

#### **ABOUT THE ONTARIO HOCKEY FEDERATION**

The Ontario Hockey Federation (OHF) is the Provincial Sport Organization for the sport of Hockey and is the largest member of Hockey Canada operating alongside Hockey Eastern Ontario (HEO) and Hockey Northwestern Ontario (HNO) as governing bodies for amateur hockey in Ontario. The OHF operates within a structure that is comprised of seven member partners: Minor Hockey Alliance of Ontario (ALLIANCE), Greater Toronto Hockey League (GTHL), Northern Ontario Hockey Association (NOHA), Ontario Hockey Association (OHA), Ontario Hockey League (OHL), Ontario Minor Hockey Association (OMHA) and Ontario Women's Hockey Association (OWHA).

Each operating under specific programs to their area or jurisdiction, following Hockey Canada and OHF Regulations, Rules and Policies



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### CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

**Tony Foresi** 

On behalf of myself and the OHF, thank you to our participants, volunteers, parents, coaches, officials and everyone in between for delivering another successful hockey season.

In 2021, we found ourselves in the middle of some of the same challenges we faced during the peak of the pandemic in 2020. There were season disruptions and stoppages, brand new obstacles that forced us to work fast and hard for solutions and delays in what would be our regular calender year.

But ultimately, we made it through once again and continued to deliver on continuing to grow the game and keep kids on the ice or involved in the game as much as we could. I congratulate all of our Member partners on their hard work in maintains excellent programming despite the challenges we continued to faced in 2021.

Thank you for continuing to enrich lives and community through this wonderful sport of hockey.



# EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Phil McKee

Eight hundred thirty four days from June 25, 2022 was March 13, 2020. Hockey in Ontario and across Canada shut down. Twenty six months later we come to the end of the second COVID season at 85% of our pre-COVID registration. That number is up 23% in comparison to the 62% registration during the first year of COVID.

The collective work that we have done to steer our cruise liner through turbulent waters of COVID-19 is ever more important now. These times call for efficiency in our operations. Efficiency is not to be confused with cutbacks but rather a coordinated, collective and systematic approach to continuous growth of our participant numbers and quality of the customer experience. As Matt Symes has said "there are enough things to fix in the game that they will never be completed in our lifetime".

Such a statement can be overwhelming and lead to stagnation. Our continuous growth focused on small incremental improvements daily, weekly, monthly and yearly will collectively make our operations and the customer experience better.

The cornerstone of this future growth will be related to the OHF alignment to the Hockey Canada Strategic Plan and thus the alignment of our Members to the Hockey Canada/OHF Strategic Plan as well as ensuring we are maximizing our ability of the network organization we are to test and evaluate solutions in different markets and areas.

The work from you as Members over the past seven months has provide the collective us with those core elements to our strategic plan as well as some targeted areas of improvement.

#### COMMUNICATIONS + MARKETING BREAKDOWN



2,948K Followers

SOCIAL MEDIA



10.4K Followers



4,673K Followers

#### COMMUNICATIONS + MARKETING BREAKDOWN

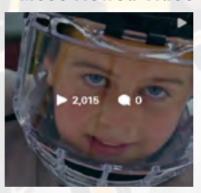
# WEBSITE+CONTENT

#### Most viewed pages



Championship Host Approval 22,623K Views

#### Most viewed video



Stronger Campaign - Video 2,014K views/500 Views

#### Highest engagement



OHF Vaccine Policy
42.3 Impressions/88 Retweets

The OHF has expanded social reach by over 6K in the last year and seen an increase in unique content engagement from video, photo and communications releases

#### **Officiating Award**



**Jeff Bulmer** has spent 40 years on-ice as a participant and official, mostly working in the Minor Hockey space including with the Hockey Canada Regionals, OHF and OMHA Championships. In 1991 he became a Supervisor and Clinic Instructor for both the GTHL and OMHA concurrently, spending 20 years with the GTHL and continuing on now with the OMHA.

He has taught at both GTHL and OMHA Referee Schools, spent 15 years as a Coach and Trainer and has served as the OMHA Regional Manager of Officials since its inception in 2015. Jeff and his wife share a mutual passion for the sport of hockey, where he proposed to her between a Saturday/Sunday assignment for the OHF Championships.

#### **Officiating Award**

Tim Foster began officiating in 1968 at the age of 10. Since then he has officiated in the NOHA, OHA, OHA, OHA, OCAA and OHL and has officiated at numerous levels including Regional, Provincial, World Hockey Challenge and Team Canada exhibition games. Some of Foster's career highlights include becoming a Level 6 Official and mentoring officials into higher levels of hockey.

He finished his officiating career in March of 2022 with a whopping 11,000 games to his name. One of Tim's fondest memories on ice includes Refereeing five games at the World Junior B Pool in Slovakia with a local linesman (Lee Rose).

Tim remembers the European officials were amazed how calm the Canadian officials were. He explained to them that they called more penalties in one Junior game at home than they did in the whole tournament. He also credits his success to the mentoring he received from supervisors and fellow top level officials, especially one time OHF Referee-in-Chief Ken Miller who still mentors officials.



#### **Bill Richmond Memorial Award**



Stephen Surcon has been involved in hockey since he was 5 years old and has since done everything associated with the sport, including officiating, playing, and coaching. He started coaching at age 16, where he is still involved today. In 2014 he began delivering coach development clinics as well as the NOHA's high performance program which has previously sent teams to the OHL Cup.

He has coached all levels of minor hockey and for the last 10 years he has coached at Timmins Minor Hockey. One of his fondest on-ice memories include leading the Timmins North Stars U13AA team to back-to-back OHF Championships in 2016 and 2017. As well, Stephen was recognized by the NOHA when he won the Rick Albert Award for Development in Northern Ontario, an award he is most proud of not for the trophy but for the acknowledgment.

