund = Registration Fee x  $\frac{\# \text{ Weeks Lost in the Season}}{\text{Total \# weeks per season}}$  - \$50 Non-Refundable admin. fee
  - This refund will take into account the split registration fee - if the refund is issue prior the 2<sup>nd</sup> registration installment being made, the total refund be based on the full registration fee \$400, minus the \$150 for the second payment that has not been made. For example, a player pulled out after 2 weeks. Refund would be:
    - $(\$400 \times (18/20)) - \$50 \text{ admin Fee} = \$310$
    - The second payment of \$150 was not made, so the refund issues will be \$160.
- NO REFUNDS will be issued if:
  - Notified after December 15
  - Due to removal of the league for failure to comply with COVID policies
  - Due to removal of the league for disciplinary reasons
- Player who are ineligible to play due to COVID 19 ARE NOT eligible for a refund for time missed.
- **The Only Refund that may be issued after December 15** will be based on an injury or medical condition. Any Refunds due to an injury making the Player ineligible to play will be handled on a case by case basis. All requests for refunds after December 15 must be made to the President and Vice President. Please find contact information at [Executive & Staff](#)
- Partial Refunds to due COVID Related Matters will be issued as follows:
  - Should the league have to cancel the season due to COVID related matters, the league will issue partial refunds.
  - 100% prior to the start of the season
  - 80% prior to October 31st
  - After October 31st

- Refund will be determine based on the time played in the season compared to the time lost in the season.
  - \$50 Non-Refundable administration fee will be deducted from the refund
  - Refund = Registration Fee x  $\frac{\# \text{ Weeks Lost in the Season}}{\text{Total \# weeks per season}}$  - \$50 Non-Refundable admin. fee
  - This refund will take into account the split registration fee - if the refund is issue prior the 2<sup>nd</sup> registration installment being made, the total refund be based on the full registration fee \$400, minus the \$150 for the second payment that has not been made. For example, a player pulled out after 2 weeks. Refund would be:
    - $(\$400 \times (18/20)) - \$50 \text{ admin Fee} = \$310$
    - The second payment of \$150 was not made, so the refund issues will be \$160.
- Should play be suspended, the league will wait for a period of time to determine if the season will be cancelled or will resume. As such, refunds may not be issued right away.
- For a partial loss of the season, and play resumes, the refund will be issued as follows:
    - Refund will be determine based on the time played in the season compared to the time lost in the season.
    - \$50 Non-Refundable administration fee will be deducted from the refund
    - Refund = Registration Fee x  $\frac{\# \text{ Weeks Lost in the Season}}{\text{Total \# weeks per season}}$  - \$50 Non-Refundable admin. fee
    - Due to the fact that there could be multiple pauses in the season, the league reserves the right to issue this refund at the end of the season.