



2023/24

ANNUAL REPORT

www.ohf.on.ca

Chair of the Board Message

WELCOME



John
KASTNER

I always think that the annual message from the Chair of the Board should do two things – look back at the last 12 months but look ahead at the next year as well.

The 2023-2024 season presented challenges but also many significant accomplishments.

A key achievement was revamping the OHF Committees to ensure effective work, supported by major bylaw changes. Our ongoing efforts will enhance the committee effectiveness while providing Members with significant responsibilities and opportunities.

Centralizing criminal record checks was crucial for safety, though it required adjustments for registrants needing Vulnerable Sector Checks before hockey camps and the next season start. Support from Member and Staff was essential to communicate effectively at the grassroots level, ensuring all eligible players are on the ice safely.

This initiative was endorsed by Neil Lumsden, Provincial Minister of Sport, Tourism, and Culture, and is now viewed as a pilot for amateur sports in Ontario. Additionally, the other two Ontario branches – Hockey Eastern Ontario and Hockey Northwestern Ontario – have adopted the model, creating a unified system across Ontario.

After 12 years without a fee increase, the new funding model prioritizes grassroots hockey. Recreational players won't see an increase this year while the system scales up for higher-level teams. This keeps the OHF fee for recreational players under \$5.

Other key initiatives involve investing in an improved appeals system, making it more efficient and user-friendly while also addressing the growing threat of non-sanctioned hockey is crucial. We aim to reduce

unnecessary regulations while maintaining safety, making our game less restrictive but more secure.

The OHF advocated for a national review of the Hockey Canada Development Model to address the rise of sports schools, academies, and non-sanctioned competitions, ensuring Ontario voices are heard. We have made a commitment to go through the rulebook thoroughly to ensure every rule or regulation is in there. One of the attractions of non-sanctioned hockey is that it is less regulated, and we need to be honest about that – ensuring that we keep the game safe but not restrictive.

We see potential in monetizing OHF Championships and our scholarship program, enhancing their value without negatively impacting Members or registrants. Our goal is to create memorable experiences, enriched through our social media platforms.

Finally, I extend my gratitude to the OHF Board, Staff, and our 7 Members – Alliance Hockey, the Greater Toronto Hockey League, the Ontario Hockey Association, the Ontario Hockey League, the Ontario Minor Hockey Association and the Ontario Women's Hockey Association. Attending meetings across Associations this year has been invaluable. While our relationships are strong, there's always room for improvement, and I welcome your input.

Looking ahead, I'm reminded of the African proverb: "If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together." Our best chance of improving the game and providing the best hockey experience – we are far better going together.

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FEATURE ON

Katherine Henderson

“Playing and watching hockey is undeniably a part of who we are as Canadians and I truly believe that we can make hockey and sport in Canada mean so much more to fans and participants from coast to coast to coast,” said Katherine Henderson, President and Chief Executive Officer of Hockey Canada. “We can be that aspirational sport for all, and I see a hockey that not only includes others but values them. Together, we can ensure that for generations to come, hockey in Canada embodies safety, excellence and sport for all.”



Executive Director

MESSAGE



Phil
MCKEE

The 2023-2024 hockey season marked a significant return to normalcy following three disrupted years due to COVID-19. Registration numbers are nearly back to the pre-covid numbers, now more than ever, collaboration exhibited during the pandemic among our Members, Associations, and Hockey Canada is important to ensure the continued success and operation of sanctioned hockey across Canada.

Hockey Canada has taken steps to refresh its leadership structure and relevance within the sports community. Rebuilding trust in its brand is paramount, given its direct connection with over 3500 hockey associations nationwide, which serve as the frontline experience for young players. Likewise, the OHF represents more than 500 diverse hockey associations, each striving to succeed within the shared values.

During the 2023-2024 season, the OHF made substantial developments towards streamlining operations and enhancing player safety and experience with our Members. Key initiatives included:

Continued implementation and efficiency of the Hockey Canada Independent Third Party for handling complaints, aimed at providing athletes and parents with a safe platform to voice concerns. This transition, although initially increased workloads, promises long-term benefits by ensuring a supportive environment without fear of retaliation. This implementation is being done in partnership with our Members who continue to manage the bulk of complaints and are doing significant work to create a safe environment for the players.

Centralizing Vulnerable Sector Checks (VSC) simplifying the process for approximately 40,000 on-ice and team officials across Ontario. While this initiative requires adaptation from Associations, it ultimately standardizes procedures and enhances youth protection measures, with future efficiencies expected in 2024-2025 and beyond.

The adoption of a standardized Dressing Room Policy in collaboration with Hockey Canada Members like Hockey Eastern Ontario and Hockey Northwestern Ontario exemplifies a unified approach towards player welfare and policy consistency.

The transition to a National Learning Management System, developed in partnership with Hockey Canada, promises streamlined education for coaches and officials. Although the full benefits will materialize in the years to come, this initiative underscores the OHF's commitment to advancing hockey through accessible and standardized education.

Beyond operational improvements, the OHF remains dedicated to its core values of Fun, Safe, Progressive, Integrity, and Accessibility. These values not only differentiate it from profit-driven entities but also guide its efforts to enrich life and communities through the game of hockey.

The landscape of hockey continues to evolve, demanding adaptable administrative practices that align with societal changes. By prioritizing customer experience and continuous improvement, the OHF and its stakeholders aim to maintain hockey's prominence as Canada's leading sport.

The OHF acknowledges and appreciates the dedication of volunteers, staff, and members whose collective efforts sustain and enrich the hockey experience for thousands of families across the province. Their commitment ensures that future seasons uphold the highest standards of safety, enjoyment, and community enrichment.

As we approach the 2024-2025 season, the OHF looks to build upon these foundations and meeting the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead in the world of hockey in partnership with Hockey Canada and our Members.

2023-2024

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



John Kastner | Chair



Rob Campbell | Director



Susan Irving | Director



Stacy McLean | Director



Gayle Payette | Director



Hugh Riddle | Director



Tracy Robert | Director



Cheryl Smith | Director



Jeffrey Turner | Director



Who is the ONTARIO HOCKEY FEDERATION

The Ontario Hockey Federation (OHF) is the largest member of Hockey Canada operating along side Hockey Eastern Ontario (HEO) and Hockey Northwestern Ontario (HNO) as governing bodies for amateur hockey in Ontario.

Recognized as the Provincial Sport Organization for the sport of Hockey, the OHF operates within a structure that is comprised of seven Members:



Alliance Hockey
Tony Martindale,
Executive Director



Greater Toronto Hockey League (GTHL)
Scott Oakman,
Executive Director and CEO



Northern Ontario Hockey Association (NOHA)
Jason Marchand,
Executive Director



Ontario Hockey Association (OHA)
Dave Leger,
Executive Director



Ontario Hockey League (OHL)
David E.
Branch, Commissioner

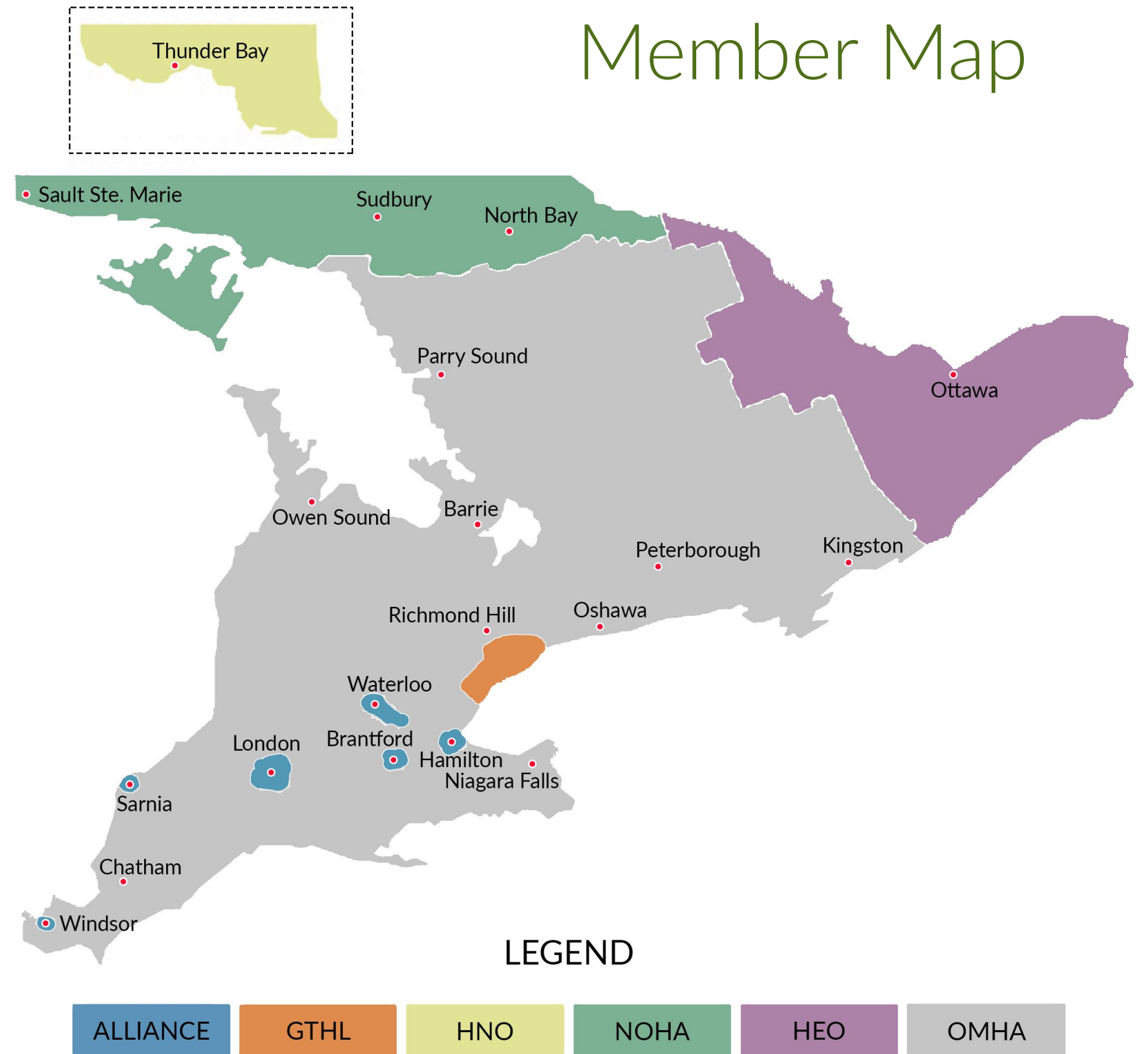


Ontario Minor Hockey Association (OMHA)
Ian Taylor,
Executive Director



Ontario Women's Hockey Association (OWHA)
Fran Rider,
President/CEO

Member Map



OHA, OHL and OWHA: Coverage throughout the province

For more information about the OHF Members, visit: OHF.ON.CA/MEMBERS

OUR PURPOSE

ENRICH LIFE & COMMUNITY THROUGH HOCKEY

Hockey as a positive catalyst for growth and shared experiences for all

SAFE

Commitment that all participants are comfortable participating in the game of hockey, whether that be from a mental or physical perspective all while focusing on the management and minimization of mental health issues, maltreatment and concussions.

FUN

Ensure that all individuals - regardless of level - find value and develop themselves as healthy people while staying in the game in any form.

ACCESSIBLE

Ensure a broad ranging commitment to Equity, Diversity and Inclusion principles in all of our programming, as well as highlight and target ways to invite people of different economic backgrounds, race, disabilities and geographies into the game.

INTEGRITY

Ensure there is always a commitment to fairness, equity, respect and honesty for all levels of the game. Make accountability a priority among our staff, board members, players parents, coaches, etc.

PROGRESSIVE

Collaborative leadership and connection of the networked organization, empowerment, learning and challenging the status quo.

TEN YEAR STORY

The Ontario Hockey Federation, the largest Member of Hockey Canada, is a collective of some of the best hockey organizations in the world that recognize that reliance on size alone does not guarantee success or ensure a great reputation. The power to work as a collective and maximize the benefits of a networked organization are the path to being a world class sports leader.

We are committed to quality experience for every person in our game regardless of ability. Every player, coach, official, staff and volunteer has a role and responsibility in ensuring the overall experience is fun.

With an athlete centered focus, hockey is the activity of choice, creating the desire in each athlete to play hockey and stay in hockey throughout their life. The rink reflects the faces and people of Ontario, enabled by an organization that is safe, engaging, and accessible, that drives continuous and meaningful change. We do that with a clear understanding of how that environment is achieved for the player lacing up for the first time, or the 10,000th time.

Our purpose is to

ENRICH LIFE AND COMMUNITY THROUGH HOCKEY

by being a highly effective, empowered and efficient network organization.

Commitment to **SAFE SPORT**

The OHF stays committed to fostering a culture of safety, respect, and inclusion within the hockey community, by working closely with our Members and Associations. The efforts aim to protect the well-being of athletes, coaches, officials, and other stakeholders involved in the sport.

As such, we continue to build on our Safe Sport initiatives to promote a safe and respectful environment within the hockey community.



Education: Utilization of multiple educational tools to increase knowledge of our lead volunteers, coaches, officials and parents.



Policies and Procedures: Development and implementation of policies and procedures outlining expectations, reporting procedures, ensuring appropriate conduct and interactions are made throughout the game.



Screening: Coaches, volunteers, and officials must undergo background checks through a new centralized validation process to ensure that these individuals meet certain standards and conduct themselves in a safe manner for all.



Safe Sport Training: Organization of training for coaches, officials, and administrators to raise awareness about abuse prevention, how to recognize signs of abuse, and learn how to respond appropriately to allegations or suspicions of abuse.



Reporting Mechanisms: Established reporting mechanisms to report instances of abuse, harassment, or misconduct anonymously to encourage individuals to come forward without fear of retaliation.

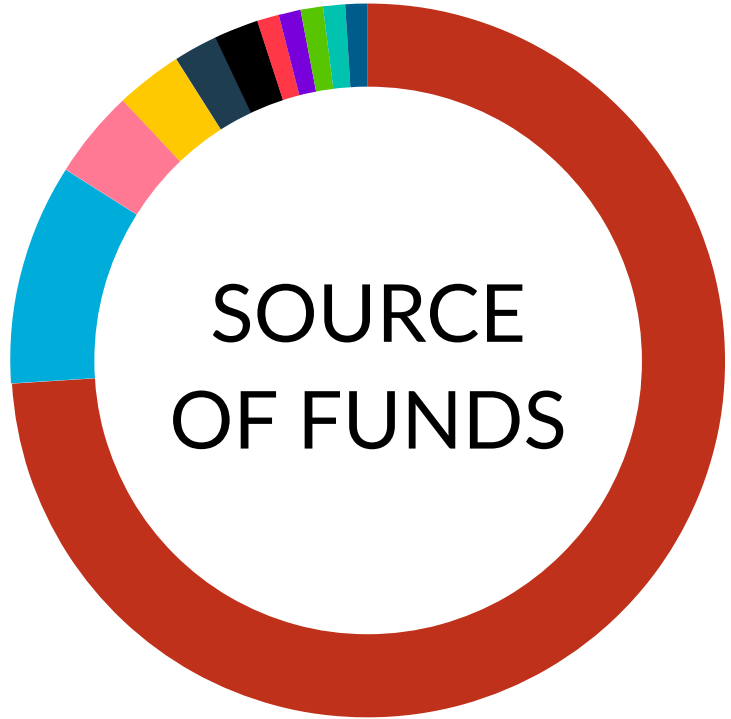
For more information about the OHF Safe Sport commitments, visit: OHF.ON.CA/SAFE-SPORT