#### Dr. Allan Morris Award

Born in Aberdeen, Scotland, **Ken Smith** moved to England in 1969, joining Bank of Montreal in London, England in 1971, which is where he met his wife Sandra. They married and had two sons Niall, born in 1976 and Alastair, born in 1978. A job transfer for Ken saw the family move to Canada in October 1983, settling in Mississauga. Having grown up in the UK, Ken had no exposure to hockey until relocating to Canada. However, not too long after arriving, both sons expressed an interest in playing hockey and competed until their late teens at both the house league and "A" levels. Ken's volunteer involvement in hockey began in 1990 when he became the Team Manager for one of his son's teams. From there he progressed to the Board of Directors of Applewood Hockey Association in Mississauga and then to the Board of Directors of the Mississauga Hockey League where he undertook several roles, culminating in being President from 2000-2005. In 2005, Ken was elected to the Board of Directors of the GTHL and is currently its First Vice-President. He acts as Chair of the GTHL's Rules and Policy, and Team Allocation Committees and serves on a number of others. He also serves as a member of the Ontario Hockey Federation's Minor Hockey, and Registration Committees.



#### **Volunteer of the Year Award**

Angel Barbisan grew up in a family that loved hockey. Although she never played, it was her son that got her more involved when he began playing at age 7. She began volunteering with the Sault Major Hockey Association in the summer of 2007. At that time, her son was committed to playing hockey and she committed herself to the same, but as a Registrar for the association, a position that she still holds today. Every year presents new challenges and new experiences in her position. Along with her regular duties as a Registrar she has organized league games, elite team tryouts, worked on various tournaments for her association, and even helped develop program guidelines and chaired the discipline committee. Wherever you need her, she can help fill in! Angel has gained many friendships and memories during her time in hockey and is immensely proud of her son's long commitment to the sport they both love.



#### **OHF Staff Award**



**Adam Morell** started playing hockey at the age of 5 and played consistently until he took up officiating at the age of 16. He recently finished his 16th season as an on-ice official and hopes to continue his officiating journey for a long time to come. In 2013, Morell was hired by the NOHA and is still an integral part of the team today, as an Officiating Program Coordinator.

Some of his favourite memories include officiating a U16AAA game in the GTHL that featured Connor McDavid, officiating the 2019 U18 AAA Central Region Championships and receiving his Member High Performance.

Adam sees his career in hockey as a fortunate progression to his own father's career in hockey as well, cherishes all the relationships he has made in the sport so far.

#### **Chair of the Board Award**

**Ted Baker** finished his playing career in 1985 and began coaching house league straight after with the Saint Bonaventure Hockey Association. In 2006 he started coaching with the the Markham Waxers and has done so at every level with the club. He concluded that part of his career in 2019, but currently continues to mentor the Waxers at various levels.

He began his professional career in hockey by volunteering In 1986 and eventually joined the OHL in 1988 as a Director of Information, moving on to become the Director of Hockey operations as well as the Referee in Vheif prior to becoming OHL president. Despite a long and rich career in hockey, it's the family ties of the game that he cherishes most, such as being coached by his father in the late 60's early 70's, and now being a father of two boys who love and play the game, as well as seeing his oldest son be drafted into the OHL.



#### **Order of Merit Award**

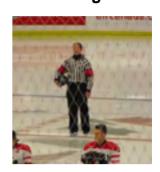


Neil Skriving started coaching in 1969 by accident, when he dropped his neighbour's son off at the rink and found there was no coach to lead the team. Since then he has coached at a variety of age groups. Neil began instructing NCCP between 1974-2014, where he would travel across the province on weekends to instruct. In 1981 he obtained his NCCP Level 5. In 1987 Spike McConnell invited him to a Development Committee which eventually saw him join the the OMHA as a Technical Director in 1991 where he stayed for 6 years. After the six years, Neil returned to his NCCP instructing and coaching, which allowed him to continue to develop coaches and programs. On top of his coaching career, Neil was Technical leader at Stoney Creek Minor AAA from 1991-1999 and later worked with the Hamilton Jr Bulldogs as a Technical Leader. He would go on to become President of the Bulldogs for 6 years and for the last two seasons, has been Vice President.

#### **Officiating Award**

**Marshall Copp** first became interested in officiating at the age of 13. It was in 1975 when he started on-ice with the London Referee Association doing house league and rep hockey games. From that point on Marshall officiated plenty of Junior games and was ultimately selected to join the OHL as a linesman in 1980. He worked 3 seasons with the OHL and then returned to the OHA until 1990, all while continued to officiate Minor hockey with the OMHA. In 1993, Marshall joined the Alliance Hockey as a Supervisor/Instructor of Officials and in 2010 became the Technical Director of Officiating where he still serves today.

Marshall has served as an official in the Alliance, OMHA, OWHA, WOAA, OHA, OHL and has loved every minute of the last 46 years in hockey.



#### **Bill Richmond Memorial Award**



Tim McWhirter started playing hockey in Parry Sound at the age of 4, playing Minor Hockey until the age of 17. He began coaching to give back when he was 22, helping Barry "Hawk" Tabobondung with the JR A Shamrocks. From there, he helped coach numerous teams at Parry Sound Minor Hockey including Championship teams with Paul Borneman and Rick Thomas. Tim has also been an OMHA NCCP Coach Facilitator and Hockey Canada Instructional Stream instructor for around 15 years. Some of his favourite on ice memories include being on ice when he son first started playing Minor Hockey in 2008, supporting Hockey Canada's Junior Team selection camp in 2011 and 2015 and being apart of the team that brought the Hockey Canada Summer Camp to Parry Sound - just to name a few!

#### Dr. Allan Morris Award

Albert Corradini has always been a diehard hockey fan, but became involved in the sport because his son played the game. During his 20 years as a volunteer he sat on the Board of the Sudbury Minor Hockey Association, volunteered with the OHF on various committees for 15 years and even co-authored successful and winning bids to host the Central Regional Championships and TELUS Cup. He currently serves as the Commissioner of the Great North U18 AAA League. On top of this, Albert has served as Manager for a handful of the teams his son has player for including his time as General Manager for the Sudbury Nickel Capital Wolves from 2008-2018. During his time in hockey has has created many great friendships, and has been involved in successful hockey programs. He is most proud of The Nickel Capitals representing the NOHA at 5 Central Regionals and representing the OHF at the TELUS Cup in 3 events.



#### **Volunteer of the Year Award**



The Lambton-Kent Memorial Arena became a part of **Donna Babcock** and her family's in 1958. Her husband Keith operated a concession booth at the arena which saw all members of the family work at the booth. The Babcock's grew up around the Dresden Junior Kings after the team was formed in 1962, attending Friday night games, doing fundraising and staying involved in the community however they could.

