

Frequently Asked Questions:

1. Can I still tryout for the Queens Program if I don't submit my intent to play and or cannot participate in TBWHA's 4 week development program, and/or pending 4on4 phased programming?

Yes. As long as you are not registered with any other local association or organization at the time of tryouts, you will qualify to participate in Queens tryouts. If you are registered with another OWHA team you will be required to get a Permission to Skate form signed from your current association. Players are encouraged to sign-up for the development skates (as a requirement of OWHA) and the pending 4 on 4 season to follow, however this is not mandatory to tryout for Queens Hockey. Players must remember that participating in other organization events/games will likely disqualify them from Queens tryouts. Playing non-sanctioned hockey after Sept 15th, 2020 will make a player ineligible for any potential Queens tryouts for the 2020-21 season

2. Can I register with Thunder Bay Minor Hockey Association or Lakehead Minor Hockey Association until Queens tryouts are posted?

No. Registering with Lakehead Minor and/or Thunder Bay Minor would likely disqualify you from participating in Queens tryouts. In the unlikely event of a release or Permission to Skate from those organizations, you could participate. This would be unlikely midway through a season.

3. Can I sign up with TBWHA for the upcoming 2020/2021 season, if I played for a different organization during the 2019/2020 season?

Yes. OWHA will allow for transfer of players within OWHA with a signed release. Players from other Organizations are required to have a release from their 2019/2020 registered association.

4. As a returning Queens player, will my daughter receive player development from a Queen's coach?

Yes. We are working closely with our current Queens coaching staffs to incorporate their expertise into the development phase of the return to play for TBWHA. While Queens coaches may not be on the ice for all development sessions we are working on a rotation of coaches so that each group will receive a variety of instruction from various coaches throughout the phase.

5. Can I participate in non-sanctioned hockey events (other 4on4 or 3on3 leagues) and still do the development skates with TBWHA?

Yes/No. All development skates would be sanctioned by OWHA with proper insurance from Hockey Canada. Those registered players would not be eligible to participate in non-sanctioned events. Participating in non-sanctioned events (such as other 4 on 4 leagues) would jeopardize your standing with OWHA. Participating in private training facilities and hockey schools run by accredited Hockey Canada Instructors would be allowed.

6. What is the difference between sanctioned and non-sanctioned hockey?

Sanctioned hockey/events are events (games, practices, tryouts) that fall within the guidelines of Hockey Canada and Ontario Womens Hockey Association. These events include rostered players to which fees have been paid to Hockey Canada. Hockey Canada in turn develops the programs and carries the insurance. Non-Sanctioned

leagues/events that operate outside the auspices of Hockey Canada do not support the development of Hockey Canada programs.

- 7. Once I have submitted my intent to play with TBWHA, and at a later date the Queens Organization announces tryout dates, in the event my daughter does not make Queens, will she be allowed a release to play with another organization or will she have to complete the duration of the season with TBWHA?**

In the event Queens tryouts are held and a player is not placed on a Queens team, we encourage those players to continue to participate in TBWHA events and teams. Secondary teams such as the Fury Program may be an option. A release from TBWHA will be granted if requested, however the player runs the risk of jeopardizing their season if other organizations will not accept players mid-season.

- 8. I saw that the Thunder Bay King's Organization posted tryouts in September, why hasn't the Queens Organization made a similar announcement?**

The Queens are governed by a different body of Hockey Canada than the Thunder Bay Kings. Ontario Womens Hockey Association (OWHA) approves all sanctioned events for the Thunder Bay Queens. OWHA is currently in Phase 3 of the return to play framework and not approving sanctions for tryouts and/or games.

- 9. Will parents be permitted to watch?**

TBWHA and Thunder Bay Queens are working closely with local arenas to adhere to their policies as it relates to COVID-19. We understand that parental involvement is an important part of the development of its players, and as such, will continue to work toward this as a goal for its members.

- 10. What social distancing protocols will be in place?**

TBWHA and Thunder Bay Queens will have a comprehensive social distancing policy in place for all members to follow. This policy will include, but not limited; to the dressing rooms, player benches and on the ice (when and where possible). The health and safety of our players is our top priority.