

QEMHW 2022

Coaches and Parents Information

This would normally be a time we shout from the roof tops that Quikcard Edmonton Minor Hockey Week is back. While we are certainly looking forward to the games being played, we are proceeding with caution due to COVID-19.

We feel it's important to note teams are playing teams they regularly play. This is not a tournament where teams are going against teams from out of region, out of province or out of country. The difference is these games are now in a bracket format and teams advance on an A or a B side.

In addition, we have taken a number of steps to enhance the health measures already in place. Our volunteers, who have been a staple of this event and, indeed, minor hockey for decades, will be doing less in order to reduce interactions and touch points, and enable the teams to cohort as much as possible to avoid multiple exposures.

We are asking coaches and parents to do more in advance of games and at games to further this cause, including:

- buy as many buttons as possible in advance of going to the arena from your organization or arena manager in order to reduce interactions at the admissions table
- home teams will now run the timekeeper box rather than volunteers
- · coaches will hand out medals at the finals rather than volunteers
- we remind everyone of the City of Edmonton's new measures at arenas to prohibit outside food and beverages, avoid congregating in lobbies and restricting crowds to 50% in rinks that seat 500 people or more
- we are following Alberta Health's recommendation to encourage only one parent per player at games in order to keep the numbers down in the stands
- we have eliminated the McDonald's Winners' Zone so we avoid having people congregate in the lobby
- we remind everyone these measures are in addition to the health measures currently in place under the REP program (QR codes, masking, distancing)
- players should not arrive at the arena more than 30 minutes in advance of their game;
 they should remain masked at all times until they are ready to go out on the ice to play
- we urge everyone to follow all the guidelines and have patience and respect with each other as we work to stage QEMHW safely and successfully for the kid

Rosters

We have reduced roster requirements to a minimum of nine players – eight skaters and a goalie – to ice a team. We are allowing affiliates to play (which is different than in past years) but emphasizing only if it's required to ice a team and only if the affiliate and his/her parents are comfortable with playing that game.

Referees

The rules are in place if referees do not or cannot show up on short notice:

- First, appoint a referee agreed to by both teams
- Failing that, each team appoints a player to be a referee

Forfeitures

There will be some teams that will not be able to ice a team for a game but there are more than six hundred teams in the event and the majority are ready to play.

- if a team cannot ice a team, it will forfeit the game by a score of 1-0
- if neither team slated to play cannot ice a team, they will both be eliminated from QEMHW as a safety precaution

If your team must forfeit, please alert Ray Vigneau (780 446 0134) or Steve Hogle (780 293 5779) as soon as possible.

We understand the concern surrounding Omicron and we respect the decision of any parent who chooses to keep their child at home and away from the arena.

Arena staff cannot monitor all the health measures in place but we hope with the exponential growth of Omicron cases players and parents take personal responsibility to protect their safety and the safety of others by limiting possible exposures.

We continue to work closely and are in regular contact with officials from Alberta Health, Hockey Alberta and the City of Edmonton.

Additional Coaches Information

All coaches must be wearing a button when entering the arena, whether you purchase them at the arena or whether your association has bought and supplied them for you. Please be sure to have your team sheet (hard card) available to present to the Arena Manager before each game you play; this is a Hockey Edmonton rule.

Access to dressing rooms will not be available until 30 minutes before your scheduled game at the earliest. Please be aware that if games are running behind you may be delayed getting into your room.

Coaches and players should minimize time in dressing rooms; players should be reminded to keep masks on until they're ready to go on ice.

All games are run time and the clock will not stop for any reason until the last 2 minutes or 5 minutes of the game (playoffs are 5 minutes). There are **NO** timeouts allowed during QEMHW.

There is a <u>maximum of 5 coaches</u> allowed on the bench at anytime but we recommend you reduce that number during this event.

All the individuals working the games (from Arena Managers to referees) **VOLUNTEER** their time during the tournament. Please show them respect and appreciation.

The Arena Manager is in charge of the arena; decisions they make are final. Please respect these Managers and remember, like yourselves, they are VOLUNTEERS.

At no time are parents allowed on the ice surface, including the finals.

The tournament rules are posted online at hockeyedmonton.ca. Please be aware of them before you play.

Good luck, have fun, stay safe and enjoy the tournament!

Additional Parents Information

We have scheduled 919 games to be played over 10 days on 48 sheets of ice. There will be 59 finals played on Finals Weekend January 15/16 at the Terwillegar Rec Centre.

There is a \$5 admission fee for the tournament; single game admission is \$3. The \$5 button also gets you free coffee at McDonalds throughout the tournament. We encourage button sales to reduce the amount of money exchanging hands and to purchase your buttons in advance, if at all possible, from your hockey organization or local arena manager.

We are following the Alberta Health recommendation and encouraging one family member per player at games.

All of the individuals working at the games are <u>volunteers</u> (IE Arena Managers, button sellers). Whenever possible, please thank them for taking time to help serve our kids!

All of the referees **VOLUNTEER** their time during the tournament. We also appreciate you showing them respect and gratitude.

If you are volunteering during the tournament, we thank you! If you are looking for volunteer information, please contact your local minor hockey association.

If you are going to Terwillegar for the finals, please be aware parking can be tight. At any one time, there will be at least 16 teams, their coaches and supporters at the arenas.

At no time are parents allowed on the ice surface, including the finals. At the end of each final game, players will line up in front of the benches for photo opportunities. Parents are allowed on the bench at the conclusion of the game.

Winning team pictures will be in the Spring edition of the Hockey Magazine. Pictures taken during the tournament can be purchased through MVP Photography.

Cheer loud and enjoy the tournament!

50/50

Finally, the QEMHW 50-50 is up and running! You can purchase your tickets online by scanning this QR code:



Thank You!

The 2022 Quikcard Edmonton Minor Hockey Week Committee

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Years:	58
Established:	1964 (one year off due to Covid)
Years Quikcard is lead partner:	22 (since 2000)
Players:	9,000+
Teams:	606
Arenas:	31
Sheets of Ice:	47
Coaching Staff:	3,600
Refs:	2,000
Estimated value of Referees' Time:	\$50,000
Pucks:	5,000
Games to be played:	804
Championship Games:	59
Goals scored (2020):	3,809
Shutouts (2020):	148
OT Games (2020):	114
Gold Medals Awarded:	1,200