

WMHA Covid-19 Safety Plan

Revision Date: October 22, 2020

Introduction

The Whistler Minor Hockey Association (WMHA) has compiled a COVID-19 Safety Plan to meet the requirements laid out by Hockey Canada ([Hockey Canada Safety Guidelines](#)), BC Hockey ([BC Hockey Return to Hockey](#)), viaSport BC ([ViaSport BC Return to Play Activity Guidelines](#)), the Resort Municipality of Whistler (*Meadow Park Sports Centre COVID-19 Safe Work Guidelines for Public Entry*), and the Provincial Medical Health Officer. The WMHA COVID-19 Safety Plan ensures that WMHA officials, players, and parents/guardians can return to the ice as quickly and safely as possible.

Participant Agreement

The WMHA's top priority for the 2020/2021 season is the health and safety of team officials and players. It is imperative that WMHA officials, players, and parents/guardians follow the protocols in this Plan to ensure both the safety of players and the continued use of Meadow Park Sports Centre (MPSC).

Safety Plan Amendments

The WMHA Safety Plan will be amended and evolve as Hockey Canada, BC Hockey, viaSport BC, MPSC, and provincial health authority guidance changes. It is also likely to change as procedures are tested and adaptations are required. The WMHA needs to be flexible to accommodate and respond to changes in community transmission and the changes in advice from the Provincial Health Officer. Changes will be communicated to the membership via the Communications Officer.

Communicating the COVID-19 Safety Plan

Hockey Canada and BC Hockey recommend that the WMHA meets with Parents, Guardians, and Participants prior to the season to provide an overview of:

- The COVID 19 Safety Plan and what to expect
- Safety procedures put in place
- Their role in creating a safe and healthy environment

In addition, the *Meadow Park Sports Centre COVID-19 Safe Work Guidelines for Public Entry* should be disseminated to all parents, coaches and participants (as per direction from MPSC).

Communications Officer - Kevin Sopp - Member at Large

Hockey Canada and BC Hockey recommend that a Communications Officer is appointed who is responsible to ensure all updated and relevant information is passed on to the officials, contractors, participants, volunteers and parents within the association. Responsibilities of the Communications Officer include:

- Monitoring all updates from Vancouver Coastal Health, via Sport & Hockey Canada

- Lead all communications with MPSC on guidelines, updates and reported cases
- Ensuring teams are following the prevention guidelines set by Hockey Canada
- Ensuring COVID-19 cases are reported to Vancouver Coastal Health, BC Hockey, MHA, the league & MPSC
- Ensuring the WMHA membership is kept informed on the COVID-19 Safety Plan and updates.

Risk Management & Insurance

On June 10, 2020 the provincial government announced a ministerial order that protects amateur sport organizations, their employees and volunteers from damages resulting directly or indirectly, from COVID-19. This liability protection will be in place as long as sport organizations follow applicable guidance, such as viaSport's Return to Sport protocols and public-health guidance. This order is in place for the duration of the Emergency Program Act.

Role of the Board: The board of an organization is responsible for the oversight of risk.

Health & Safety

New Course: Planning a Safe Return to Hockey

Hockey Canada has introduced a new COVID Course titled *Planning a Safe Return to Hockey*. All bench staff and officials must take this before stepping foot on the ice. Board members and paid staff should also take the course. The course takes approximately 20 minutes to complete. The *Planning a Safe Return to Hockey* course can be accessed through the Hockey University platform [HERE](#).

Hockey Canada Safety Person

As per the PCAHA, there must be a Hockey Canada Safety Person (HCSP) representation at ALL skates (including initial ones). Each ice group must have at least one currently certified HCSP at each skate. Courses required to be certified include current RIS, HCSP & Criminal Record Check as well as the new course titled Planning a Safe Return to Hockey. The HCSP will act as a COVID ambassador for WMHA and will have a visible presence during games and practices. The HCSP will oversee adherence to the Return to Play plan and ensure COVID protocols are being followed.