During their years in hockey, they saw many hockey celebrities come in for tournaments including Wayne Gretzky as a 12-year-old, Gordie Howe and his two boys, as well as Fergie Jenkins during the off season. Over the years there have been many highlights and memories that Donna cherishes. The latest of these being the statue of Ken Houston installed in front of the arena in April of this year.

#### **OHF Staff Award**



Chad Houben grew up playing hockey in the Rotary and Minor Hockey system in Stratford, Ontario. It was in 1995 when he began officiating and has since officiated at the OHF and All-Ontario level. After attending college aiming for a career in sport, Chad started working with Alliance Hockey in 2006 and is still currently with the team as a Development Coordinator. He has had the opportunity to work with the Alliance Hockey Officiating Program and is also the office contact for Discipline, Appeals and the new Maltreatment department. Being one of the team members at Alliance Hockey is one of Chad's most precious accomplishments in his sporting career alongside being a proud hockey Dad of Jack and Emma who recently learned how to skate. Hockey wise, one of the Chad's favourite moments came from being able to sit in on the Stratford Referees Association Board as a Co-Chair for their 3-on-3 tournament which raised money for a injured official and provide donations to the Heart and Stroke, Crohn's & Colitis Canada and the MS Society of Canada as they affected members of our association in some way.

#### **Chair of the Board Award**

Hockey has been the centre of **Tim Rinlisbacher's** life for 54 years - from age 3 on frozen Lake St. Clair in southwestern Ontario to his current three times weekly men's league play. As the youngest of four hockey mad brothers, Tim wanted to emulate the speed and skill of my older siblings. He feels that Hockey has fundamentally allowed him to become a dedicated sports medicine physician and a cooperative healthcare teammate. In 1998, as a fairly rookie physician,

Tim was grateful to Don Cherry and his IceDogs ownership group who gave him the opportunity to be their team doctor that inaugural year. Though the franchise changed, he still works at the same barn after 23 OHL seasons. Across his career, NHLPA work, Paralympics 2010 Sledge Hockey coverage and several national team gigs including World Junior Championships emerged organically for him. In 2020, Tim's medical and hockey background combined in response to the global COVID 19 pandemic, where he became the OHF's Chief Medical Officer.



#### **Order of Merit Award**

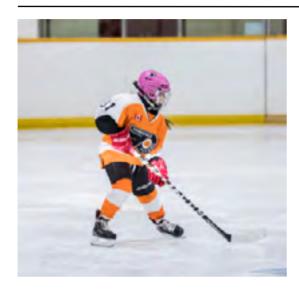


Mark Zizek started playing hockey in 1964 when he was just 7 years old. He became interested in the sport after watching a neighbour play in their local arena. During high school, Mark played for the varsity team and went on the play hockey at St Michael's College at University of Toronto. Soon after, he put his hat in the ring to coach, and the rest is history. Since then, Mark has coached for the past 46 years. He has coached children from age 4-18 in the OMHA, GTHL and MHL. Some of his favourite memories include reaching the finals at the OHF A Championships for Applewood Hockey Association and leading the Applewood

Timbits on ice at the Maple Leaf Garden during the first period intermission.

## Congratulations to all the 2021 + 2022 OHF Award Winners!

The Ontario Hockey Federation is extremely proud to be comprised of seven Member Partners, the Minor Hockey Alliance of Ontario, the Northern Ontario Hockey Association, the Ontario Hockey Association, the Ontario Hockey Association, the Ontario Hockey Association, the Ontario Hockey Association. Each Member Partner governs a specific jurisdiction with the ALLIANCE, NOHA, GTHL and OMHA governing minor hockey in Ontario, the OHA, NOHA and OHL governing Junior Hockey and the OWHA governing Women's hockey, in their respective regions.



#### ONTARIO MINOR HOCKEY

September 2021

The puck drops on the OMHA Regular Season as a new year of hockey officially gets underway.

The Breakaway Podcast returned for its sixth season. As one of minor hockey's only podcasts, this season of Breakaway featured discussions on practice plans, player development and growing the game.

October 2021

The first set of this season's OMHA U16 and U18 AAA Rankings presented by Hudl are released. The Top 5 of each group are revealed throughout the year on a bi-weekly basis along with a list of Players to Watch.

The OMHA launched the fifth season of the Coach of the Month award presented by The Coaches Site. Nominations from all over the province were submitted highlighting the fantastic work that coaches are doing across all of our associations.

The revealed the recipient Associations of its new Player Assist Program presented by Egg Farmers of Ontario. The pilot project eliminates the cost of equipment for 350 hockey families across 10 minor hockey associations for players under 7 entering the game.

November 2021

The eighth annual OMHA Essay Contest presented by Respect in Sport was launched with this year's theme being 'Why I'm Excited Hockey Is Back'. Dylan Waduck from Whitby was later announced as the grand prize winner. The contest is designed to engage players in an educational manner while encouraging them to express their thoughts on why hockey is a sport that all players can enjoy.

Hockey Labs is introduced as an online, at-home training tool for players to keep their skills sharp at home. They develop in all of the important areas with guided lessons and can track their progress to win prizes.

December 2021

The U16 AAA Showcase powered by Under Armour was hosted in Oakville, featuring teams playing in front of OHL scouts during their draft year.

Many OMHA teams volunteered their time over the holidays, participating in Hockey Gives Back to make their communities a better place through gift drives, food bank donations and other great initiatives.

January 2022

The season is placed on pause from January 5 - January 27 as part of the Government of Ontario's announcement.

#### ONTARIO MINOR HOCKEY

March 2022

As part of the new Hockey Canada Player Pathways, all players play meaningful hockey until March 1. Teams compete in League Qualifiers to punch their ticket to the OMHA Championships.

April 2022

#RedHats are handed out to 41 Champions at the OMHA Championships presented by Egg Farmers of Ontario. Close to 375 teams competed in over 700 games across five locations over three weekends around the province.

The first ever U14 OHL Cup presented by Dairy Farmers of Ontario took place in Oakville featuring 12 of the top U14 AAA teams from across the province. The York-Simcoe Express took hom the silver medal in the inaugural event.

The annual Ontario Hockey League draft saw 68 players from the OMHA selected including four in the first round, led by Ben Danford.



