Smithers Minor Hockey Association Box 651 Smithers, BC VOJ 2NO smhahockeyinfo@gmail.com http://www.smithersminorhockey.com/



SEPTEMBER 8, 2020

SMHA RETURN TO PLAY PLAN - 2020/2021 SEASON

Dear player and parent:

While we hope things will return to normal in the not too distant future, the fluid state of Covid-19 and this Return to Sport Plan will be the new normal until we are advised otherwise by public health authority and changes can occur. The following information has been put together by viaSport, BC Recreation, BC Hockey, Hockey Canada and SMHA

If you choose to participate, you must follow these rules:

- If you don't feel well or are displaying symptoms of Covid-19, you must stay home
- If you have traveled outside of Canada, you are not permitted at the facility until you have selfisolated for a minimum of 14 days
- If you live in a household with someone who has Covid-19 or is showing symptoms of Covid-19, please stay home
- Wash your hands before participating
- Bring your own equipment, water bottle and hand sanitizer
- Comply with physical distancing measures at all times
- · Avoid physical contact with others, including shaking hands, high fives or spitting while in the facility
- Leave the facility as quickly as possible after you finish the ice session
- You must notify your coach, division manager, SMHA vice president immediately if you have any symptoms before, during or after an ice session <u>mattbruintjes@gmail.com</u> or 250-643-0902
- Players will need to complete the Covid-19 screening assessment prior to arriving at the rink. This will be completed through the **TeamSnap** app.

Facility entry

- Players are to come dressed in full gear and filled personal water bottle 10 minutes prior to ice time
- Social distance while waiting to enter facility
- Sit in designated seats, spaced apart as per provincial recommendation
- Seats to be used to tie skates, fasten helmet
- Street shoes to be left at the designated seat as you take the ice

Ice entry

- Main gate to ice open, benches not to be used
- Player to place water bottle on top rail at bench, markers provided On ice procedure
- Coaches on the ice
- Players properly spaced apart
- Drills designed for skill development and no physical contact
- Gloves and equipment left on at all times. No handling of pucks, coaches to pick up pucks at end of skate

Exit procedure

- End of skate players will stay distanced and single file out of main gate back to designated seat to remove helmet and skates
- Players will have a maximum of 10 minutes to depart the arena

Safety protocol

- Spectators will be limited to 1 per child, to be social distanced in the designated area
- Players need to complete the Covid-19 assessment prior to arriving at the facility
- · Read and sign participant agreement

Communications Officer/task group

SMHA has Identified Matt Bruintjes as our communications officer. Matt will be the point of contact to address questions or concerns regarding our Return to Play Plan.

Contact: mattbruintjes@gmail.com or 250-643-0902

SMHA Covid-19 task group consists of:

- Brendan Hutchinson- Head Coach and Technical Director
- Stacey Remillard- Safety and Risk Manager
- Shirley White- BC Gaming Coordinator
- Kristen Pederson- Ice Coordinator

Reporting and Compliance:

SMHA is committed to ensuring that these safety procedures and guidelines are adhered to. The below aspects will be evaluated in consultation with our governing bodies and Health Authority to determine when we can proceed through our plan. Programming will be delivered within guidelines for the following restrictions:

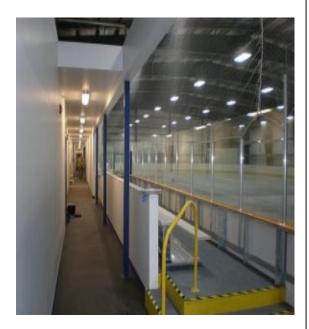
- Physical distancing
- Increased hygiene measures
- Symptom screening
- No or limited spectators
- Fundamental movement and skill
- Modified training activities, drills and play introduced
- No contact between participants during activities
- Minimal shared equipment and procedure for disinfecting

On-ice structure

- Maximum of 25 people can be on the field of play (ice surface) at a time
- Ice times are currently fluid, every effort will be made for consistency and maximum usage
- Sessions will be geared toward skills while respecting social distancing practices
- Sessions may have modified 3 on 3 games, no contact
- One coach will be designated to pick up pucks and the other on ice equipment

Town of Smithers Facilities

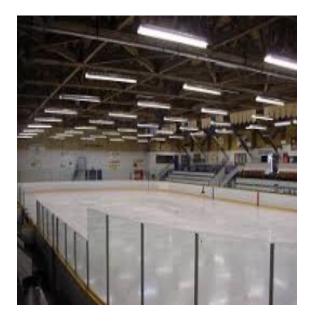
To avoid congestion within the New Arena, players will enter via the exterior doors on the right and they will move to the far side of the arena to put on skates and enter the ice from the doors by the public skating equipment room. To exit they will go through the players benches and exit through the side door. Spectators will enter through the left hand side foyer doors and exit out the side doors as well.



