

2024-25 Hockey Season

Attn: All Huntsville Minor Hockey Team Trainer(s),

I want to personally thank you for volunteering your time with the Huntsville Minor Hockey Association as a trainer – the community knows how instrumental you are to maintaining the safety of our players both on and off the ice!

Allow me to introduce myself, my name is Joe Cremer, I am the Head Trainer for the Huntsville Minor Hockey Association. I am passionate about team and player safety and although this is a new role, my experience as a team trainer and 20+ years as a paramedic makes me a knowledgeable asset to the HMHA committee.

If you have any questions throughout the season, require additional supplies for your trainer bag, please let me know, I have various items in stock. Lastly if you are absent and unable to find a replacement trainer please reach out, I may be able to support. (I am on the trainer At-Large list and my contact information is available at the bottom of this letter)

Housekeeping items:

- Trainers are not permitted to provide medications to hockey players (i.e. Tylenol, Advil etc.) *If a player requires medication it needs to be administered by their parent/guardian.*
- If a Trainer believes that a player is ill or injured, the Trainer acting in the best interest of the health and safety of the hockey player, will recommend removal of play.
- Remaining bench staff should not interfere with the recommendation of the trainer on a player's fitness or return to play.

The following information and items referenced below, can be found on the OMHA website under <u>Safety Initiatives and Trainer Resources</u>.

Above providing first aid and assistance to injured hockey players, the hockey trainer's duty is to observe the injured player. If the player is unable to participate to their usual skill level due to injury or illness, direct the player to the proper medical authority. It is recommended that players who are removed from practices or games, should obtain a note from a physician before they are allowed to return to play (includes both practices and games)

Please review the <u>HTCP 14.0 Removing Players from Action/Coordinating Return to Play</u> <u>Guidelines</u> and the <u>Hockey Canada Return to Play Process</u>, both can be found on the OMHA website. You may experience pressure to allow the injured/ill player to return to play, please remember **safety is the top priority** and protecting the player from further injury is essential. Your role is to ensure the player is both ready and safe to return to play.



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Please ensure the completed medical forms are readily accessible if required. Please ensure that you are completing the <u>Player Injury Log</u> anytime:

- A player is removed for the remainder of game due to an injury sustained during play.
- A player is injured during a practice, on or off the ice.
- A player is forced to leave the game for an unknown medical reason.
- A player is injured during a hockey related event.

If an injury requires a medical referral and/or hospitalization, please print, complete and submit the <u>Hockey Canada Injury Report</u>. Please have injured players complete the <u>Return</u> to <u>Play Form</u>.

Thank you again for volunteering your time and wishing you and your team a safe and healthy hockey season!

Please contact me with any questions or concerns.

Joe Cremer, HMHA Head Trainer/ Paramedic

Cell: 705-774-4593 call/text. | email: joecremer.hmha@gmail.com

Reference Material from this letter **Player Injury Log, Hockey Canada Injury Report & Return to Play** forms can be found in the Online Library on the home page of the HMHA Website.