#### NORTHERN ONTARIO HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

The 2021-2022 season was filled with challenges and successes, and the NOHA would like to thank our volunteers for their hard work and support in making hockey in Northern Ontario successful throughout the many hardships of the season.

The NOHA was fortunate to receive a grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation which allowed us to provide electronic gamesheets to all of Northern Ontario through Gamesheet Inc., as well as iPads for our associations to use. We also provided our officials with pea-less whistles. These resulted in extra preventative measures against COVID-19 by eliminating excess paper and handling, as well as the spread of fluids through whistles.

We would like to thank Cochrane Minor Hockey Association and Copper Cliff Minor Hockey Association for hosting the Under-13 A and Under-13 AA OHF Championships. The time and effort put in to hosting these events is much appreciated.

Congratulations to all of the Champions and Finalists of the NOHA Tournament of Champions, and those who moved on to Ontario or OHF Championships.

The NOHA partnered with Movember Breaking the Ice to provide mental health literacy and resilience programs across the North, in West Nipissing, Sudbury, New Liskeard, and Timmins. These programs were delivered to both players and coaches, and were well received by all who took part. We look forward to providing more mental health education to our participants in the future.

As we close out this season, the NOHA would like to thank every one of our volunteers, whether they be executive members, coaches, trainers, or managers. We could not have hockey without you. We're looking forward to a great season in 2022-2023!



Photo Cred. Steph Corrati

#### ONTARIO HOCKEY LEAGUE

#### Initiatives

Joined the Canadian Mental Health Association in celebrating the 8th anniversary of the OHL Talk Today program throughout the month of February. Launched in October 2014, Talk Today provides mental health support to players and raises awareness about mental health and suicide throughout OHL communities. Talk Today continues to make a sizable impact now with over 1,300 players and over 500 coaches, billets and staff receiving mental health and suicide prevention training to date.

The OHL ONSIDE program continued in partnership with the Ontario Coalition of Rape Crisis Centres (OCRCC). It was specifically designed for players and team staff aimed at increasing the understanding and awareness of the player's responsibility to demonstrate respect for women through their actions and words.

Facilitated the OHL Concussion Management Program for all players for the 16th consecutive season.

#### **Achievements**

The Windsor Spitfires (Western Conference) and Hamilton Bulldogs (Eastern Conference) face off for the J. Ross Robertson Cup in the OHL Championship Series that returns for the first time since 2019.

Despite the postponement of 80 games during the regular season due to Covid-19 related challenges, the League managed to complete a 680-game regular season schedule and conventional playoffs to award a League champion.

The OHL Awards were distributed throughout the month of May and June where recipients such as Most Outstanding Player, Most Sportsmanlike Player and Top Scorer Wyatt Johnston (Windsor Spitfires), Goaltender of the Year Brett Brochu (London Knights), Defenceman of the Year Nathan Staios (Hamilton Bulldogs), Overage Player of the Year Brandon Coe (North Bay Battalion), Rookie of the Year Cam Allen (Guelph Storm), Coach of the Year James Richmond (Mississauga Steelheads), Scholastic Player of the Year Owen Beck (Mississauga Steelheads), Humanitarian of the Year Mark Woolley (Owen Sound Attack), Top High School Student Cal Uens (Owen Sound Attack) and Top Post-Secondary Student Adam Varga (Ottawa 67's) were honoured.

he Ken Bodendistel Character Award for Officials was awarded to referee Mike Hamilton for the 2021-2022 season. Officiating his 10th year in the OHL (six as a referee), Hamilton is the ninth winner of the award initiated in 2013 honouring the late Ken Bodendistel who was a long-time OHL Referee-in-Chief and Officiating Manager.

OHL Attendance reached over 1.7 million fans for the 2021-22 season. Contributing factors to consider include Covid-19 capacity restrictions and provincial guideline measures.

The League's broadcast coverage featured over 600 games on local networks Rogers tv, YourTV, Eastlink, Cable 14 and Shaw Spotlight, national broadcaster TSN and online streaming platform OHL Live on CHL TV.

#### Recognition

Six OHL players represented Canada at the 2022 IIHF World Under-18 Hockey Championship in Landshut and Kaufbeuren, Germany including goaltender Nolan Lalonde (Erie Otters), defencemen Nolan Collins (Sudbury Wolves) and Spencer Sova (Erie Otters), along with forwards David Goyette (Sudbury Wolves), Pano Fimis (Niagara IceDogs), and Kocha Delic (Sudbury Wolves).

#### ONTARIO HOCKEY LEAGUE

Five OHL players were selected to represent Team Canada at the 2022 IIHF World Junior Championship in Edmonton, AB including goaltender Brett Brochu (London Knights), defenceman Ryan O'Rourke (Soo Greyhounds) as well as forwards Will Cuylle (Windsor Spitfires), Mason McTavish (Hamilton Bulldogs), and Shane Wright (Kingston Frontenacs).

The OHL welcomed Kirsten Welsh as its first ever woman linesperson as she became one of the League's 105 officials for the 2021-22 season.

A total of 22 OHL players represented Canadian teams at the 2021 Capital City Challenge in Ottawa, Ont.

A total of 23 OHL players were invited to the 2022 NHL Scouting Combine in Buffalo, NY.

Over 190 OHL graduates were on rosters of U SPORTS schools at the start of the 2021-22 season.

OHL grad Liam Hawel (Guelph Storm) was named U SPORTS Rookie of the year, Nicolas Mattinen (London Knights, Hamilton Bulldogs) was named U SPORTS Defenceman of the Year, and Kyle Bollers (Saginaw Spirit, Oshawa Generals) earned the U SPORTS Award for Student-Athlete Community Service. Hawel and Mattinen along with Mason Kohn (Kitchener Rangers, Saginaw Spirit, Oshawa Generals) earned First Team All-Canadians while Matthew Struthers (Owen Sound Attack, North Bay Battalion), Justin MacPherson (Niagara IceDogs, Kitchener Rangers), Santino Centorame (London Knights, Owen Sound Attack) and Luke Richardson (Kitchener Rangers) were Second Team All-Canadians. MacPherson and Hawel joined Christian Propp (Barrie Colts, North Bay Battalion, Soo Greyhounds) on the the U SPORTS All-Rookie Team.

