



HOCKEY CALGARY

## INFORMATION BULLETIN

**Date:** December 2, 2024 #2401  
**To:** Hockey Calgary Member Association Families  
**From:** Kevin Kobelka – Executive Director  
**CC:** HC Board, HC Governors, Association Presidents

**SUBJECT: Community Regular Season Schedule Begins!**

It is hard to believe that December is upon us already. It seems like only yesterday when we were enjoying the amazing fall weather only to see it turn over the last week to our traditional winter temperatures. The good news is that the outdoor rinks and lakes will soon be open, providing another opportunity for the kids to get out and enjoy the great game of hockey with their friends.

At this time of the year, we also begin to look forward to two of our flagship events at Hockey Calgary:

1. **The Circle K Classic U18 AAA Tournament (formerly known as the Mac's)** – This year's event will feature 32 teams including 9 US teams, 1 international, 1 Maritimes team, and a number of Sport Schools and AAA teams from western Canada. Come out and enjoy some great hockey action, and see the stars of tomorrow, the tournament runs from Dec. 27 – Jan. 1
2. **Esso Minor Hockey Week** – This year's event runs from January 10 – 18 and will feature all community and AA teams in Calgary from U9 and up. This is a highlight of the season for many players in our program, and a week that we all look forward to.

This past week we wrapped up an action packed 'Seeding Round' and have just released the Community Regular Season Schedule. As we head into the Regular season, we wanted to provide a few reminders from Hockey Alberta's Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Committee that will help us contribute to positive change and an enjoyable experience at the arena.

**Players** be aware of the language that you use and how it can harm others.

- Find opportunities to learn about those around you, focus on your differences and similarities and how they contribute to a healthy team.
- **Impact vs. Intention.** Be aware of the impact of your actions. Even though our intentions may be innocent, or we are reacting in the-heat-of-the-moment, our words and behaviors can have a big impact.
- Take the [Hockey Alberta Player Pledge](#) to commit to respect, inclusion, and fair play in every game.



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**Parents and Families**, your support is essential in creating a positive hockey experience.

- **Be a Positive Role Model:** Your actions make a difference. Show respect and integrity when interacting with coaches, officials, players, and other parents.
- **Stay Informed:** Understanding the issues around safe sport helps us all. Take some time to learn about the dynamics of inclusivity and respect in hockey.
- **Know Your Association's Policies:** Familiarize yourself with your association's guidelines so you can support a fair and respectful environment.
- **Step In:** If you notice bullying, harassment, or harmful behavior, trust your instincts and take action to help. Use "I" statements to express feelings and create dialogue (e.g., "I felt uncomfortable when I saw...").
- **Promote Inclusive Spaces:** Speak up about creating welcoming environments that let all players thrive.

**Coaches**, you play a pivotal role in shaping a positive and inclusive environment for your players, both on and off the ice. Here are some essential resources designed to support your efforts.

- Consult the [4 C's SafeSport Guide](#) to discover effective strategies to create a safe and supportive coaching environment that prioritizes player well-being.
- Enrol in the NCCP online module [Anti-Racism in Coaching](#) to enhance your understanding of diversity and inclusion within your coaching practices. Learn how to make a meaningful impact!
- Learn how to build respectful and positive spaces for all players in the [Creating a Positive Sport Environment](#) NCCP online module. Help equip yourself with the tools to foster a welcoming atmosphere!

On behalf of the Hockey Calgary staff, our Board of Directors, and our army of great volunteers we want to wish all players, coaches, teams, and Associations good luck in the regular season.

Good Luck to all, and remember we are all winners when we have respect for our competition and play for the love of the game!!

Regards,

Kevin Kobelka  
Executive Director