Current Public Health Recommendations in BC

At this time the current public health measures and recommendations in BC include:

- When outside of your home, practice physical distancing by keeping two meters (six feet) away from one another.
- In situations where you cannot keep a safe distance from others consider wearing a mask

- Cough and sneeze into your elbow or sleeve.
- Wash your hands regularly.
- Stay at home when you're sick, even if symptoms are mild. If you are experiencing mild respiratory symptoms, you must self-isolate at home for 10 days after the initial onset of symptoms.
- If you have had contact with a confirmed or suspected case of COVID-19 or are returning from travel outside of Canada, you must self-isolate for 14 days.

Hockey Canada advises that at all times, government and health agency directions will supersede any general recommendation of Hockey Canada adopted by Members.

Stay at home if you feel sick

The best way to ensure that the hockey season can progress for all players is to stay home if you are feeling sick. You or your child should not feel that they will miss out from playing it safe, and the WMHA is putting into practice policies for rep tryouts to ensure that attendance is not a requirement for any of our teams or divisions.

COVID-19 affects different people in different ways. Most infected people will develop mild to moderate illness and recover without hospitalization.

Most common symptoms:

- Fever
- Dry cough
- Shortness of breath

Less common symptoms:

- Runny nose
- Aches and pains
- Sore throat
- Diarrhea
- Conjunctivitis
- Headache
- Loss of taste and/or smell
- Skin rash, or discolouration of fingers and toes

Serious symptoms:

- Difficulty breathing
- Chest pain or pressure
- Loss of speech or movement

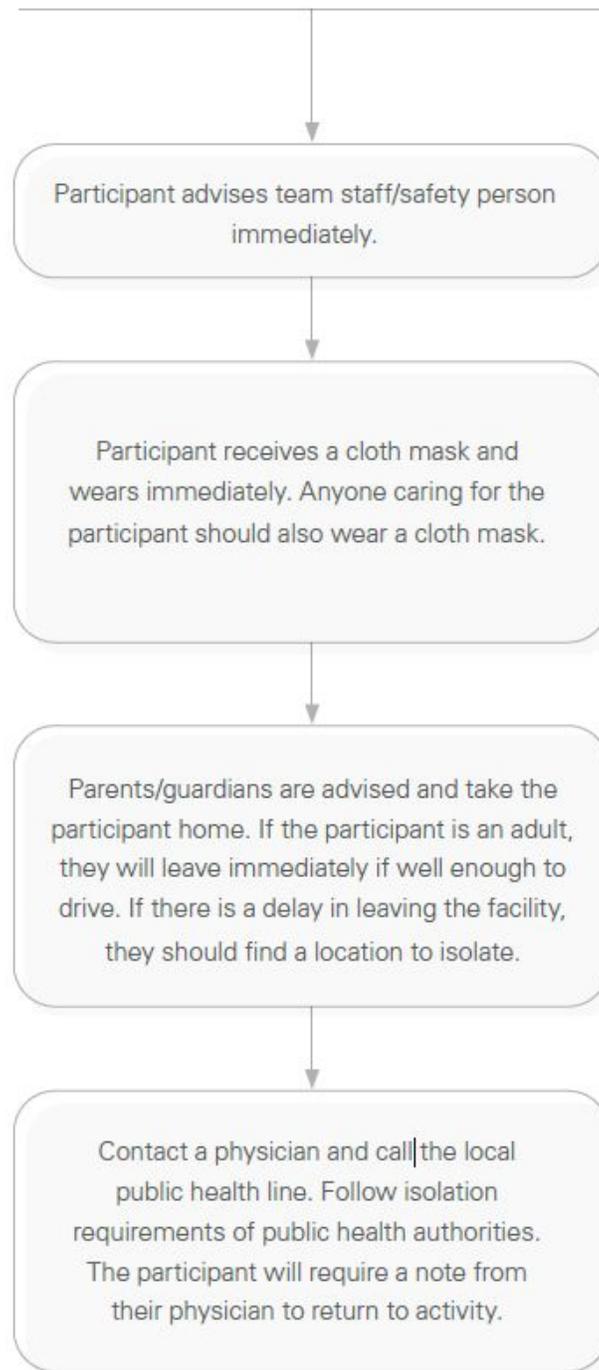
Seek immediate medical attention if you have serious symptoms. Always call before visiting your physician or health facility.

