

2025-2026

NOHA SEASON UPDATE



OVERVIEW

Important Dates

NOHA Semi-Annual Meeting

Game Time Unity Update

Hotel Policy Reminder

New Representative Teams

Compliance Reports

Suspension Notices

U9 Pilot Project

Tournament of Champions

OHF Bulletins

Communications



UPCOMING DEADLINES

January 10th

- **Release Deadline**

January 15th

- **Affiliation Deadline for Representative Teams**



BOARD OF DIRECTOR UPDATES

Yves Lalonde – Appointed as First Vice President

Adam Estabrooks – Appointed as Second Vice President

Jason Brazeau – Appointed as District One Council Director



COMPLIANCE UPDATE

Please work with Caitlin to schedule a call to go over Team compliance issues:

1. VSC / Declaration Status

A list of individuals missing a Vulnerable Sector Check, missing a Criminal Record Check Declaration, or with a Pending VSC.

2. Gamesheet / Permit Portal Staff Not Found in HCR

Individuals appearing on a Gamesheet or listed as a team contact in the Permit Portal who are not rostered and cannot be located in the HCR.

3. Registered but Not Rostered Participants

Participants registered to your association but not assigned to any approved roster, excluding cancelled and tryout registrations.

4. Ineligible Participants

Participants missing qualifications (other than VSCs), incomplete profiles, or unsigned waivers.

5. Ineligible Teams

Teams that have not yet met the minimum Coach or Trainer requirements.

Once you select a meeting time, I will send your association's full set of reports for review during our call.



NOHA SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING

- All Associations are invited to attend – up to 4 attendees
- The NOHA will subsidize either travel or accommodations for attendees (based on double occupancy)
- Meals will be provided during the event
- Areas of focus – participant experience, sharing of best practices, growth of the game
- Workshop-based – participant feedback to improve the game, to collaborate as networked organizations

• **Please register ASAP**

[Register Here](#)



NOHA SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING

Confirmed Presenters

- **Katherine Henderson, President/CEO - Hockey Canada**
- **Scott Furman, VP Growth and Retention – Hockey Canada**
- **Phillip McKee, Executive Director – Ontario Hockey Federation**
- **Jeff Turner, Chair – Ontario Hockey Federation**
- **Peter Harmsen, President – OMHA**
- **Tyler Tolton, Executive Director – Alliance Hockey**
- **Karl Subban, Director – GTHL**
- **Mike Oke, President/GM - Peterborough Petes**