60 OHL graduates competed at the 2022 U SPORTS Men's Hockey Championship in Wolfville, NS.

349 OHL graduates were afforded \$3.5 million in scholarship funding during the 2021-22 season.

A total of 198 OHL graduates were included on teams' opening rosters for the 2021-2022 NHL season.

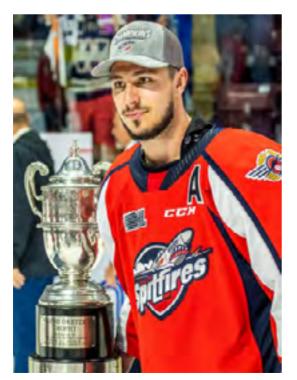


Photo Cred. OHL

#### **Special Events**

The Hamilton Bulldogs hosted the Oshawa Generals in the OHL's fourth ever Outdoor Showcase on March 14 at Tim Hortons Field following the NHL Heritage Classic.

Barrie Colts' Ukrainian defender Artur Cholach met with Wayne Gretzky at the 2022 NHL Heritage Classic and conducted the ceremonial face-off between the Toronto Maple Leafs and Buffalo Sabres at Tim Hortons Field in Hamilton.

The OHL held its first annual Officiating Prospect Development Combine on June 2-4 in Belleville, Ont. The Combine helps identify top officiating prospects in Ontario and the United States, as well as enhances the development of officials.

18 OHL players were selected for the 2022 CHL/NHL Top Prospects Game held on March 23 in Kitchener. The event has featured 15 players who were later selected first overall in the NHL Draft.

Facilitated Under-16 AAA Awards honouring U16 Players of the Year as chosen by each OHF member partner.

#### ONTARIO HOCKEY LEAGUE

The OHL Cup was held for the seventh time at Scotiabank Pond in 2022 as the tournament continues to generate new levels of interest among hockey fans. The championship final between the Toronto Jr. Canadiens and champion Mississauga Senators was held again at the Mattamy Athletic Centre for the sixth consecutive year. Michael Misa (Mississauga Senators) recorded 20 points to surpass Connor McDavid's OHL Cup point-scoring record before earning exceptional status from Hockey Canada for the 2022 OHL Priority Selection.

In partnership with the OHF, coordinated the Under-15 Program of Excellence with the OHF Member Partners in five communities. The program is now in its 13th year.

Executed the 13th annual OHL Combine which provided development opportunities for Under-16 aged players and goaltenders to assist their training and development both on and off the ice.

Executed a lottery process to determine the order of selection for the top four picks of the 2022 OHL Priority Selection. The first overall pick was awarded to the Saginaw Spirit, followed by the Erie Otters, Sudbury Wolves and Niagara IceDogs.

On Friday, April 29, Michael Misa (Mississauga Senators) received the Jack Ferguson Award as the first of 303 players chosen in the 2022 OHL Priority Selection. Selected by the Saginaw Spirit, Misa is just the sixth player to be granted 'exceptional status' in the Ontario Hockey League following a process conducted by the Ontario Hockey Federation in partnership with Hockey Canada.

The fifth OHL Under-18 Priority Selection was conducted on May 5 for Under-18 AAA hockey players in Ontario. The selection process was introduced in 2017 in partnership with the OHF, HEO, and HNO. A total of 52 players were selected from 34 different teams with forward Lincoln Moore of the Soo Jr. Greyhounds selected first overall by the Saginaw Spirit.



Photo Cred. GTHL

#### **GREATER TORONTO HOCKEY LEAGUE**

After a season away, the Greater Toronto Hockey League dropped the puck on its return to hockey on November 1, 2021, igniting the new and highly anticipated 2021-22 season with the theme of "unity." Despite a multitude of challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic and corresponding policies, the League completed the campaign, awarding all regular season and playoff champions for the first time since 2019, while hosting a number of events for its membership successfully.

The 2021-22 GTHL Competitive ('A,' 'AA,' and 'AAA') season featured a total of 6826 regular season games, followed by 649 games in the Scotiabank Playoffs. The numbers outlined represent a campaign that signified a return to hockey after a season lost to the COVID-19 pandemic. The season began on November 1, 2021 and despite a pause in play (December 18, 2021 to February 3, 2022) due to COVID-19 restrictions, the final playoff games were played on May 15, 2022, successfully completing the GTHL campaign.

Off the ice, the 2021-22 season marked a number of milestones for the GTHL in its work leading to make the game more inclusive, including the beginning of the League's new Strategic Plan and the completion and publication of the Independent Committee Roadmap for Change.

#### **ALLIANCE HOCKEY**

The 2021-22 season once again began with heavy restrictions because of the continuing persistence of the Covid Pandemic and was yet another test of our organizational ability to pivot, re-work and re-energize. ALLIANCE Hockey Member Associations met consistently through Teams Meetings and overcame numerous obstacles to provide as many playing experiences as possible and even managed to complete the season with Championships and events.

Given the challenges presented over the last few years, recruitment and retention has been a struggle in all areas of the game. The numbers of participating players, Officials and Team Staff have consistently declined and will continue to be an area of concern. There were many positive outcomes from the 2021-22 season despite the various setbacks encountered including the decision to begin League play upon the completion of tryouts in late September which aided in completing approximately 85% of the season despite the January shutdown.

ALLIANCE Hockey also implemented stand-alone Championship events for divisions with OHF/All-Ontario Championships except for U16AAA and U18AAA along with annual U7, U8, House League, Select and MD events.

ALLIANCE Hockey enjoyed a particularly successful season on the ice with 2022 OHF Championship titles being awarded to the Hamilton Huskies U13A, Hamilton Huskies U15A, and Woodstock Jr Navy Vets U18A. 2022 OHF Finalists included the London Jr. Mustangs White U18A. Congratulations also goes out to the Huron Perth Lakers who captured the U13AAA Regional Championship, only the third win for an ALLIANCE Hockey team in the history of the event. Our sincere thanks to all the Hosts who provided fantastic events for the teams.

We closed out the 2021-2022 season on an incredibly positive note by hosting our Annual General Meeting in-person, for the first time since 2019!

