

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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BC Hockey & ePACT Network Announce Partnership

Victoria, British Columbia – BC Hockey announces partnership with emergency network, ePACT, to enhance safety and support for hockey players and teams across the province. ePACT will connect BC Hockey to players and their families, to share critical information needed day-to-day and in a crisis.

As the not-for-profit governing body for amateur hockey in British Columbia and the Yukon, BC Hockey supports approximately 130 Minor Hockey Associations, as well as Junior and Senior teams. This spans tens of thousands of players, coaches and managers registered for hockey each year.

Coaches, managers and other volunteers are responsible for players at practice, games or while travelling, and as with all sports, there is the potential for injuries. As the Canadian Government found, “40% of child and youth injuries treated in emergency departments are sports and recreation-related.”

Whether managing injuries or other issues, like an allergic reaction or illness, facility evacuation, or team travel delay, critical information and communications are needed for coaches, managers, players and players’ families. This is why Hockey Canada recommends a set amount of personal data be collected, including contact and health details (e.g. medical conditions, medications, and past injuries) each year.

Unfortunately, this information has been collected on paper forms for decades. Forms were given to players to complete, then were carried in binders to team events or outings. This not only took a lot of time to manage, but forms could be forgotten, were difficult to read or were inadvertently incomplete.

“We specifically built ePACT to connect families and organizations to better share critical information,” explains Christine Sommers, CEO of ePACT. “We’re thrilled to work with BC Hockey, and help teams access data and communications that can make a real difference throughout the hockey season.”

For 2019, BC Hockey will use ePACT to connect to all amateur hockey players, collecting the required emergency and health data previously managed by volunteer coaches and managers. This will save individual Associations time in managing this process, while also ensuring compliance for all players sharing the information needed to support them in a potential crisis.

“We strive to identify programs and services that create efficiencies and improve the safety and support of our members,” said BC Hockey Chief Executive Officer, Barry Petrachenko. “We believe ePACT provides a secure, convenient and accessible platform that benefits our teams, players and parents.”

BC Hockey will use ePACT to manage players' data, and individual Hockey Associations can also choose to use the system for coaches and managers to access data via smartphone, tablet or computer, or message players, families and emergency contacts (friends and relatives) for operational needs or in an emergency.

For more information about ePACT for your hockey association, and to get a quote, visit <http://info.epactnetwork.com/bchockey>.

About BC Hockey

BC Hockey is a not-for-profit organization and member of Hockey Canada. Governing amateur hockey at all levels in British Columbia and the Yukon Territory for over 100 years, BC Hockey's mission is to lead, develop and promote positive lifelong hockey experiences for all its members. Overseeing approximately 130 Minor Hockey Associations and Junior and Senior teams, BC Hockey is comprised of 60,000 players, 4,500 referees, 10,000 coaches, 20,000 official volunteers and staff.

About ePACT Network Ltd.

ePACT is a highly secure, online emergency network used to connect organizations, families and families' emergency contacts (friends and relatives) for greater interaction, information sharing, preparation and support for potential crises. Families store critical emergency data online, then share it with trusted individuals and organizations. Organizations connect across their community, securely accessing data anytime, anywhere, and sending communications day-to-day or in an emergency. With ePACT, communities reduce risks, improve efficiencies, minimize environmental impacts and enhance the safety and support for all their members.

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