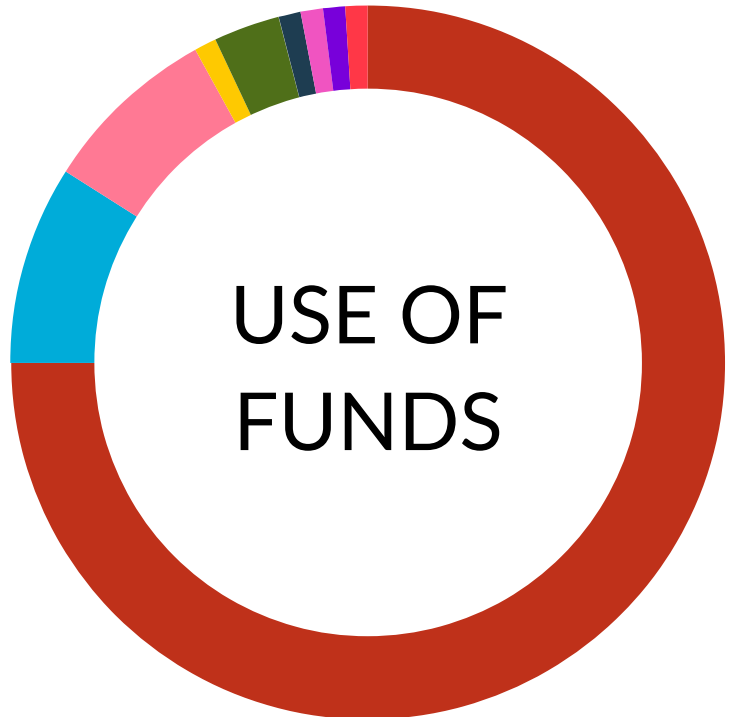
INDEPENDENT
SAFE SPORT



FUNDING OVERVIEW



HC insurance and assessment	74.62 %
Member Assessments & Fees	10.66%
Coach mentorship revenue	4.24%
Registration fees	2.71%
PSO Funding	2.49%
Risk management revenue	2.56%
Interest Revenue	1.27%
HC restricted fund	0.90%
Appeal revenue	0.44%
Sports school	0.38%
Sponsorship	0.28%
Risk management contribution	0.54%
Other	0.18%
<hr/>	
	100%



HC Insurance & Assessment	75.27%
Administrative	8.57%
Operations	7.37%
PSO Funding	1.02%
Coach Mentorship	2.94%
HC Restricted Fund	1.36%
Risk Management	1.36%
Technology	1.18%
Office	0.90%
Other	0.02%
<hr/>	
	100%

The OHF

AWARDS PROGRAM

Recognizes the efforts and achievements of volunteers and administrators who have dedicated their time to furthering the great game of hockey.

Bill Richmond Memorial Award:

2022-2023 Recipient: Mike McParland, Northern Ontario Hockey Association

Dr. Allan Morris Award:

2022-2023 Recipient: Claudette Myre, Northern Ontario Hockey Association

John Gardner Staff Award:

2022-2023 Recipient: Kevin Hamilton, Ontario Minor Hockey Association

Officiating Award:

2022-2023 Recipient: Jim Hawthorne, Ontario Minor Hockey Association

Order of Merit Award:

2022-2023 Recipient: Stephen King, Greater Toronto Hockey League

Sam Ciccolini Volunteer of the Year Award:

2022-2023 Recipient: Joe Longo, Northern Ontario Hockey Association

Chair of the Board Award:

2022-2023 Recipient: Tony Martindale, Alliance Hockey

OHF Life Patron

Tony Foresi 2022-2023

John Gardner 2017-2018

Don Yeck 2014-2015

Joe Drago 2014-2015

Ed Pupich 2008-2009

Sam Ciccolini 2006-2007

Justice David Watt 2005-2006

Dr. Allan Morris 2004-2005

Bill Appleby 2002-2003

More information about the OHF Awards Program can be found OHF.ON.CA/Awards



Scholarship PROGRAM



The Ontario Hockey Federation (OHF) Scholarship was introduced in 1997 to recognize and reward dedication in education and hockey. The program provides financial assistance to registered OHF participants to offset the cost of post-secondary education. Since its inception, the OHF has distributed more than \$450,000 to over 400 post-secondary students.

2023 OHF Scholarship Recipients

Thank you to all who applied for the OHF Scholarship and congratulations to those selected:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1 Abbigail Aikman, OWHA | 16 Jenn Sharpe, OWHA |
| 2 Abby Horton, OWHA | 17 Jenna Cernjul, OWHA |
| 3 Adrienne Alexander, OWHA | 18 Jeremy Hardeman, OMHA |
| 4 Alex Rebane, OMHA | 19 Jordyn Mackey, OWHA |
| 5 Alexandre Dubuc, NOHA | 20 Josie MacLean, OWHA |
| 6 Alyssa Desmoulin-Luce, NOHA | 21 Kalynn Baker, Alliance |
| 7 Ava Bellefeuille, OWHA | 22 Lacey Pilon, NOHA, OWHA |
| 8 Christopher Lamont, Alliance | 23 Leah Jayne Bell, OWHA |
| 9 Cooper Lloyd, OMHA | 24 Mackenzie Johnson**, OWHA |
| 10 Garrett Sharpe, OMHA | 25 Nickolas Wright, OMHA |
| 11 Haley Patry, OMHA | 26 Nolan Muller, OMHA |
| 12 Hannah Irvine, OMHA | 27 Owen Nichol, OMHA |
| 13 Harper Leslie, OWHA | 28 Quinn Hammond, OWHA |
| 14 Jace McGrail, Alliance | 29 Samuel Rudner, NOHA |
| 15 Jagger Sheridan, OMHA | 30 Sophie Helfenstein, OWHA |

****Mackenzie Johnson was recognized as the 2022-2023 Top Applicant.**



Member Community STORIES



Take a Shot with the Brantford Community Hockey League

The Brantford Community Hockey League, in partnership with Take A Shot Sports, offered a free, 10-week learn-to-play hockey program for youth aged 8-12, new to the game. All necessary equipment was provided, and the sessions lasted 2 hours per week. The first session ended with a fun game where participants skated from end to end, moved the puck, and enjoyed themselves. The program had 21 registered players, with 11 now enrolled in the BCHL House League program. The BCHL Take A Shot program has been a successful introduction to hockey, creating new opportunities for kids to engage with the sport.



GTHL Try Hockey

The GTHL's Try Hockey program introduces students to hockey through floorball where they learn the skills of passing, shooting, and stick handling in a friendly and fun environment. Delivered through January to May 2024, the program offered a unique opportunity to lead 15 Try Hockey events in 14 different schools across the city, introducing just under 2000 students to the game of hockey.

REPORTING					
Boys	Girls	Total	Play Ice Hockey	Play Ball Hockey	Watch
1025	938	1963	248	834	1101
52%	48%		13%	42%	56%



W.A.I.T. Initiative

This season, the NOHA began the W.A.I.T. Initiative, which was born from the rising cases of Maltreatment in Minor Hockey. W.A.I.T. is an acronym which stands for “What Am I Thinking,” “What Am I Teaching,” and “Why Am I Talking,” among others. It encourages our Players and Bench Staff to stop and W.A.I.T. to consider whether the action or words that are coming next could be something that causes harm to another participant. The initiative hopes to help our participants consider their actions before committing them so we can make sure hockey is a safe and fun environment for every participant, all the time.



Kingston Frontenacs' Vaccari making a difference with every save!