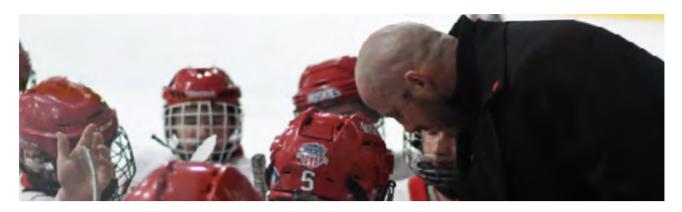
For certain, demands placed upon the volunteer have never been greater and ALLIANCE Hockey is very fortunate to have a volunteer base who consistently adapts to the challenges presented. ALLIANCE Hockey has immense gratitude for the many volunteers who serve their communities and preserve the future for those who will play hockey in years to come – thank you. With the conclusion of the 2021-22 season, ALLIANCE Hockey is looking forward to building upon the successes of previous seasons and providing even more positive development experiences for all participants in the 2022-23 season.







Photo Cred. Amy Deroche; Alliance Hockey



#### COACH DEVELOPMENT

The health and safety of all participants in the sport was the utmost importance to the OHF and its Members. We understand the demand for Coaching Education programs, so we had to investigate a variety of options with the goal of delivering all or parts of the curriculum in an online format. Virtual training options and resources were identified, and clinic were facilitated through live or pre-recorded sessions.

#### COACH 1 - INTRO TO COACH TRAINING

Intro to Coach shows coaches how to teach hockey's basic skills while keeping the theme of their practices with an emphasis on fun and fundamentals by reviewing the basic tools they will need in the areas of leadership, communication, teaching skills, and lesson planning. All taught with the special considerations of the youngest athletes in mind.

#### **COACH 2 - COACH LEVEL**

The NCCP Coach 2 - Coach Level course is the second level of the National Coaching Certification Program (NCCP) within the Community Coach Stream. The course follows the competency based education and training method of learning and is an excellent course for all facilitated by Instructors trained by Hockey Canada, offered new and recreational level coaches.

#### **DEVELOPMENT 1**

Offered to head coaches, coaching teams in U11 or above at competitive levels, the Development 1 course will provide a foundation for coaches coaching in the competitive streams in the following areas: Drill Progressions and regressions, Skills analysis, Seasonal planning, Linking individual skills and tactics, Team building and team tactics and Goaltending.

#### HP1

The High Performance 1 Coaching Program is an enriched development experience for coaches, which features inclass sessions, a written assignment and a field evaluation. All head coaches coaching U13, U15, and Junior A teams that compete in interprovincial or national championships must be High performance 1 certified.

#### **INSTRUCTIONAL STREAM**

The Instructional Stream is a series of clinics that assists coaches and players in developing the skills required to play the game of Hockey. These clinics are composed of in-class and on ice sessions and are on the topics of Skating, Checking skills, Goaltending, Developing Defenceman and Skills.

#### PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Professional Development opportunities are offered for coaches to use towards Certification Maintenance in the following categories; Creating Offence, Puck Control, Small Area Games, Practice Planning, Shooting and Scoring, Practice to Game and Shared Ice Practices.

#### INTERNATIONAL/NATIONAL EVENTS



#### **2022 TELUS CUP**

After a two-year hiatus due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the 2022 Telus Cup has made a return in Okotoks, Alta. where U18AAA Central Region Champions, Reps Hockey of the GTHL, represented as OHF competitors.

The Reps had a hard fought tournament, clawing their way to a semi-final spot where they eventually fell short to tournament winners Moncton Flyers in over-time.

Nonetheless, the Reps represented Ontario with strength and talent.

#### **2022 ESSO CUP**

The Esso Cup made a return in 2022 bringing together six temas from across the country to compete for gold.

The Ontario repsentative Durham West Lighting were U18AA Ontario Women's Hockey League Champions. The Lighting boasted a 21-1-3 record during the regular season with a remarkable 95-19 goal differential.

The Durham West Lighting made right on their incredible record and ultimately won their first national title by winning the 2022 Esso Cup against the Fraser Valley Rush.



#### **2022 CENTENNIAL CUP**

The 2022 Centennial Cup saw nine CJHL Champions fight for a nationl title in Estevan, Saskatewan.

Ontario had three repdsentatives at the tournament, including CCHL's Ottawa Jr Senators, NOJHL's Soo Thunderbirds and OJHL's Pickering Panthers. T

the latter of the group - Pickering Panthers - fought their way to the Centennial Cup final where they were ultimately edged by the Brooks Bandits in a 4-1 loss.



#### OFFICIATING IN THE OHF

The Ontario Hockey Federation continues to provide returning officials with an online Re-certification platform. This online program creates consistent messaging and teaching for all officials across the Province. As an in-class portion is still crucial for an officials development, these will still remain at the Level I, II, and sometimes III during non rule change years. During rule change years, and in addition to the online program, all officials will participate in some sort of development. The following are National/International Assignments from the Officiating world this past year.

2021 Women's World Championship (Calgary, AB)

Justine Todd

**2021 Rivalry Series (Kingston/Ottawa, ON)**Justine Todd, Erin Zach

**2021 Capital City Challenge (Ottawa, ON)**Nick Selkirk

2022 USPORTS Women's Championship (Charlottetown, PEI)

Amanda Morra, Victoria Ozimkowski

**2022 USPORTS U-Cup (Wolfville, NS)** Korey Bannerman, Josh Schein

**2022 Esso Cup (Okotoks, AB)** Gillian Allan, Tara Benard-Rae

2022 TELUS Cup (Okotoks, AB)

Jack Hennigan

2022 Centennial Cup, presented by Tim Hortons (Estevan, SK)

Aaron Neely

2022 IIHF Women's World Championship Div 1A (Angers, FRA) Brandy Dewar-Beecroft

2022 IIHF Women's U18 World Championship (Madison, USA)

Laura Gutauskas, Erin Zach

2022 Olympic Qualifying, Group D (Füssen, GER)
Justine Todd

2022 Olympic Winter Games (Beijing, CHN)
Dustin McCrank
Justine Todd\* (did not attend due to Covid-19)

#### REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

#### **U13AAA REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS**



U13A OHF Championships went down in Cochrane, Ont. with the Alliance's Hamilton Huskies emerging the ultimate victors with a 5-2 win over the Woolwich Wildcats.

