



## LAKES AREA HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

### **Open Puck Policy 2025-2026 Season**

The following provisions apply to participation in hockey programming with Lakes Area Hockey Association ("LAHA"), which includes the Boji Mammoths.

Open Puck is a time when players of a designated age group can work on individual hockey skills including skating, stick handling, shooting, etc. In addition, team skills including passing, position play, and team organization may be worked on. At open hockey, there is:

#### **NO CHECKING - NO SWEARING - NO ROUGH PLAY - NO FIGHTING**

PLAYERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO USE THIS TIME TO WORK ON SKILLS THAT THEIR COACHES HAVE EXPRESSED THEY NEED TO WORK ON AND HAVE FUN.

Coaches are encouraged to skate with the Minis & Mites if needed to monitor the kids on the ice and provide positive reinforcement.

A general rule of thumb is if attendance at the session is low, a player can move up one level above his/her skating level. Older players are often intimidating to younger players and playing down a level is not promoted. LAHA will usually allow an older sibling to go out to work with a younger sibling.

**Scrimmaging:** Players may work individually, in groups, or may start scrimmages. Players should not be expected to play in scrimmages. One end of the rink should be set aside for player to work on individual skills.

**Supervision:** Open Puck is not supervised. Parents for Squirt & below are expected to stay at the rink and help ensure a fun safe environment for all players.

**Discipline:** Discipline will be handled by everyone at the rink, a verbal warning will be issued, if the player still does not follow the rules they will be asked to LEAVE. LAHA reserves the right to not allow players to participate in OPEN PUCK.

**Equipment:** Squirt & below players are required to have full equipment on at Open Puck. PeeWee & above are required to have helmet w/ cage, gloves, elbow pads, shin pads, skates, and hockey stick on at Open Puck. Goalies are required to have full equipment on at Open Puck.

ONLY – Registered Players & Coaches with LAHA are allowed on the ice.

**OPEN PUCK IS PLAY AT YOUR OWN RISK**