Mason Vaccari, an 19-year-old goaltender for the Kingston Frontenacs, is making a significant impact both on and off the ice. By January 2024, he ranked among the Ontario Hockey League's (OHL) leaders in saves and minutes played, maintaining a 17-15-1-0 record over 34 games with a 3.67 goals-against average and a .883 save percentage. Beyond his performance, Vaccari is deeply involved in community service through his initiative “Mason's Miracles,” donating 50 cents for each save to the paediatric wing at Kingston General Hospital and regularly visiting the children there.

Praised for his character, dedication, and leadership, and his exceptional work ethic and attention to detail, Vaccari was also named the OHL's Humanitarian of the Year!

Watch: [Mason's Miracles: Vaccari gives back to the Kingston community](#)



West Lorne Comets Tosses Teddy Bears for Charity

The West Lorne Comets U13 D team held their first ever teddy bear toss, successfully rallying family members and friends to support the event. Their efforts resulted in the collection of 117 brand new teddy bears, which were donated to a local charity in West Lorne. These bears will be given to children who might not receive a Christmas gift otherwise. The players were thrilled to make a positive impact in children's lives during a challenging time, and the local community played an outstanding role in helping them achieve their goal.



OHF AFFILIATES



Championship OT Thriller at National Para Hockey Championships in Port Colborne

Quebec won gold at the National Para Hockey Championships, defeating Ontario 1-0 in an intense overtime match in Port Colborne, Ontario. Strong goaltending by Ontario's Corbin Watson and Quebec's Alexandre Gravel kept the game scoreless for three periods. Quebec capitalized on a penalty by Ontario in OT with just 25 seconds remaining. Earlier, British Columbia secured bronze by defeating Alberta. In Pool B, New Brunswick won the championships defeating Manitoba. The Ontario Sledge Hockey Association (OSHA) is the governing body for sledge hockey in Ontario, representing over 20 clubs and 400 plus players located across most of Ontario.

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OntarioSledge.com



Celebrating 50 years of the Little NHL

The Little NHL celebrated its 50th anniversary this year, becoming the largest hockey tournament for First Nations youth in Ontario. Initially featuring 17 teams, it now hosts 245 teams and over 4,000 youth, including 38 all-female squads. Founded on Manitoulin Island in 1971 to provide a discrimination-free hockey environment, the tournament has notable alumni like Ted Nolan. The anniversary included a gala with Ted Nolan and a festival at Markham Civic Centre, with opening ceremonies co-hosted by Ron MacLean and Anthony Stewart. The event remains a cherished family-oriented tradition. Little Native Hockey League (LNHL) was created to build inclusivity in hockey for Indigenous players and focuses on supporting communities and young players through safe play.

Little Native Hockey League (LNHL) was created to build inclusivity in hockey for Indigenous players and focuses on supporting communities and young players through safe play.

LNHL.ca

Canadian National Special Hockey (CNSH)

Daniel's Hockey Story

Born in Florida, Daniel lived there for eleven years before moving to Canada. Diagnosed with Tourette's syndrome at 7 and later with ASD, he faced significant challenges. He adapted to special needs schools and programs, including the CNSH league in Ontario, where he made lasting friendships. For a school project, he created a documentary about the Grandravine Tornados to raise awareness and share how the program helped him develop life skills highlighting his experiences and the league's positive impact. [Watch the video](#)

The Canadian National Special Hockey (CNSH) organization supports the growth and development of hockey teams for children, youth and adults with developmental delays, across Canada. It represents approximately 20 Member Clubs with a total of 46 special needs teams.

CNSH.ca

Year in REVIEW

May 2023

- OHF/OHL U15 Program of Excellence in 4 cities: May 5-7 in Kitchener; May 12-14 in London; May 12-14 in Oshawa and May 26-28 in Brampton
- Centennial Cup May 11-May 21, 2023: Collingwood Blues (OJHL) go 2 W, 1OTW and 1 loss in regulation losing in QF
- Memorial Cup: Peterborough Petes lose 4-1 in the Semi-finals
- High Performance 1 Coaching Seminar Kick-off Virtually with Online Sessions and Recorded Webinars

June 2023

- Board of Directors Elected and Re-elected

July 2023

- Scholarship Award Winners Announced
- High Performance 1 Coaching Continues with In-Class Sessions featuring Planning, Teaching, Evaluating; Offensive and Defensive Team Play; and Power Plays and Penalty Kills

August 2023

- Team Canada wins Gold in an overtime nail biter at 2023 Hlinka Gretzky Cup
- Darby Hucaluk from Whitby, ON - a referee from the OWHA - selected for Officiating Program of Excellence Women's Summer Camp
- 5th Installment of OHF/OHL U15 Program of Excellence: August 11-13 in North Bay



September 2023

- OHF Survey Part 1: Preparation Phase & Player Evaluation

October 2023

- Gender Inclusion in Hockey Webinars
- Ontario Not-for-Profit Corporations Act Education Session
- OHF Survey Part 2: Development Phase

November 2023

- Gender Inclusion in Hockey Webinars
- National Women's Under 18 Championship: Ontario Red (ON-R) Beats Quebec (QUE) 3-2 in Finals (OT)
- World Under-17 Hockey Challenge: Canada White beats US 2-1 in Finals (OT)

December 2023

- 2024 IIHF World Junior Championship in Sweden
- World Junior A Challenge: Canada West (CAN-W) beats Canada East (CAN-E) 7-2 in final

January 2024

- 2024 IIHF World Junior Championship in Sweden
- 2024 IIHF U18 Women's World Championship in Switzerland
- Team Canada falls to Czechia in the quarter finals of the 2024 IIHF World Junior Hockey Championships
- OJHL All Star Celebration
- Applications to host NHL/NHLPA First Shift Program opens

- Muskoka Bears announced as new PJHL franchise, to begin play in the 2024-25 season
- 2024 Winter Youth Olympic Games
- Ontario Dressing Room Policy Education Session

February 2024

- Ontario Winter Games
- Ontario Dressing Room Policy in Effect

March 2024

- OHL Cup
- YNCU Motivate 2 Skate
- Celebrating 50 years of the Little NHL

April 2024

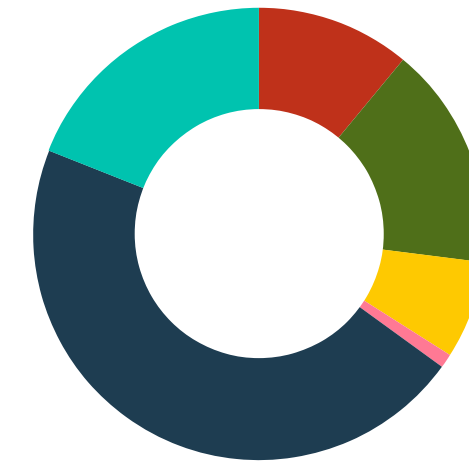
- OJHL Combine
- 2024 Esso Cup: North York loses to Regina 2-1 in the finals
- 2024 Telus Cup: Markham Waxers lose 4-3 in the semi finals
- All-Ontario U15AAA Championships: Don Mills Flyers (GTHL)
- All-Ontario U13 AAA Championships: Vaughan Kings (GTHL)
- Central Regional U18 AAA Championships: Markham Waxers (OMHA)
- OHF Screening Policy/Vulnerable Sector Screening Centralization Process Opens
- OHF Residential Transfer Request Portal Opens
- OHF Survey Part 3: Regular Season and Playoff Phase

Registered PARTICIPANTS

Player Growth by OHF Member:

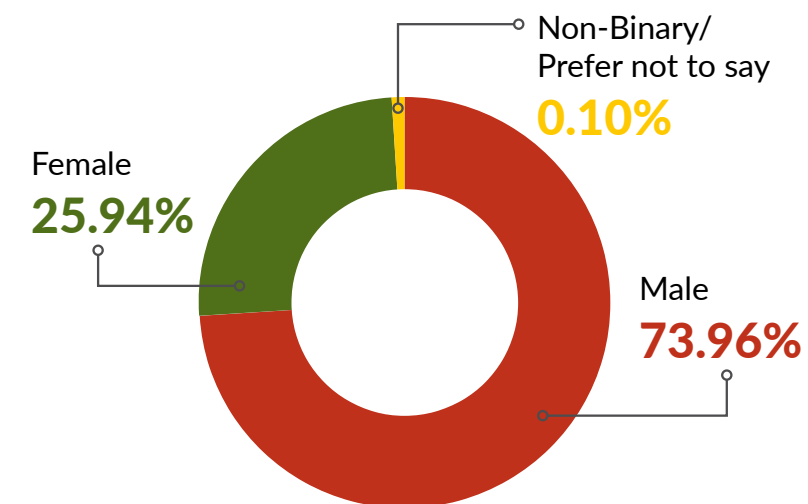
	2022-2023	2023-2024	
OHF Overall	161,681	173,019	▲
Alliance	16,660	17,120	▲
GTHL	24,042	24,499	▲
NOHA	9,742	10,398	▲
OHA	2,830	3,230	▲
OMHA	77,552	80,467	▲
OWHA	30,855	37,305	▲

New Participants by OHF Member:

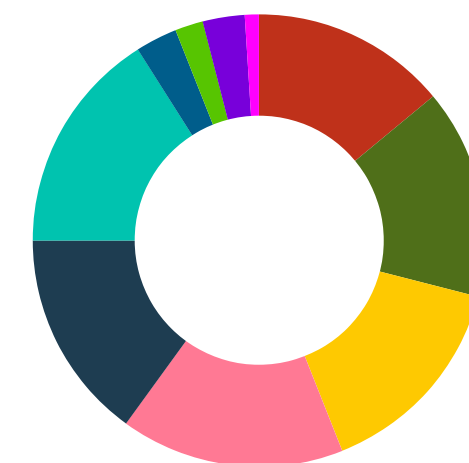


Alliance	10.56%
GTHL	15.94%
NOHA	6.49%
OHA	0.26%
OMHA	45.89%
OWHA	19.35%

Player by Gender:



Player by Category:



U07	13.72%
U09	14.31%
U11	15.55%
U13	16.18%
U15	15.66%
U18	16.31%
U21	2.99%
Junior	1.81%
Senior	2.82%
Other	0.64%





The OHF Championships across all divisions and age categories took place
April 19-21, 2024.

Division	Winner	Runner-up	Hosts
U13 A	Brantford 99ers (Alliance)	Woolwich Wildcats (OMHA)	Temiskaming Shores Minor Hockey (NOHA)
U13 AA	Timmins Kiwanis North Stars (NOHA)	Vaughan Rangers (GTHL)	Timmins Minor Hockey (NOHA)
U15 A	Woolwich Wildcats (OMHA)	Woodstock Jr Navy Vets (Alliance)	Orillia Minor Hockey Association (OMHA)
U15 AA	Vaughan Panthers (GTHL)	Soo Jr Greyhounds (NOHA)	Oakville Rangers Hockey Club (GTHL)
U18 A	Quinte West Golden Hawks (OMHA)	Welland Wolves (OMHA)	Welland Minor Hockey Association (OMHA)
U18 AA	Milton Winterhawks (OMHA)	Soo Jr Greyhounds (NOHA)	Markham Waxers Hockey Club (OMHA)

All-Ontario/Central Region Championships

The Ontario Championships are the provincial Championship for U13 AAA and U15 AAA divisions that include teams from all 3 Hockey Canada Ontario Branches.

The Central Region U18 AAA Championship includes teams from 2 Hockey Canada Ontario Branches (HEO and OHF).



Division	Date	Winner	Runner-up	Hosts
U13 AAA	Thursday, April 17 - 21, 2024	Vaughan Kings (GTHL)	Toronto Junior Canadians (GTHL)	Vaughan Kings (GTHL)
U15 AAA	Thursday, April 17 - 21, 2024	Don Mills Flyers (GTHL)	Ottawa Myers Automotive (HEO)	Ottawa Valley Titans (HEO)
U18 AAA	Monday, April 8 - 14, 2024	Markham Waxers (OMHA)	Waterloo Wolves (Alliance)	Sault Major Hockey Association (NOHA)

OHF High Performance 1

COACHING SEMINAR

Delivered in different learning blocks: On-line virtual, Pre-Recorded and and in-class learning.

National Virtual Opening Weekend:

- Mental Preparation
- Team Building
- Physical Preparation
- Game and Bench Management
- Skills Assessment
- Leadership in Coaching

Recorded Sessions Included:

- Player Evaluation / Selection
- Effective use of Technology
- Make Hockey Safe
- Hockey Canada Network App
- Leading Drug Free Sport

Virtual Multi-Sport Modules:

- Managing Conflict
- Making Ethical Decisions

In-Class Weekend:

- Planning a Competitive Program
- Planning, Teaching, Evaluating
- Offensive Team Play
- Defensive Team Play
- Power Play
- Penalty Kill

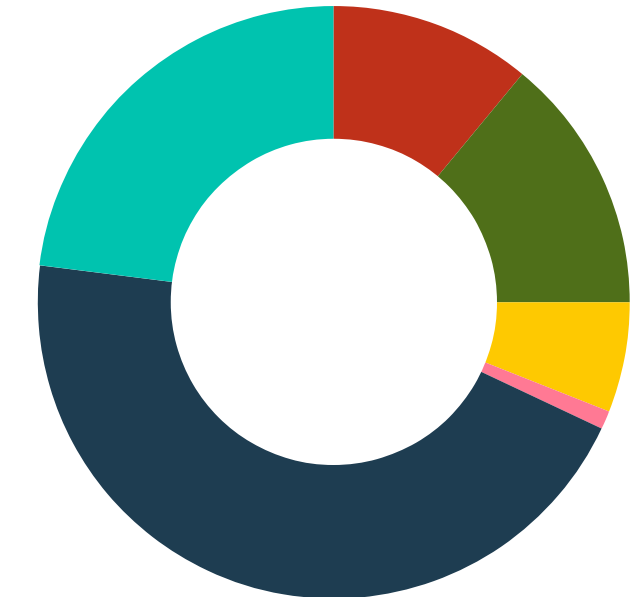


Coaching by the NUMBERS

Coaches Growth by OHF Member:

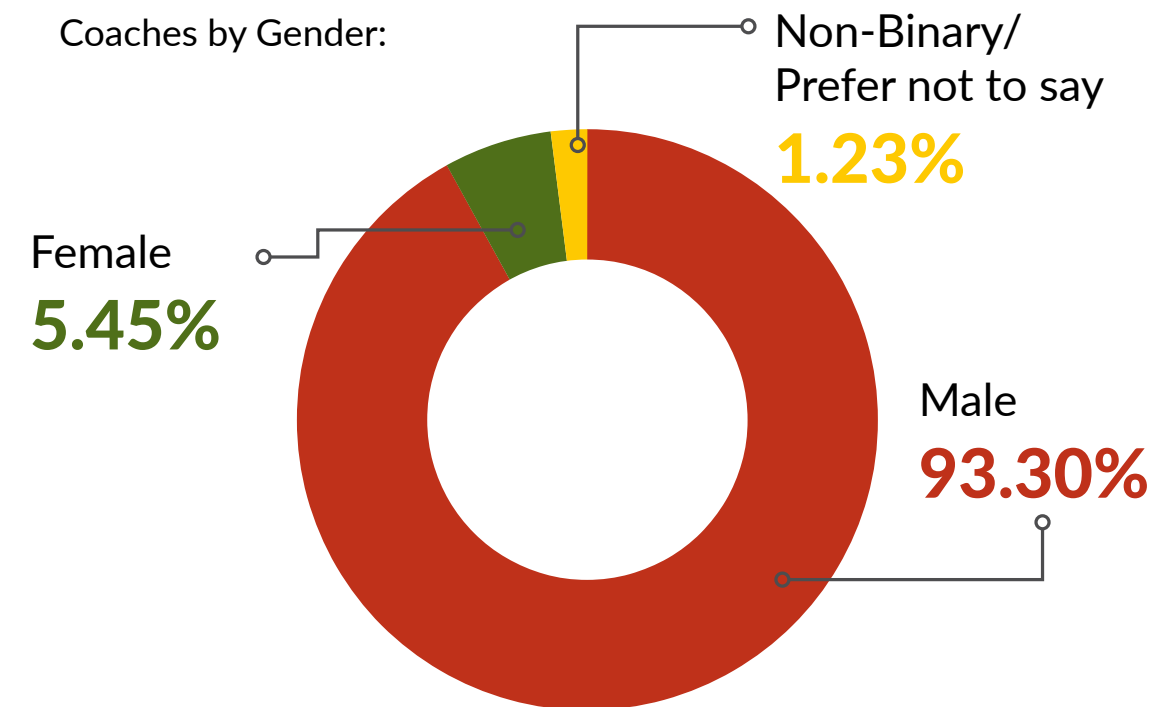
	2022-2023	2023-2024	Growth
OHF Overall	22,040	24,108	9.38%
Alliance	2,390	2,481	3.81%
GTHL	2,986	3,153	5.59%
NOHA	1,624	1,761	8.44%
OHA	386	438	13.47%
OMHA	9,464	10,465	10.58%
OWHA	5,190	5,810	11.95%