The Hamilton Huskies headed fought for a spot in the final with 3 game victories out of 4, overcoming the North York Knights in the semi-final to secure a place in the gold medal game.

Congratulations to the Hamilton Huskies on becoming the 2022 U13A OHF Champions!

#### **U15AAA REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS**

U13A OHF Championships went down in Cochrane, Ont. with the Alliance's Hamilton Huskies emerging the ultimate victors with a 5-2 win over the Woolwich Wildcats.

The Hamilton Huskies headed fought for a spot in the final with 3 game victories out of 4, overcoming the North York Knights in the semi-final to secure a place in the gold medal game.

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#### **U18AAA REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS**



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Congratulations to the Hamilton Huskies on becoming the 2022 U13A OHF Champions!

#### OHF CHAMPIONSHIPS

Teams traveled to compete in an OHF wide Championship which saw the top team from each of the Ontario Minor Hockey Association (OMHA), Greater Toronto Hockey League (GTHL), Minor Hockey Alliance of Ontario (ALLIANCE) and the Northern Ontario Hockey Association (NOHA) and one host team compete for the title of OHF Champion in their respective division.

#### U13A OHF CHAMPIONSHIP: Cochrance, Ont.

U13A OHF Championships went down in Cochrane, Ont. with the Alliance's Hamilton Huskies emerging the ultimate victors with a 5-2 win over the Woolwich Wildcats.

The Hamilton Huskies headed fought for a spot in the final with 3 game victories out of 4, overcoming the North York Knights in the semi-final to secure a place in the gold medal game.

Congratulations to the Hamilton Huskies on becoming the 2022 U13A OHF Champions!





#### U13AA OHF CHAMPIONSHIP: Copper Cliff, Ont.

Copper Cliff, Ont. was centre stage for the 2022 OHF Championships this past weekend. The tournament saw U13AA teams go head to head for OHF Gold, after two-year hiatus of the tournament.

This year's OHF Champions, Mississauga Beast, went through the whole weekend with a perfect win record before finally securing gold in the final game of the tournament, over Soo Jr Greyhounds with a 3-1 victory.

Congratulations to the Mississauga Beast on being the 2022 OHF U13AA Champions!

#### U15A OHF CHAMPIONSHIP: Trenton, Ont.

Hamilton Huskies add more gold to heir trophy cabinet, by overcoming U15A tournament hosts Quinte West Minor Hockey, to win the 2022 U15A OHF Championships.

The Hamilton Huskies U15A team cleared 3 victories in four games during Round Robin play and went on to beat the London jr Knights, 7-5 to face Quinte West Minor Hockey in the OHF final. The close game saw Hamilton come out on top with a 2-1 victory.

Congratulations to the Hamilton Huskies for winning the 2022 U15A OHF Championships!



#### OHF CHAMPIONSHIPS

Teams traveled to compete in an OHF wide Championship which saw the top team from each of the Ontario Minor Hockey Association (OMHA), Greater Toronto Hockey League (GTHL), Minor Hockey Alliance of Ontario (ALLIANCE) and the Northern Ontario Hockey Association (NOHA) and one host team compete for the title of OHF Champion in their respective division.

#### U15AA OHF CHAMPIONSHIP: Etobicoke, Ont.

The GTHL's Goulding Park Rangers are your 2022 U15AA OHF Champions!

Goulding Park journeyed to the final with 3 wins out of 4 in the Round Robin stage, which saw them clutch for a place in the final with a 3-1 victory over the St. Thomas Stars in the semi-final match.

The Rangers overcame the Guelph Gryphons in a 5-2 victory to win the Championship.



# VESSOVAN

#### U18A OHF CHAMPIONSHIP: Woodstock, Ont.

Hosts Woodstock Jr Navy Vets come up big with a hometown win at the U18A OHF Championships!

The Navy Vets started the Round Robin round strong with 3 victories in four games and edged the Burlington Eagles by one goal to earn a place in the U18A OHF Championship final. The goal medal game saw the hometown team overcome the London Jr. Mustangs in a 3-1 victory to earn gold.

Congratulations to the Woodstock Jr Navy Vets on winning the 2022 U18A OHF Championships!

#### U18AA OHF CHAMPIONSHIP: Markham, Ont.

Hosts Markham Waxers win big at home against the Humber Valley Sharks with a stellar 4-0 victory to become the 2022 U18AA OHF Champions!

Markham came into the tournament weekend strong, winning big in both games on Day 1 and going 1-0 on Day 2. The Waxers ultimately overcame the Milton Winterhawks 7-4 in the semi-final game to earn a spot in the final against the Humber Valley Sharks.

Congratulations to the Markham Waxers on winning the 2022 U18AA OHF Championships!



#### **REGISTRATION REPORT**

	ALLIANCE	GTHL	NOHA	ОНА	OHL	ОМНА	OWHA	SPECIAL NEEDS
Male Minor Hockey	16,108	24,679	8,199	•	•	74,213	•	766
Male Junior Hockey	-	•	474	2,425	465	-	-	-
Male Senior Hockey	-	-	-	79	-	-	-	
Female	-	1,618	1,239	•	•	-	34,695	-
Bench Person- nel	3,459	6,145	2,950	693	105	16,123	12,054	291
Officials	558	537	365	382	34	2,318	511	
On Ice Volun- teers	•	•		•	•	734		•
Sledge Hockey	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS:	20,125	32,929	11,542	3,579	604	93,323	43,255	1,057

#### **OFFICIALS REPORT**

	ALLIANCE	GTHL	NOHA	ОНА	OHL	ОМНА	OWHA	SPECIAL NEEDS
LEVEL 1	155	147	83	-	-	283	79	•
LEVEL 2	211	390	126	25	4	1,210	233	-
LEVEL 3	139		104	147	10	681	160	•
LEVEL 4	44		35	116	9	118	26	-
LEVEL 5	8		15	74	4	24	13	•
LEVEL 6	1		2	20	7	2	-	-
TOTALS:	558	537	365	382	34	2,318	51	-



#### ROAD TO 2023 CANADA WINTER GAMES

#### Steve Devine - Head Coach



Head Coach Steve Devine is currently with the Toronto Marlboros in the Greater Toronto Hockey League and has participated on the GTHL coaching staff for four years at the OHL Gold Cup. He has been recognized for his drive and dedication to success throughout the hockey world and is certified at both the High Performance 1 and High Performance 2 Coaching Level.