On average, it takes 5-6 days from infection for symptoms to show, but it can take up to 14 days

Procedure if a Player is Sick during a WMHA Activity

Team officials should be prepared to require that anyone exhibiting signs or symptoms of illness should leave the practice/activity. The following are the required guidelines for team officials, parents and guardians, and players who are sick or showing symptoms of COVID-19 while participating in a WMHA activity:

PARTICIPANT FEELS ILL AT THE FACILITY/ACTIVITY



Procedure if a Player is Sick while at Home

Team officials and players that exhibit signs of illness will not be allowed to participate in WMHA activities. The following are the required guidelines for team officials, parents and guardians, and players who are sick and tells the coach they will not be attending:

**PARTICIPANT ADVISES TEAM STAFF
THEY ARE NOT FEELING WELL
AND WILL NOT BE ATTENDING**

Participant is advised to follow up with their physician. They will require a note from their physician to return to activity.

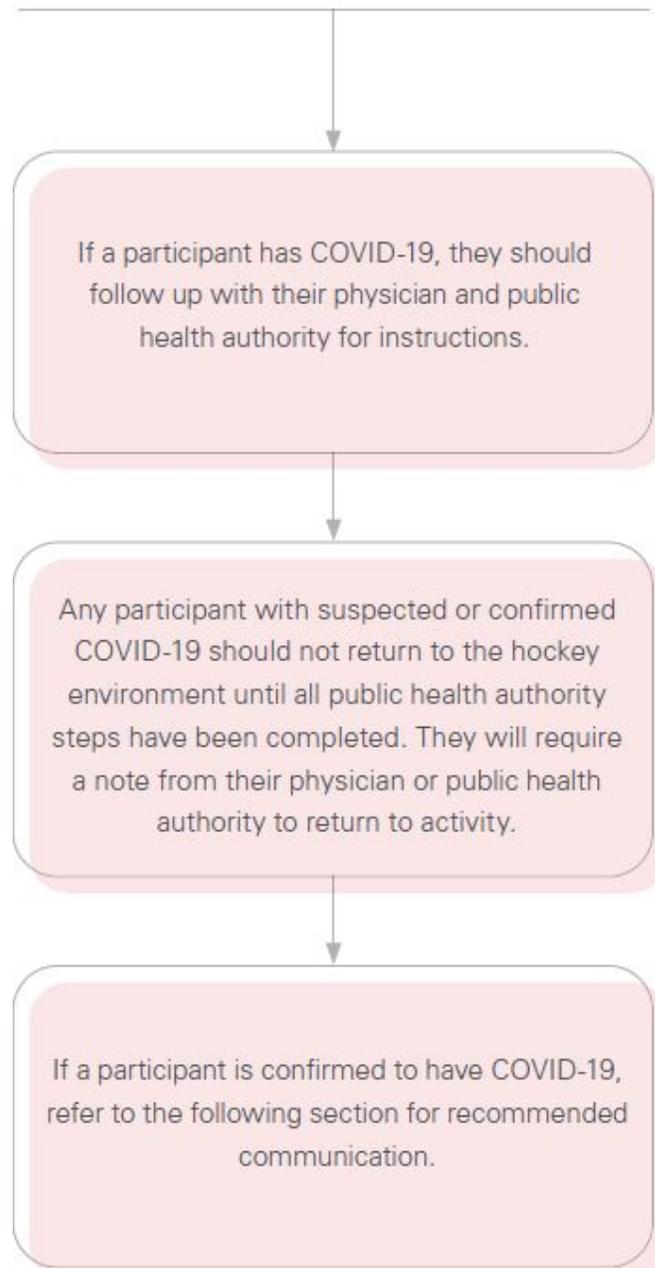
Any participant with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 should not return to the hockey environment until all public health authority steps have been completed. They will require a note from their physician or public health authority to return to activity.

