## **ONTARIO HOCKEY FEDERATION**

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## **OHF Bulletin**

To: OHF Members, Local Hockey Associations and Club Leadership

From: Philip McKee, Executive Director

Date: 2022-07-30

Re: OHF Internal Statement

Bulletin ID: 22-19

For many, hockey is as Canadian as it gets, and a family affair. With over 650,000 active minor-league players, coaches and officials in Canada, 1/3 of whom play in Ontario, this often means learning to skate, lacing up and being a part of a team for the first time in a hometown arena. Kids play for fun, build confidence, and make friends for life. Parents coach, volunteers keep the scoreboards humming, and hometown heroes visit as a reminder that dreams do come true. This is the true spirit of hockey, and one the Ontario Hockey Federation (OHF) is here to protect.

Like many of you, the OHF is concerned with the past, and for the future culture of hockey. The current allegations of assault and the actions of those involved in the sport are not acceptable or aligned with our values as a Federation or those of our members and communities. We support those who have come forward to share their experiences and want to see full accountability placed on anyone who acted inappropriately within the sport we all love.

As the largest Provincial Sport Organization for hockey in Ontario and the largest member of Hockey Canada, the OHF's priority and focus is to provide a safe, fun, accessible and progressive place for everyone who loves hockey to enjoy. Whether it's on the ice or off, as a volunteer, coach, player, parent or partner, the OHF's commitment to always acting with integrity is unwavering. So, in addition to getting ready for the knowns of what a hockey season brings, this year it also means advocating and helping to navigate on our members' behalf, the unknowns as they relate to the upcoming 2022/2023 season.

To make this happen we need information we don't yet have and, like you, we hope to get shortly. We know there are questions, and we're doing our best to get clarity as we work with our Members and all local hockey associations to ensure the 2022-2023 season happens to let our players pursue their dreams.

As new information and facts become available, we remain committed to sharing additional updates with our Members and local hockey associations. Our aim is to hold an open Q&A on a Members call Thursday, August 4, 2022 at 7:00pm.

For any questions on the statement please contact Phillip McKee, OHF Executive Director at <a href="mailto:pmckee@ohf.on.ca">pmckee@ohf.on.ca</a>.