New Arena Ice Surface

- On ice limit of 25 as per Hockey Canada Guidelines
- Dedicated entry gate and separate exit gate onto ice surface
- Limit to spectators, 1 parent per child. 6' between parents
- 2 Dedicated entrance/exit doors- one in the foyer, one from the outside
- Hand sanitizing stations available by each door
- High Touch surfaces will be sanitized several times a day (tables, door handles etc.)
- 1 dressing room available for goalies to prepare

To avoid congestion within the Civic Centre, players will enter via the exterior doors on the front of the building and exit through the doors on the side of the building.



Civic Centre Surface

- On ice limit of 25 as per Hockey Canada Guidelines
- Dedicated entry gate and separate exit gate onto ice surface
- Limit to spectators, 1 parent per child. 6' between parents
- 6 Dedicated entrance/exit doors- One on the front of the building, one on the back of the building and four on the sides of the building.
- Hand sanitizing stations available by each door
- High Touch surfaces will be sanitized several times a day (tables, door handles etc.)
- 1 dressing room available for goalies to prepare

Return to sport - Phase 3

- Via sport has moved return to sport from phase 2 to phase 3 at the beginning of September. SMHA will practice the protocols of phase 2 as we begin the 2020/2021 season to ensure the safety of all involved. As we get comfortable with the return to hockey this fall we will move towards all of what phase 3 allows for.
- Please be patient with this process of returning to hockey. These processes and how they apply to our facilities and organization are a learning curve for everyone involved. Know that the volunteers that are involved in SMHA are working to make sure that we can offer the most we can under these circumstances.
- Communication is very important this year as things will be fluid as we get rolling. Please ensure you are monitoring your team snap and email.
- More info to come on what the season make up will be as far as games, leagues, tournaments etc...
- Let's make the most of this and have a great year of hockey!

	Strictest Controls Phase 1	Transition Measures Phase 2	Progressively Loosen Phase 3	New Normal (Future date TBC)
Restrictions in Place	Maintain Physical Distance (2m) No non-essential travel	Maintain Physical Distance (2m) No non-essential travel No group gatherings over 50 people	Refer to PHO and local health authorities	Refer to PHO and local health authorities
Enhanced Protocols	Increased hand hygiene	Increased hand hygiene Symptom Screening in place	Increased personal hygiene, cleaning protocols and symptom screening	Increased hand hygiene
Facility	Outdoor or within home Facilities and playgrounds closed	Outdoor is safest Indoor facilities slowly re-opening	Participants should maintain physical distance while not on field of play	Outdoor/Indoor
Participants	Individual activities	Small Groups No or limited spectators	Groups sizes increase based on sport type (i.e. level of contact). Participants and spectators must adhere to 50 people max per event public health guidance	Large groups allowed No restrictions on spectators
Non-contact Activities	Low risk outdoor activities can occur (biking, running, etc.). Virtual activities	Fundamental movement skills Modified training activities, drills	Where feasible, limit contact (i.e. coming within two metres) in training and sport activities	No restrictions on activity type
Contact Activities	Should not occur	Should not occur Contact sports should look for non-contact alternatives to training	Cohort model introduced for sports that cannot maintain 2m physical distancing.	No restrictions on activity type
Competition*	Should not occur	In club play or modified games may slowly be introduced	Competition slowly introduced. Regional competition for sports in cohorts.	Provincial competitions and larger scale events may return
Equipment	No shared equipment	Minimal shared equipment Disinfect any shared equipment before, during and after use	Enhanced cleaning protocols in place	Shared equipment
Travel	None	None	Limited	Unlimited

Group C	basketball, cheerleading, field hockey, football, goalball,	Contact – Physical contact within the same team
Sports with frequent or sustained contact	hockey, lacrosse, netball, ringette, sledge hockey, soccer, ultimate, water polo, rugby, squash, wheelchair rugby, wheelchair basketball	training environment may be introduced. For the game or competition environment rules should be modified to minimize physical contact.
		All activities that involve any form of close proximity or physical contact should take place only within the cohort environment.
		Cohort Size – Cohorts may contain up to 50 people or four teams (whichever is deemed most appropriate by the Provincial Sport Organization)
		Competition - Competitive activities (e.g. game play) may occur within designated cohorts.