New Coaches Across OHF Member:



Alliance	10.49%
GTHL	14.23%
NOHA	6.16%
OHA	1.18%
OMHA	44.78%
OWHA	23.16%

Coaches by Gender:



U16 Program of **EXCELLENCE**

The OHF hosted the U16 Program of Excellence Webinar Series for the first time. The Series was created to educate U16 athletes on the Hockey Canada and Ontario Program of Excellence process. The webinars were presented by Hockey Canada staff, skills coaches and subject matter experts.

Topics included:

1) Stress and Adaptation

Presented by Andrew Hopf – Lead Strength and Conditioning Coach, University of Waterloo Department of Athletics and Recreation Development Strength and Conditioning Coach, St. Louis Blues (National Hockey League)

2) Perseverance Presented by Patrick Wiercioch

3) Gold Medal Pathway, Mental Performance Presented by Lucas Madill, CMPC/CSPA

4) Hydration & Nutrition Presented by Gatorade presented by Anthony Wolfe

5) Advanced Preparation and Activation

Presented by Andrew Hopf – Lead Strength and Conditioning Coach, University of Waterloo Department of Athletics and Recreation Development Strength and Conditioning Coach, St. Louis Blues (National Hockey League)

6) Gold Medal Pathway - Skill Strengths & Deficiencies

Presented by Corey McNabb- Player Development Manager, Hockey Canada

7) OHL Opportunities

Presented by Brodie Barrick – Director of Player Recruitment and Player Services, Ontario Hockey League (OHL)

[Watch the videos](#)



OHF/OHL U15 Program of **EXCELLENCE**

The OHF/OHL U15 Program of Excellence introduces players and staff to high performance hockey, Hockey Canada's Program of Excellence and the Ontario Hockey League by creating a unique hockey experience for all players and staff involved.

Players participate in intense, high performance on and off-ice sessions and seminars. On-ice sessions include 4 practices and 2 games over a three-day weekend. Off-ice sessions include seminars with speakers on topics such as mental health, sports psychology, nutrition and fitness.

Hosted at five different locations across the province, each program consists of 4 teams – with 12 forwards, 6 defense and 3 goaltenders.



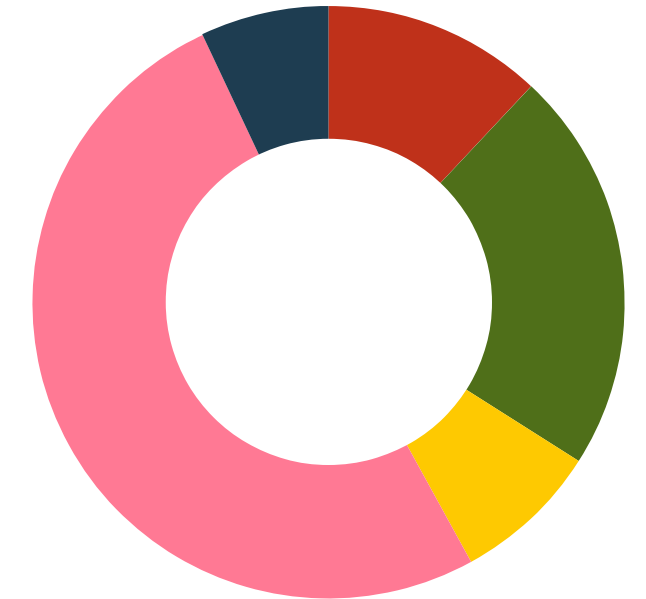
Officials by the NUMBERS

Officials Growth by OHF Member:

	2022-2023	2023-2024	Growth
OHF Overall	3,775	3,940	4.37%
Alliance	455	482	5.93%
GTHL	487	492	1.03%
NOHA	341	397	16.42%
OHA	279	322	15.41%
OMHA	1,885	2,012	6.74%
OWHA	328	235	-28.35%

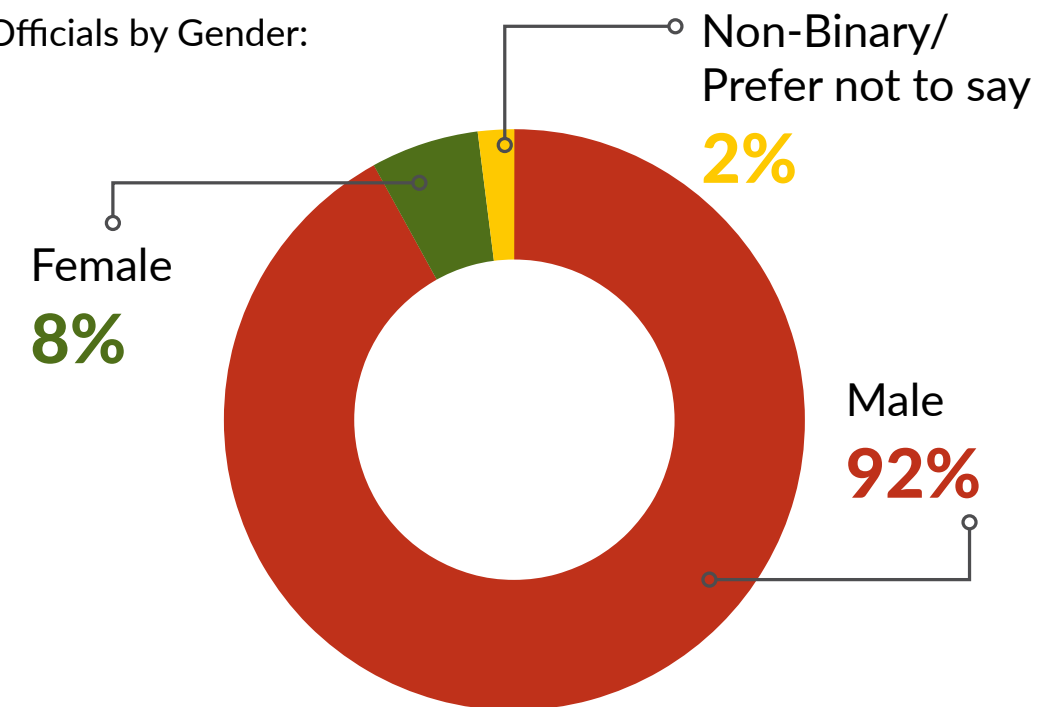
* - crossover between OWHA/other Member

New Officials Across OHF Member:



Alliance	12.31%
GTHL	22.40%
NOHA	7.45%
OHA	50.98%
OMHA	6.87%
OWHA	23.16%

Officials by Gender:



Officiating PROGRAM

OHF High Performance Officiating Virtual Series

The OHF offered an Officiating High-Performance Series of virtual training sessions.