GAME TIME UNITY

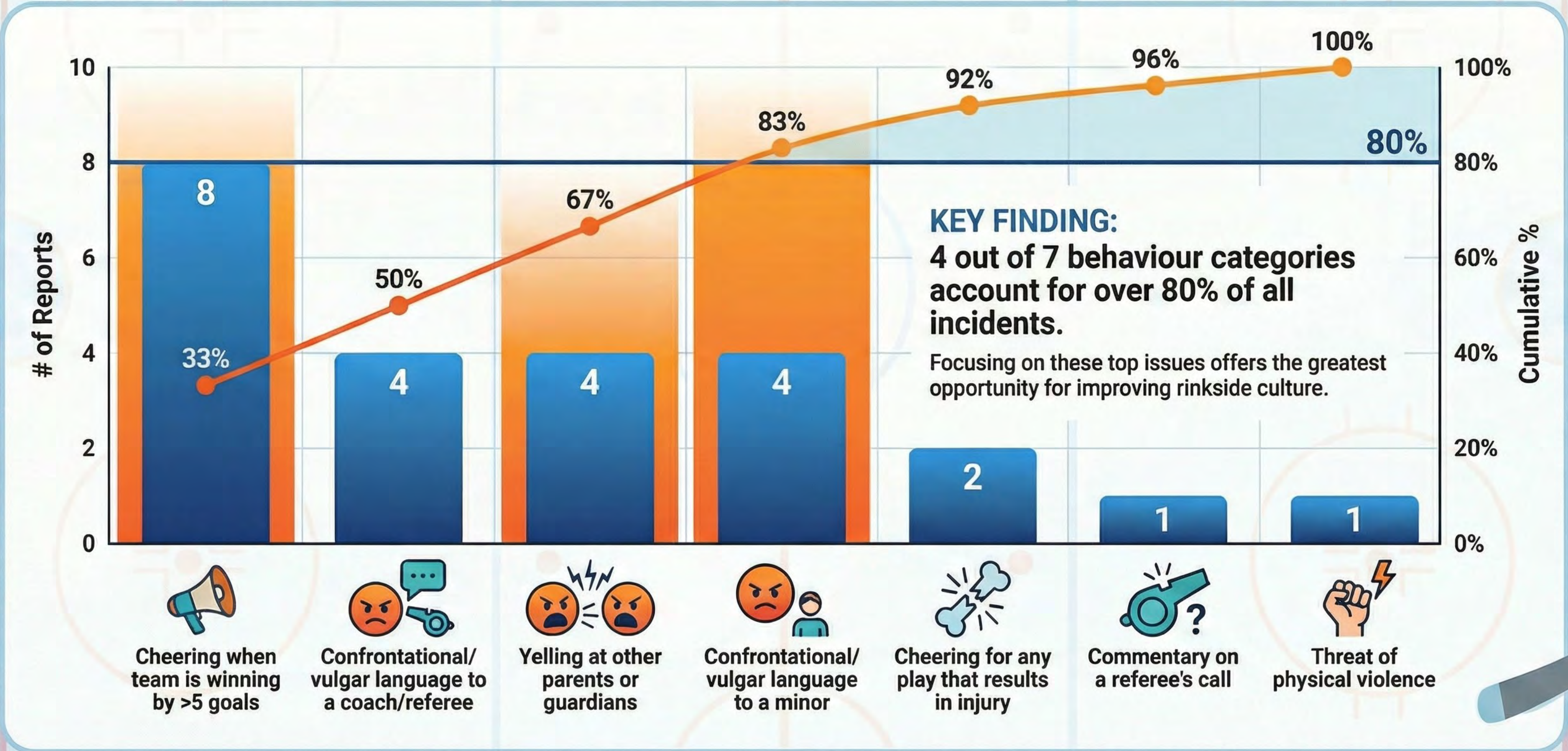
Update of Improvements and Decisions

Symlicity Designs 



Game-Time Unity: Early Incident Report Analysis

The Northern Ontario Hockey Association (NOHA) has launched the “Game-Time Unity” initiative to improve sportsmanship by addressing inappropriate adult behaviour. This analysis uses data from the program’s new confidential reporting system to highlight the most common issues observed to date.



HOTEL BEHAVIOUR POLICY

- **Hotels are backing away from hosting hockey teams – hotels in some communities are strongly considering not accepting hockey teams**
- **Hotels in a community within the NOHA are not accepting teams from certain organizations due to issues last season**
- **We need your support in making sure every Bench Staff and Parent are aware of the consequences**
- **The Code of Conduct must be signed by all attendees at out-of-town tournaments and Teams must have a designated contact**
- **Please make sure this is part of your Tournament Registration process**



HOTEL BEHAVIOUR POLICY

What are the key problems?

- **Drinking in public**
- **Volume issues after quiet hours and repeated reminders**
- **Abuse/threats toward staff**
- **Non-compliance of specific hotel policies (i.e. mini sticks in hallway, children not supervised, etc.)**

Sanctions

**First Time: Warning to the individual by hotel staff along with notification to team contact.
All guests must follow staff instructions immediately.**

Repeat: If any disruptive behaviour continues after a warning, hotel staff will notify the tournament manager AND the individual will be asked to leave the hotel with the player forfeiting their chance to play in the tournament.

Disruptive behaviour from multiple people in a team will lead to the entire team being removed from the tournament with no refunds.