#### David Cicchini- Associate Coach, Forwards



Associate Coach, David Cicchini brings a wealth of experience to the tournament team. Cicchini is currently the Associate Coach of the Don Mills Flyers and has previously worked with the GTHL Red as an Associate Coach.

Cyril Bollers - Associate Coach, Defense



Coach Cyril Bollers has 22 years of experience in hockey and was previously with Jamaica's National Team and is President of Skillz Black Aces, a Toronto/based program that aims to engage underprivileged BIPOC youth to hockey.

Blue Thunderbird - Associate Coach, Video

Kari Rikkonen - Associate Coach, Goalies

Chris Dufton - Equipment Manager

#### U15 PROGRAM OF EXCELLENCE

The OHF/OHL U15 Program of Excellence is a development experience designed to educate and inform players and parents. The goals of the program include: to introduce players, families and staff to high performance hockey, the Program of Excellence and the Ontario Hockey League; to create a unique and special life and hockey experience for all players and staff involved; and to develop players and staff both on and off the ice. Players will participate in intense, high performance on and off ice sessions and seminars. On-ice sessions will be run by Hockey Canada and OHL personnel and will include practices that focus on individual skill, team tactics, small area games, and position specific.



#### **420 PLAYERS**

The camps saw 420 AAA players over the course of 6 weekends. The paticipant breakdown includes 240 Forwards, 120 Defencemen, 60 Goaltenders

#### 6 CITIES

The OHF/OHL took the U15 Program of Excellence across the province, hosting the camp in 6 different locations including, Kitchener, London, Toronto, Sudbury and Oshawa.

#### HOCKEY CANADA LONDON LEGACY FUND

Tavistock
Minor Hockey:
Developing
Goaltenders One
Clinic at a Time



Tavistock Minor Hockey is a small organization with a big sense of community.

This year the Minor Hockey Association celebrated the time, commitment, and dedication of just under 100 volunteers who help to ensure the shape of their game continues to function. Without these volunteers, many of the structures that keep the game going in Tavistock would not be possible. This includes their goalie clinics.

This past year, Tavistock Minor Hockey applied to the Hockey Canada London Legacy Fund for funding to support their strategic goals regarding the recruitment, development, and retention of goaltenders at a young age. With these funds, the Minor Hockey Association has developed a comprehensive clinic program that allows young players to try goaltending without the financial barriers that often confront them, like the cost of equipment.

"This year, I'm coaching the U11 and both of my goalies, are playing hockey for the first time," said Darryl Austin, Coach and Director at Tavistock

"Just like every other coach I know; I am not experienced in training goalies. So having this program has drastically improved the way they move, how they play and their positioning - it's fantastic."

The program is supported not only by volunteers but now a new goalie coach who has been running specialized clinics, as well as coming in to work with individual teams to allow constant attention on the goaltending craft.

"The funding has allowed us to hire a goalie coach for our organization...we have had them come and work with our individual teams, which is been a big help," said Dave McLaren, Director and Ice Scheduler.

"We are hoping by next year, we can roll the clinics our earlier and more often. Maybe have them monthly and have the money from the fund allow us to bring in the goalie coach on a more individual basis."

Director, Jen McKee led the process to identify where funding would not only help the organization but the participants as a whole. From McKee's perspective, this was a no-brainer initiative Tavistock and will only further encourage participants to not only stay in the game but also, enter the game for the first time.

"The application email came to one of our executive members, and I volunteered to do it and I had an executive meeting. We just put it out there, what do we need for Tavistock Minor Hockey? And it was pretty much unanimous, 'we need to develop our goalies', said McKee.

"We didn't want parents at a young age to have to buy equipment just to 'see' if their child wanted to play goalie. We wanted to offer that and development. When you get to an older age there are not many goalies in our organization...It was a no-brainer. I outlined the costs, what we needed, ice time, etc. and now we are so happy with the results."

#### OHF HONOUR ROLL

## The Ontario Hockey Federation Honour Roll recognizes members who have passed away, but will forever be remembered for their contributions to the hockey community.

Georgette Foster

Jimmy Sartor

Owen Peltier

Paul Fecteau

Normand Lamothe

Don Gagnon

Joe Bumbacco

Stephane Leveille

Bryce Kulik

Walker Gregoire

**Bev Mackey** 

Bill Fitsell

Elmer McFadden

Thomas J Leathong

William Burrell

Joe Schembri

Tracy Sherman

Doug Souilere

Dick Bennett

Lou Angotti

Leo Boivin

Randy Boyd

**Garrett Burnett** 

Mike Churchill

Sean DeMuynck

Wally Donaldson

Jack Egers

Don Gagnon

Lance Galbraith

**Rod Gilbert** 

Larry Hillman

John Humphreys

**Bob Kilger** 

Tom McCarthy

Eugene Melnyk

Vladimir Nikiforov

Mike Nykoluk,

Joe Pelesh

Dave Quinn

Ben Savage

Fred Stanfield

Bryan 'Bugsy' Watson



Introduced in 1997, the Ontario Hockey Federation (OHF) Scholarship recognizes and rewards dedication in education and hockey. Each year, the OHF awards scholarships to outstanding young people who display an incredible amount of commitment both at the arena and in the classroom. The scholarship recipients are determined on the basis of academic achievements, hockey involvement and community involvement. The program provides financial assistance to registered OHF participants with the intent of offsetting the cost of post-secondary education. Over the past 21 years, the OHF has distributed more than \$420,000 to over 390 post-secondary students.

Abby Bellefeuille Faith Taylor Lucas Rodey

Abby Warriner Graham Gerson Luke Bailey

Aidan Proderick Graham Morrison Malia Leighton

Beckett Palmer- Jackson Louws Matt Cummings

Stephen Jonathan Vanek Maya Elliot

Casey Fleming
Cassidy Clarke

Kaydra Corney
Olivia Skinkle

Emma Dyer Kylie Nivins Owen Payette

Ethan Drew Lauren Segeren Ruby Pilatzke

Ethan Matthews Layla Van Meggelen Shannon O'Reilly

Evan Muller Leena Tawfik Tori St. Amant

Congratulations to the 2021 OHF Scholarship Winners!