The sessions included the following topics:

SESSION #1

- Positioning strategies for the 4-official system, both for Lines Persons and Referees.
- Guidance and discussion around the application of the Maltreatment rule.
- Proper face-off procedures.

SESSION #2

- Effective communication with players and Officiating teammates
- Player control at stoppages, line changes and during face-offs.
- Areas of responsibility

SESSION #3

- Tactics to control the game and how to enhance rule knowledge.
- Solutions to deal with emotional moments in the game.
- The importance of effective self-evaluation.

The sessions were attended by over 200 Officials across the province.



OHF Member High Performance Camp

At the OHF Member High Performance Camp held from November 17-19, 17 Officials not only attained Member High Performance status but also had the opportunity to skate OHL, OUA, and Junior hockey, receiving coaching and evaluations from top-tier professionals such as Greg Kimmerly, Blaine Angus, Darren Flagg, & Scott Oakman. Classroom sessions covered essential topics like developing mental skills as an athlete, video review, and effective communication between officials and head coaches, with insights from experts including Brian Bourque, Kevin Forrest, Kirk Wood, and Dr. Cassidy Preston.

IIHF Assignments

IIHF Women's World Hockey Championship

Jennifer Berezowski Laura Gutauskas Justin Todd

IIHF Women's World Championship Division 1A

Erin Zach

IIHF Men's U20 World Championship Division 1 Group A

Brian Birkhoff

IIHF Women's U18 Women's World Championship Division 2

Group A

Ali Beres

IIHF U18 Women's World Championship

Brandy Beecroft

World Para

World Para Ice Hockey Championship Pool B

Matt Fergenbaum

Hockey Canada Assignments

USports Men's National Championship

Brian Birkhoff

Danny Emerson

Nick Arcan

Luke Pye

USports Women's National Championship

Ali Beres

Brandy Beecroft

Jennifer Berezowski

Laura Gutauskas

Erin Zach

Esso Cup

Abiguele Perreault

Marlowe Schott

Maggie Hotte

Centennial Cup

Adam Burnett

TJ Hunter

Brendan Kane

Josh Schein

Women's U18 National Championship

Gillian Allan

Tara Bernard-Rae

Darby Hucaluk

Madison Pendleton

Ali Beres

World Junior A Hockey Challenge

Nick Arcan

Danny Emerson

World U17 Hockey Challenge

Luke Pye

Brendan Kane

Hockey Canada Camp Selections

OPOE Women's Summer Camp

Darby Hucaluk

OPOE Men's West Camp

Shane Steenhoek

Cameron Fynney

Carter McKnight

OPOE Women's Central Camp

Bailey Kennedy

Abiguele Perreault

Marlowe Schott

National High Performance Selection Camp

Gillian Allan

Ali Beres

Ryan Jenken

Brian Birkhoff

Darby Hucaluk

Tara Bernard-Rae

Luke Pye

Chad Ingalls

Brendan Kane



Centralized RECORD CHECKS

Centralized Record Checks for the 2024-25 Season: Ensuring Safety and Streamlined Process

What changed?

Besides screening On-Ice Officials, OHF began screening all Hockey Associations On-Ice Personnel and Volunteers.

Centralization Benefits:

Consistency: Ensured all necessary screenings occurred the same way

Efficiency: Reduced duplicate screenings across Associations.

Safety: Protected players from exposure to vulnerable individuals.

The Submission Portal:

A user-friendly portal facilitated Vulnerable Sector Check and OHF Screening Declaration Form submissions. Trained Inspectors review and update HCR profiles upon approval.



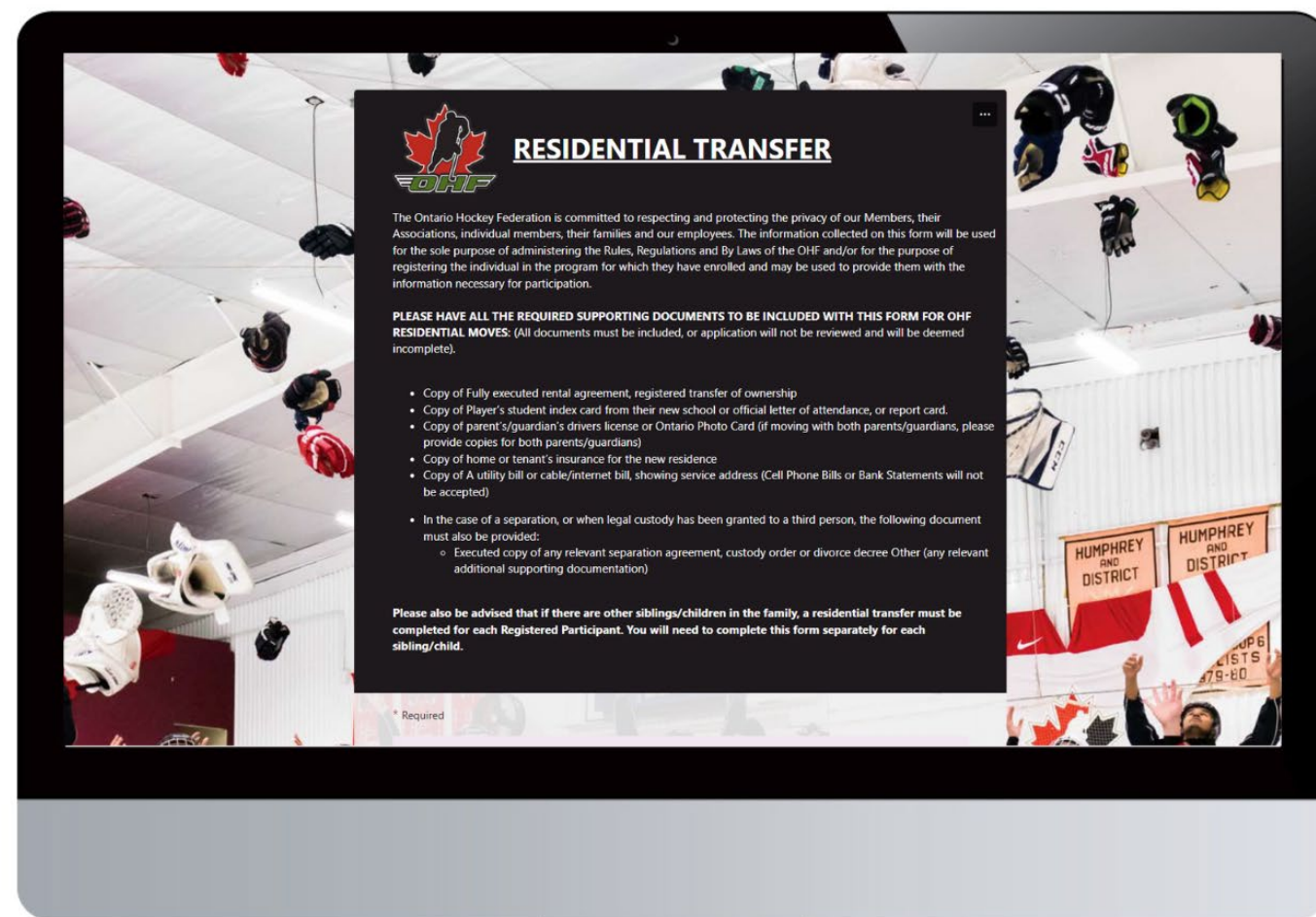
Player TRANSFERS

Streamlined Player Transfers for Residential Moves

The process for Residential Transfers has been streamlined, aiming to make it easier and more efficient for players who moved to new residences.

Why the change?

Under OHF Regulation E55, players who moved with their parent(s) or guardian(s) and subsequently changed Minor Members now required approval from the OHF. To streamline this process, a Submission Portal was introduced, allowing users to upload player details and all necessary documents



Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) **INITIATIVES**

Gender Equity Playbook

The Gender Equity Playbook was initiated coming off assessments and consultations with the Canadian Women & Sport on how the OHF can be more gender equitable and inclusive.

A Summary and Reflection Report was supplied which contained insights, recommendations, and resources to support the OHF in developing best practices in advancing gender equity. From this report, two areas of focus were for the upcoming years.

- Education, training, and awareness on gender equity to be provided to the OHF Board and Staff, along with Member Partner Board and Staff where applicable.



The Diversity in Sport Conference

The OHF attended the 2nd Annual Diversity in Sports Conference presented by the Inclusion in Canadian Sports Network (ICSN). The conference is dedicated to promoting the equality, diversity and inclusion in all amateur sports through workshops and knowledgeable keynote speakers who offered practical advice on creating a more inclusive sports culture and environment where everyone feels valued and respected. This was a great event where the OHF got to learn so much about making and playing sports more inclusive and equitable, and network and build relationships with like-minded individuals who can support our Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion efforts.



EDI Speakers and Webinars



Kai Scott

In conjunction with the updated Ontario Dressing Room policy, the OHF conducted webinar sessions that were facilitated by Kai Scott from TransFocus Consulting in September and October 2023.

Kai is a social scientist who has spent 15 years career researching and educating on complex social problems. Kai delivered several education sessions that were available to staff, coaches, parents and participants from OHF, Members and Asso-

ciations on gender diversity that helped provide greater understanding of gender and transgender equity and inclusion as it relates to the Ontario Dressing Room Policy.

As part of the OHF Fall Operations Meeting in November, the OHF brought in guest speakers who are experts in the EDI space to present and share information to those in attendance on how our organizations can be more inclusive to all hockey participants, along with discussing strategies to grow the sport with more diverse players.

A panel discussion with:

- Jenny Lim – Program Manager,
- Laura McPhie – Director of Inclusion and Impact,
- Christine Hsu – EDI Organization & Learning Development Consultant,

Each of the three panelists shared great information on EDI strategies, along with their own personal stories.



Jay Williams

An educator, speaker and education consultant based in Toronto. He was also the Coordinator of Equity at the Toronto District School Board and was a former NCAA and U SPORTS basketball player. Jay gave a very engaging and information presentation on diversity and inclusion in the sport of hockey and shared his own personal journey navigating through the sports and education world as young Black male. Jay also posted about his work with the OHF on his Instagram.

Jay Williams sadly passed away on February 29, 2024. The OHF extends its heartfelt condolences to his family and friends and is committed to continuing the work that Jay began.

Carnegie Initiative Summit



The 3rd annual Carnegie Initiative Summit came to Toronto in January. The Carnegie Initiative is named in honor of legendary hockey player and social justice pioneer, Herb Carnegie and created to ensure opportunity and access to hockey everywhere with the aim to grow the culture of hockey.

The Summit focus on discussions around underrepresented identity experiences including those who identify as: Black, Indigenous, People of Colour, 2SLGTQIA+, Persons with Disabilities, Women, those facing financial barriers, and others who have felt unwelcome or unloved in hockey spaces or culture. The Summit aimed to create a safer space for hockey lovers/leaders to engage in meaningful conversations about progress, challenges, and actionable insights necessary for ongoing growth of the culture and game of hockey.

Some topics included:

- Hockey is for Everyone
- Beyond the Sport of Hockey
- Government Support for Athletes and Communities
- Impact and Innovation in Competitive Youth Sports
- For The Love of the Game
- A Fireside Chat – Brian Burke (PWHLPA, CI Board Member), Cassie Campbell-Pascall (Gold Medal Olympian/PWHL), Bernice Carnegie
- Business Case for Inclusion

HOCKEY REGISTRANTS BY ETHNICITY/RACE

	U07	U09	U11	U13	U15	U18	U21	Junior	Senior	Other	Total	
Ethnicity/Race												Participants
Black	137	127	155	181	191	190	18	31	16	13	1,059	0.61%
Chinese	440	653	648	622	493	420	45	22	35	13	3,391	1.95%
Filipino	53	85	71	99	91	69	12	3	8	6	497	0.29%
Indigenous	860	715	813	807	811	796	156	49	109	31	5,147	2.95%
Japanese	14	20	19	24	39	44	3		12	4	179	0.10%
Korean	68	91	113	114	85	108	6	4	6		595	0.34%
Latin American	101	96	118	91	88	85	21	3	2	1	606	0.35%
South Asian	242	266	296	341	248	283	41	5	11	6	1,739	1.00%
Southeast Asian	91	100	98	92	59	92	9	3	3	2	549	0.32%
W Asian, N African or Arab	62	54	60	79	49	40	9	6	3	2	364	0.21%
Caucasian	18,918	19,295	20,476	20,713	20,394	21,224	4,018	2,583	3,945	724	132,290	75.95%
Multiple Races / Ethnicities	423	274	189	171	144	138	32	1	29	10	1,411	0.81%
Prefer not to say	2,219	2,727	3,194	3,477	3,513	3,869	744	296	308	563	20,910	12.00%
Prefer to self-describe	318	524	656	714	704	822	135	47	101	24	4,045	2.32%
Unknown	13	35	117	160	146	196	147	14	518	59	1,405	0.81%
	23,959	25,062	27,023	27,685	27,055	28,376	5,396	3,067	5,106	1,458	174,187	





YNCU Motivate 2 Skate

Motivate 2 Skate offers free skating lessons to international students at post-secondary institutions and elementary students. Completely free for the participants, they also acquire fundamental skating skills. Accompanied by Hockey Canada-trained on-ice instructors from the OHF, participants enjoyed free skating over the March Break at the Sportsworld Arena in Kitchener. More programs are in the works across the province.



The Hockey Canada Foundation Assist Fund was created in response to the many families experiencing financial challenges. The goal of the Fund is to help Canadian youth access hockey and play the game they love. The HEO, HNO and the OHF proudly made a \$45,000 donation allocated directly to the Hockey Canada Assist Fund.



HEO, HNO, OHF were happy to partner with Hockey Canada for the 2024 World Junior Hockey Championship 50/50 Draw. The proceeds from the 2-week tournament fund positive grassroots initiatives, directly impacting the Members, Associations, and participants in the game of hockey throughout Ontario. With a donation of \$30,000, it is projected that Ontario Hockey Members' generous contribution to the KidSport Ontario program will help 120 children gain access to hockey programs across the province through supporting player registrations.

OHF First Shift Programs



OF PROGRAMS RAN: 93

23 All-Girls
1 Para-hockey
24% YOY

OF PARTICIPANTS: 3,413

95.20% programs filled
Boys: 55%
Girls: 43%
Prefer not to say: 2%

Retention: From 2014-15 to 2022-23

7,274 converted and continued to play in an OHF Minor Hockey Association 42.97% of all First Shift participants (converted) played in an LHA at some point in time (Note that the national average is 41.32%)

Try Hockey Pilot Program in London



The London Bandits, Oakridge Aeros, North London, and West London that make up the Greater London Hockey Association teamed up with the Ontario Hockey Federation in April/May. The group invited young members of the community to a Try Hockey Initiative geared to young children who have been previously unable to play the sport due to a variety of reasons, such as financial hardship or cultural background. The sessions held on Saturdays in April started with an in-gym program that taught the fundamentals of stick handling, ball carrying and shooting. Later this summer, an on-ice component will invite the participants to take their learnings while on skates!

Marketing by the
NUMBERS



TAG US!



22K

Social media fans

3100

Facebook

6452

Instagram

1826

LinkedIn

10600

X

113

YouTube

OHF Website:

201K

Visitors

196K

New Visitors

55 secs

Average engagement time

Reached: 1M | Visits: +100K | New Followers: +3K



The Ontario Hockey Federation would like to thank the following sponsors for supporting the organization and its events.



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