



Ontario Minor Hockey Association
25 Brodie Drive, Unit 3, Richmond Hill, Ontario, L4B 3K7
Tel: 905-780-OMHA (6642) Fax: 905-780-0344
Go to the net at: www.omha.net · E-mail: omha@omha.net

MEMORANDUM

TO: OMHA Centres

FROM: Ian Taylor
Director, Development Programs

CC: OMHA Board

DATE: Thursday, 25 May 2006

SUBJECT: **4 OZ. LIGHTWEIGHT BLUE PUCK POLICY**

During the 2005-2006 season, the OMHA conducted a pilot study with the York Simcoe Hockey League and the Tri-County Minor Hockey League to use the 4 oz. Lightweight Blue Puck for programming below Novice including all games and practices.

Surveys were distributed for Association Administrators, Coaches, and Parents participating in the pilot study. After reviewing the survey responses, and making first hand observations of teams participating in the OMHA Blue Puck Pilot Study, the OMHA Initiation Program Working Committee forwarded a recommendation to the OMHA Development Committee and subsequently to the OMHA Board.

The OMHA Board passed the following amendment to policy for full implementation effective the 2006-2007 season:

2.3 Programming Below Novice

f) The Lightweight Blue Puck shall be mandatory for all hockey programs for players six (6) years of age and below. It is recommended for all hockey programs for players seven (7) years of age and below.

Rationale:

Although the Committee strongly believes that the Blue Puck is beneficial for all players under 8 years of age, the reality is that we do have tiering based on ability beginning at ages 7 and 8. Therefore, to impact all the beginner players in and provide a consistent introduction to the game, the recommendation will target all players 6 years of age & below.

Member of:





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The Committee does recommend the use of the Blue Puck for all programs below 8 years of age and encourages minor hockey associations to implement the use of the blue puck in their house leagues up to Novice.

For more information on this initiative, please go to the OMHA website at www.omha.net or contact me via email at ian.taylor@omha.net .

Sincerely,

Ian Taylor
Director, Development Programs
Ontario Minor Hockey Association

Member of:

