

IMPORTANT NOTICE

RE: OMHA Respect Integration Implementation

Dear Parents

In an ongoing effort to foster a safe and enjoyable environment for our athletes in our great game, the OMHA is implementing a plan to ensure the OMHA is a complete Respect integrated organization.

Effective August 31, 2014, at least one parent or guardian of each player registered in the OMHA will be required to complete the online Respect in Sport Parent Education Program as a condition of their child's participation.

The Respect in Sport parent program is a proactive, educational program that empowers parents with the tools to ensure the game is enjoyable and respectful for themselves, their children and all other stakeholders in the game. This portion of the program is only one of the three pillars of our respect platform. The Respect in Sport Activity Leader program is currently a condition of participation for all Team Officials (Bench Staff), and will be a requirement for all on-ice Volunteers and all on-ice referees (**Age 16 and above**), effective August 31, 2014. Through this mandate, all stakeholders will be introduced to Respect education when considering the needs of our athletes.

Twin Centre Minor Hockey Association (TCMHA) will be responsible for implementing these requirements as established by the OMHA and requires your support and cooperation with ensuring the completion of this certification. Although the OMHA has identified a deadline for compliance, many member Associations have chosen to be proactive and have set earlier deadlines for compliance. The OMHA supports Member Associations who have opted to adopt this proactive approach. TCMHA has chosen to be compliant by March 1st, 2014. The reason for this early date is your child (ren) will be denied participation until such time as the program has been completed and we would like to see no player denied.

Pricing for the Respect in Sport Parent Education is \$12 per family (one parent certified per family and other parent, step parents, grandparents, kids, etc. can take the program for free by using certified parent username and password). This is paid online when you complete. It is a one hour online curriculum with both audio and visual features that allows flexibility. The program can be accessed through the OMHA website (www.omha.net).

A separate email will be sent out by TCMHA Registrar with the name of your child(ren) as it appears on Hockey Canada Registry. This is the name that needs to be entered when completing the education to ensure their profiles have been updated to indicate completed.

Please ensure that you provide feedback as requested upon completion of the program, to provide your insights on optimizing program content, and system functionality.

Thank you for your commitment to the safety, enjoyment and success of your child, and all OMHA participants.

TCMHA Executive.

Attached is a Frequent Asked Questions – Parent Program

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS – PARENT PROGRAM

I have completed the Respect in Sport Activity Leader Program, is this sufficient for satisfying the parent program as well?

This program is tailored to the Role of the parent, providing information specific to the parental involvement, while the Activity Leader program has a different focus. During the introduction of the module, the differences are outlined. While there are some commonalities in messaging, the message is positive, and is only reinforced through repetition.

Why am I required to complete the Program?

In addition to being an OMHA condition of participation, it provides tools to deal with various situations that could arise in the course of your child's participation in hockey, both as a parent, and in any leadership role you may have. This is a positive program to make good parents better, and will empower all of the good parents in the organization. Beyond hockey, this will contribute to the greater good of all parents in the wider community. This is also a significant step toward the long-term goal of social and culture change.

What will happen if I do not complete it by the specified compliance deadline?

After the deadline for compliance, participation may be denied until such time as the program has been completed.

How do I complete the Parent Program?

The program can be accessed through the OMHA website (www.omha.net) under RESPECT tab then click EDUCATION. It is a one hour online curriculum with both audio and visual features that allows flexibility and does not have to be completed in one session.

Is this required every year?

No, once you have completed it you are certified and there are currently no plans for requalification/recertification.

My child is 18 and is a registered player, am I still required to complete the Program?

Completion of the Parent Program is not required for parents of players aged 18 and above.

What if the household/individual has no access to a computer/internet?

Most public libraries provide internet access. Additionally, your local minor hockey association may also be able to assist by providing opportunities to use their computer(s) if they have one in their office and a convenient time can be arranged to access. Other options include schools and friends.

What if I have dial-up internet connection?

The program is designed to be accessible by either high speed or dial-up.

What if I do not have strong computer literacy skills?

Utmost attention to detail was taken to ensure the program was designed to make the program user friendly. If issues do arise there is online help available as well as a 24/7 1-800 support number.