- **Misconduct on the last night bars the team from its next tournament and forfeits that entry fee**



NEW TEAM REQUESTS - REP

New Team Requests due as of December 5, 2025

**Consultation period with neighbouring Associations to take place
this week**

Board Review – January 6, 2026



SUSPENSION NOTICES

- **A Google Drive Folder has been shared with the contacts we have**
- **It can also be found under “Shared with Me” or Bookmarked.**
- **Send a Link via email**
- **Mondays are when weekend suspensions get issues**
- **Set up email notifications**



SUSPENSION NOTICES

10.2 Serving a Suspension

It is the responsibility of each Team to record on the Official Game Report and monitor its own suspensions and to sit out any Player or Team Official as required by the NOHA's suspension policies.

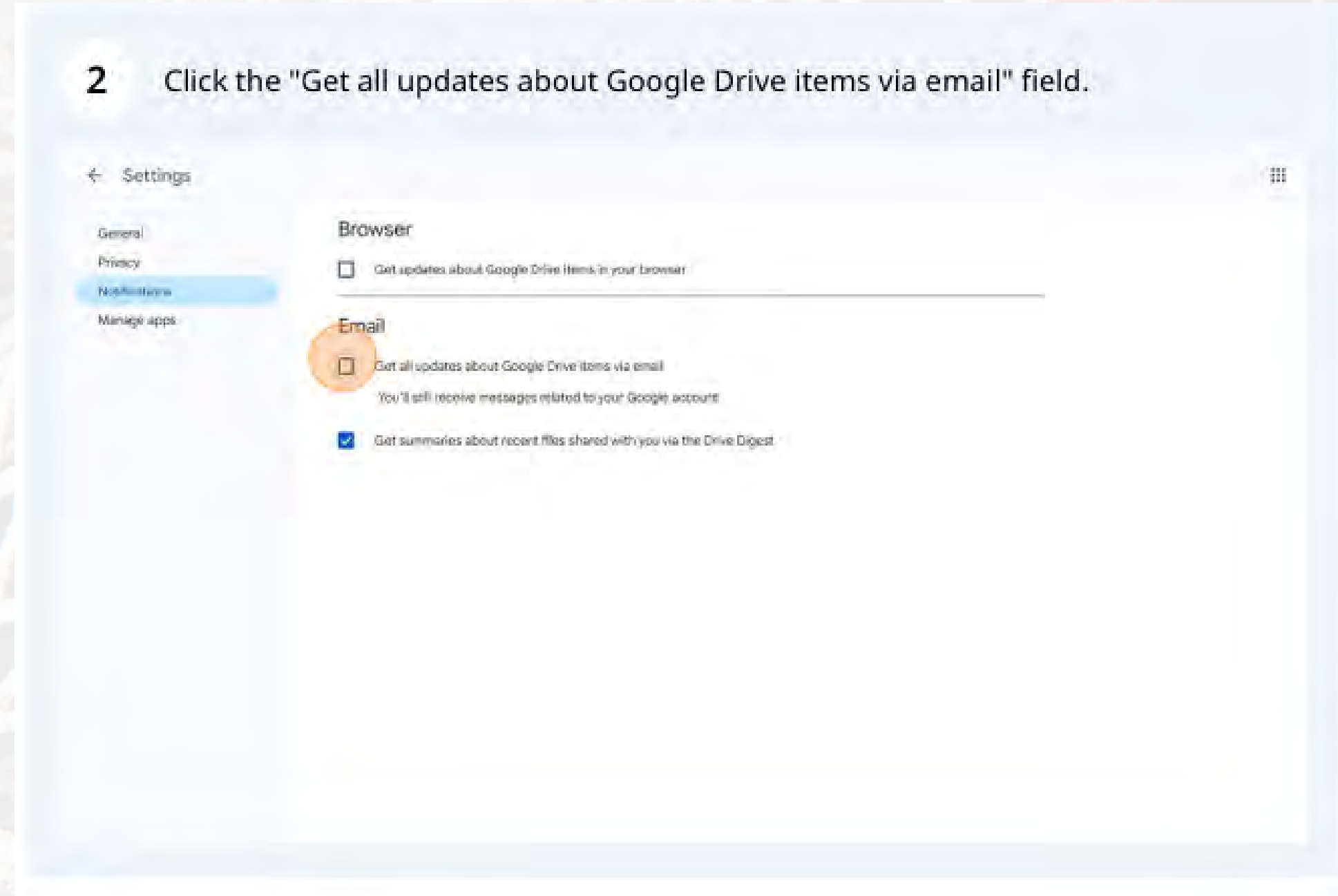
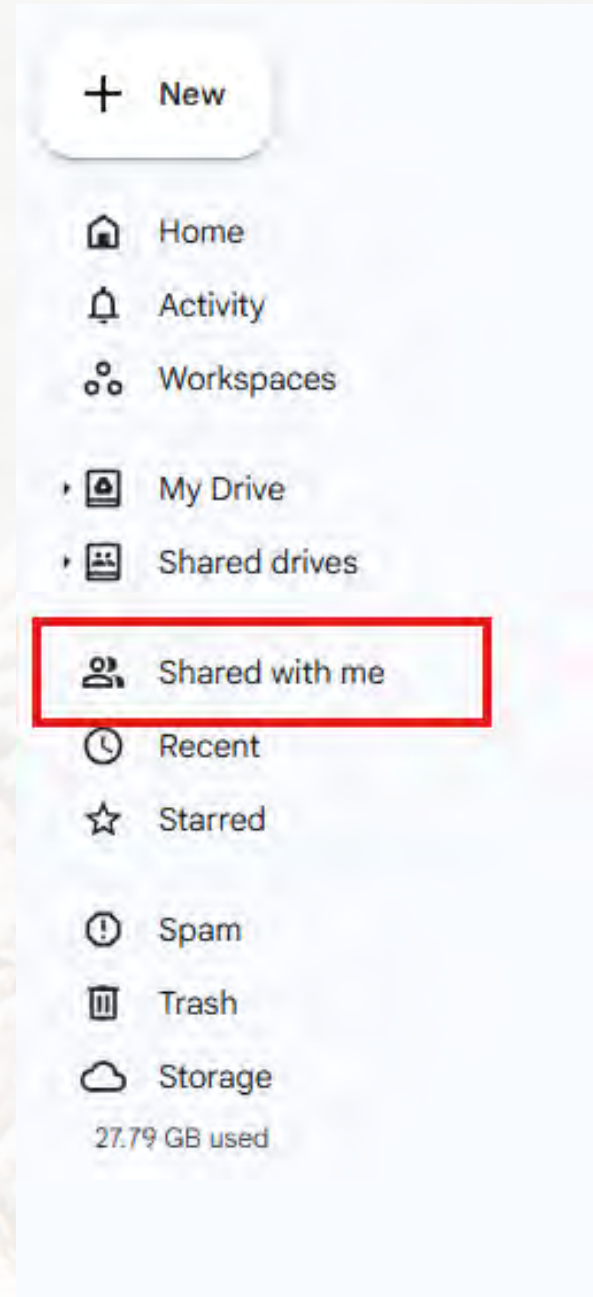
Any player receiving a suspension above the minimum, as listed on the OHF Minimum Suspension List, will serve the additional games once formal notification has been received by the Team. This will also include any suspension code not listed on the OHF Minimum Suspension List.

Teams failing to enforce these automatic suspensions leave the suspended Player or Team Official and Team Officials liable for further disciplinary action and possible forfeiture of games involving the suspended Person(s).

It is the responsibility of the Team receiving a suspension outside of the NOHA to report any suspendable offences to the NOHA Office within 24 hours after the conclusion of the event (game or tournament).



