

OSHA Residency Policy

Purpose

The overall purpose of the OSHA residency policy is to define the boundary parameters for teams and clubs in order to ensure a viable, competitive and growing sledge hockey community in Ontario.

Objectives

1. Increase the number of players and teams in heavily populated areas such as the GTA.
2. Promote the development of new teams and clubs.
3. Maintain and strengthen current clubs and teams.
4. Prevent the deterioration or elimination of current teams and clubs.
5. Provide the best possible playing opportunities for players by helping maintain a competitive balance between teams.

Residency Boundaries

In order to achieve the stated objectives, OSHA is establishing the following boundaries for the GTA and for areas outside the GTA, based on populations and county boundaries.

GTA

Region 1 – Halton - Burlington, Oakville, Milton, Halton Hills

Region 2 – Mississauga

Region 3 – Brampton, Caledon

Region 4 – City of Toronto – There should be 3 – 5 teams coming from this area.

Region 5 – Vaughan, Richmond Hill, Markham

Region 6 – King, Aurora, Newmarket, Whitchurch/Stouffville, East Gwillimbury, Georgina

Region 7 – Pickering, Ajax, Whitby, Oshawa, Clarington, Uxbridge, Scugog, Brock

Outside the GTA

Far North – Kenora, Rainy River, Thunder Bay, Cochrane – 1-2 Teams, Population 325K

Mid North – Sudbury/Greater Sudbury, Timiskaming, Manitoulin, Nipissing – 1-2 Teams, Population 320K

Ottawa – 2-3 Teams, Population 820K

Far East – Prescott/Russell, Stormont/Dundas/Glengarry, Leeds/Grenville – 1-2 Teams, Population 300K

East – Renfrew, Lanark, Frontenac – 1-2 Teams, Population 310K

Mid-East – Lennox/Addington, Hastings, Prince Edward, Northumberland – 1 Team, Population 300K

Northeast – Peterborough, Haliburton, Kawartha Lakes, Muskoka – 1-2 Teams, Population 290K

Niagara – 1 Team, Population 430K
Hamilton – 2 Teams, Population 500K
Simcoe – 1 Team, Population 425K
Wellington, Dufferin, Grey – 1 Team, Population 360K
Waterloo – 1-2 Teams, Population 490K
Brant, Haldimand, Norfolk, Oxford – 1 Team, Population 345K
Middlesex, Elgin, Perth – 2 Teams, Population 585K
Lambton, Huron – 1 Team, Population 200K
Essex, Chatham-Kent – 1-2 Teams, Population 500K

Implementation

1. A transitional period of _____ seasons from time of adoption of this policy to allow for re-alignment and implementation.
2. Residency boundaries would be used to define OSHA leagues, as well as Regional teams for the OPWG, OWG and other province wide events.
3. Grandfathering, would be considered on a case by case basis during the transitional implementation period.
4. Variance requests (i.e. releases) would be assessed on their individual merits and assessed against the fundamental principles of the residency policy.
5. In all instances, final decisions would be weighted towards the good of the sport and not solely that of the individual player.