
HOCKEY EASTERN ONTARIO

One Team, One Mission, One Goal



To: HEO Board, District Chairs, MHA Presidents, Junior League Presidents and Junior Teams

From: Debbie Rambeau, HEO Executive Director

Date: Friday, June 28, 2019

Regards: Rowan's Law Implementation

HEO was informed by the Ministry of Tourism Culture and Sport on June 18, 2019 that the Rowan's Law Act and Regulations must be implemented by July 1, 2019 and we have been working with the Ontario Hockey Federation and Hockey Northwestern Ontario on this collectively. HEO is in full support of the intent of Rowan's Law to create awareness of concussions, change the culture on concussions and provide safe sport participation. **This implementation is for all competitive sports.** Therefore, after July 1, 2019 every Player, Team Official and On-Ice Official (parent as well if individual under 18) in order to register/participate must review the HEO Concussion Code of Conduct and the appropriate Concussion Awareness Resources. In order to commence to start the implementation of Rowan's Law, we wanted to send out the information as soon as was possible, however we must keep the information in draft form as we continue to work with our Provincial Branch Partners towards a consistent policy of implementation.

HEO received information from the Ontario Hockey Federation that they have met with the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport and continues to exhaust all avenues to delay the implementation. HEO will keep you informed of any progress.

Requirements

1. All Registrants registering July 1, 2019 or after must have completed the review information and acknowledgement prior to registration/participation.
2. All Team Officials currently registered will be required to complete the review of information and acknowledgement prior to August 30, 2019.
3. All Registrants registered prior to July 1, 2019 must complete the review of information and acknowledgement prior to participation in the first game.

HEO will provide two methods for Minor Hockey Associations to validate that the Player, Team Official and On-Ice Official has met the requirement.

Method 1:

- **Retain a hard copy of the HEO Rowan's Law Acknowledgement Form for a period of 7 years for each Registered Participant;**

Method 2

- **Scan and upload a copy of the HEO Rowan's Law Acknowledgement Form (PDF format naming the form "*Rowan's Law Acknowledgement Form – participant name*") to each participant's profile in the HCR under the Documents & Memo section.**

Audit Process

HEO will randomly select a minimum of ten (10) Minor Hockey Associations/Clubs/Teams within the current season to ensure compliance has been met within the legislation under Rowans Law. The Purpose of the Audit is to randomly select Minor Hockey Association/Clubs/Teams to ensure compliance and to validate submissions of these forms. The Audit Process in the first year also reduces the amount of work required by all parties.

The Audit process will require Minor Hockey Associations/Clubs/Teams to produce the HEO Rowans Law Acknowledgement Forms that have been retained for comparison and review with the players/coaches that are registered/participating in programming.

Honour System

Outside of the Audit Process for this implementation for the 2019/2020 season it will be based on an Honour System. Each Minor Hockey Association/Club/Team is verifying that when they submit a Roster for approval that the Minor Hockey Association/Club/Team have receipt of an HEO Rowans Law Acknowledgement Form for each Registered Participant on the Roster.

On-Ice Officials

All On-Ice Officials will receive the HEO Concussion Code of Conduct and Ontario Government Concussion Awareness Resources as part of the on-line recert or their introduction clinic for the 2019-2020 season and will be managed by the HEO Office.

HEO understands this creates an increased work load and are working on a technical solution for the 2020-2021 season, however, to comply with the Ontario Government Laws within the thirteen (13) days we have been provided we need to ensure we are administering this process in the short term.

If you have concerns with the implementation timelines that were established by the Ontario Government, please address those concerns by emailing: Dan.jacobs@ontario.ca ; and copying info@hockeyeasternontario.ca

If you have questions about the logistics please contact HEO.

Sincerely,

Debbie Rambeau
Executive Director
HEO