SUSPENSION NOTICES



U9 PILOT PROJECT COMPLIANCE

As outlined in the pilot program guidelines, each Team participating in the U9 Pilot must fulfill the following mandatory requirements:

1. Video Submissions

Where LiveBarn is available: Provide NOHA with access to view practices and games

Where LiveBarn is not available: Submit one practice video every 2 months and one game video every 2 months

Schedules and specific requirements have been communicated with each Team

2. On-Ice Player Evaluations

Complete standardized player evaluations three times during the season:

Start of season evaluation (due immediately if not yet completed)

Mid-season evaluation (January 10, 2026)

End of season evaluation (March 2026)

3. Additional Requirements

Maintain minimum 2:1 practice-to-game ratio

Provide practice and game schedules to NOHA

Use Hockey Canada-approved practice plans during development phase

Follow game format requirements (5-on-5 play from November 1 - January 10)



U9 PILOT PROJECT COMPLIANCE

Each Association is responsible for ensuring that all its Teams participating in the pilot program meet these requirements. We recognize that you have committed organizational resources to support this pilot, and we appreciate your efforts in coordinating your Teams' participation.

We ask that you work closely with your Coaching staff to:

Confirm that all Teams understand the compliance requirements

Monitor each Team's progress in meeting deadlines

Provide support and resources to help Teams fulfill their obligations

Communicate proactively with NOHA about any challenges or concerns

**Coordinate extension requests when necessary, through Caitlin Hill
(chill@noha-hockey.ca)**



U9 PILOT PROJECT COMPLIANCE

The success of this pilot depends on complete and consistent data collection from all participating Teams. Incomplete data compromises the integrity of the program evaluation and jeopardizes the future of this programming model across Ontario.

Therefore, effective immediately, the NOHA will implement the following compliance policy:

If any Team within your Association fails to meet the compliance requirements, all Teams from your Association will be removed from the pilot program and will return to playing half-ice games until such time that all Teams within the Association are fully compliant with program requirements.

This means:

One non-compliant Team affects all Teams in your Association

All Association Teams will transition back to half-ice programming

Teams will remain on half-ice until every Team in the Association has fulfilled all outstanding requirements

Once all Teams are compliant, the Association may petition to rejoin the pilot

Reinstatement to the pilot will be at the discretion of the NOHA Board of Directors

We recognize that this is a significant consequence that will impact compliant Teams within your Association. However, this approach is necessary to ensure the integrity of the pilot data and to emphasize the collective responsibility that each Association has accepted by participating in this program.



U9 PILOT PROJECT TIMELINE

- **A call will be scheduled in the New Year for all U9 Pilot Project Coaches**
- **There will also be an additional survey from the OHF for Parents to fill out**



OHF U9 SURVEY

- Association and Coaches to fill out
- Closes January 12th
- [Form Link](#)



TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS

- **Team list will be published and sent out soon**
- **Schedule templates will be sent to Hosts**



COMMUNITY & COMMS

- We are looking to promote the positive stories and hockey and celebrate your wins with you!
- Please send any community story opportunities to Lindsay at lmorell@noha-hockey.ca
- If you tag the NOHA accounts on Instagram, Facebook, or X, the NOHA will share your posts.

 **@NorthernOntarioHockeyAssociation**

 **@NOHAHockey**

 **@NOHAHockey**



NOHA MEMBERS-ONLY PAGE

- We've created a "Members Only" page so you can find information at any time.
- noha-hockey.ca/members-area
- Password: NOHAMember25



OHF BULLETINS

- **OHF Music Policy**
- **OHF Helmet Policy**



OHF SEASONAL CALENDAR UPDATES

- The OHF Seasonal Calendars have been shared
- The NOHA will make requests specific to our programming, with the goal of hosting Spring Evaluations in all centres of the NOHA
- Please fill out the survey so we know when your arenas have ice availability, thank you!
- [Survey Link](#)



NEXT CALL

- **January 21, 2025**



QUESTIONS?

