

INFORMATION BULLETIN

Number: 2020-01



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Date: September 13, 2020 (Revised from September 11, 2020)
Re: Clarification of Evaluations as per the OHF Return to Play Framework for Season Start
To: ALLIANCE Hockey Member Associations

The OHF has provided clarification of evaluations as per the OHF Return to Play Framework for Season Start. ALLIANCE Hockey recognizes the clarification below is an interpretation of Tiering and inconsistencies that exist across the OHF which has prompted this revision. The following outlines the objectives and considerations when tiering players down from a related Tier that the player participated in during the 2019-20 season.

The main objectives associated with player evaluations are:

- To return participants to the ice after a disappointing and abrupt end to the 2019-20 season
- To enable players to move to a higher level of hockey to fill a cohort with like-skilled players
- To provide an opportunity for new/move-in players to play within the appropriate Tier i.e. with like-skilled players

Considerations before moving players down:

- Some players may not have been on the ice since March 12th and may need time to readjust to the ice
- This is not a 'normal' hockey season. As adults growing up we were fortunate that we did not experience a Pandemic, a hockey season cut short and the impact that it may have had both at and away from the rink. Coaches and Member Associations please take this into account when making decisions. Please do not make a move that can cause increased stress on our youth, and seriously consider downward tiering as a last resort.
- Recommendation and possible solution could be to move players up to increase the size of cohort from 18 to 22 (10+1 = 11 x 2) in preparation of move to 5 on 5 where local facilities allow for more than 20 participants on the ice
- F1 Form Waivers are not part of the OHF Return to Play Framework or that of ALLIANCE Hockey
- Competitive Tournaments and Championships are not part of the Current Yearly Plan

Players CAN be tiered to a lower Tier of hockey. When moving down a Tier, consider the above objectives and clarifications. Players and parents must be informed of *why* a player is being moved to a lower Tier. The message must be to work hard and that if we are able to move to Stage 4 in the OHF Return to Play (more traditional hockey), that a reset will take place where all players are considered for Tiering to traditional AAA, AA and MD teams.

Thank you for your continued patience with the RTP process.

Questions may be directed to the ALLIANCE Hockey Office.

