



To: CPIHL Member Clubs, Players & Families
From: Steve Aaron, CPIHL President
Date: 8/27/20

UPDATE ON 2020-21 CPIHL SEASON

The CPIHL remains hopeful that the 2020-21 hockey season can be played. At its August Board of Directors meeting, the league Executive Committee shared a presentation that included a possible path forward for an abbreviated season, including varsity playoffs. Doing so would require the PIAA approving fall sports, and PA state government lifting the 25-person cap for indoor sports. The PIAA board voted Aug. 21 to proceed with fall sports, however, the indoor limit remains in place, and after consulting with the Wolf Administration, there is little reason to believe that cap will change in the near future based on public health data.

Therefore, the Executive Committee of the CPIHL has chosen to postpone any decision related to the start of this season until November 1, with games starting no sooner than December 1, should conditions allow. It is our hope that games at the middle school, junior varsity and varsity levels can be played, though those decisions will not be made until November 1. By that time, the league will know more about whether the 25-person cap might be raised and whether students have been able to safely and successfully return to school and school sports. While our postseason has traditionally ended prior to March 1, the league may decide to extend that end date to accommodate a late-starting season.

It is our hope this action will provide CPIHL clubs with needed additional time to continue conversations with their players and families to make decisions about participating in scholastic hockey. During this time clubs may consider holding practice as a way to keep players active in the sport and engaged with coaching staffs. As long as the 25-person limit is followed, along with the specific posted rules of your home rink, practices can be held. Please be in touch with your local rink manager to inform them of your plans in order to ensure practice ice slots remain available for your teams. Keep in mind all players must be registered with USA Hockey and all coaches must be properly certified.

Thank you for your patience and understanding as we try to find solutions that provide the best opportunity to play hockey.