If a participant is confirmed to have COVID-19, refer to the following section for recommended communication.

Procedure if a Player is Showing Symptoms of COVID-19

Team officials and players that have symptoms of COVID-19 will not be allowed to participate in WMHA activities. The following are the required guidelines for team officials, parents and guardians, and players who are showing symptoms of COVID-19:

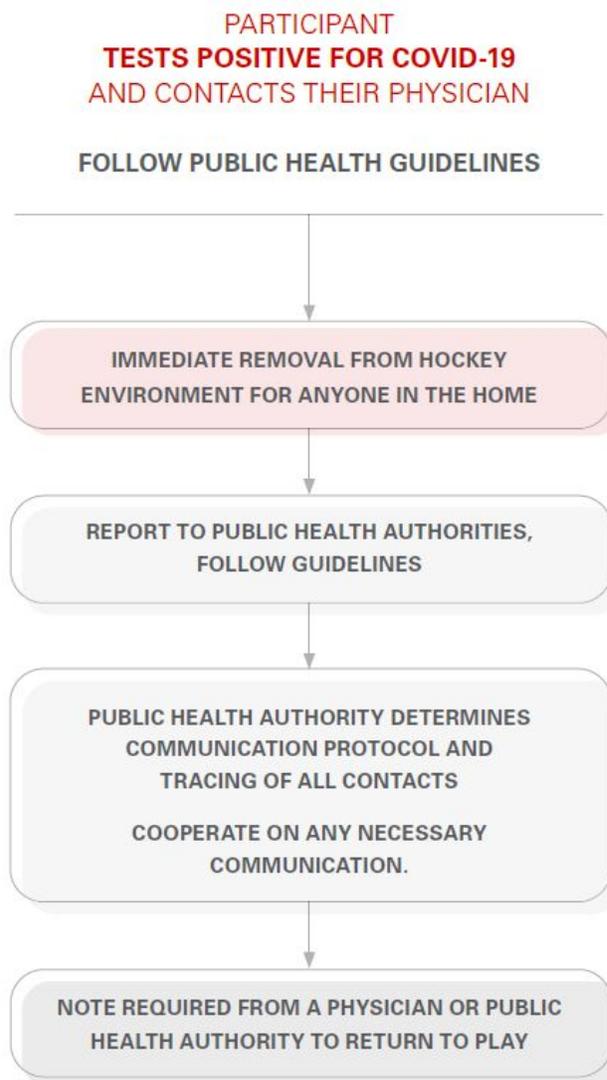
PARTICIPANT ADVISES THEY HAVE SYMPTOMS OF COVID-19 AND WILL NOT BE ATTENDING



Procedure if A Player Tests Positive for COVID-19

If a sick participant (or their parent/guardian if the participant is a minor) elects to inform a team official that they have been diagnosed with COVID-19, the league risk manager will ask the parent for permission to contact Vancouver Coastal Health in order to obtain advice on communication with other potentially impacted participants. The sick participant (or their parent/guardian if the participant is a minor) should be asked to advise Public Health of this consent.

Explain the communication that will take place and NEVER disclose the sick person's name.



Player Injury (Not COVID-19 Related)

A safety person or coach may need to be within two metres of a player if the player suffers an injury but must wear a mask. In the event that first aid is required to be administered during an activity, all persons attending to the injured individual must first put on a mask and gloves.

Note from MPSC: First aid attendants are to be managed by each user group. There will not be a first aid attendant available on site. HCSP are required at practice as per Hockey Canada unless regulations change.

Reporting Cases

If a team official or player leaves the facility ill, facility staff should be notified so they can complete an incident report prior to the coaching staff leaving the facility. Risk Manager and MPSC should be notified.

Return to Play Following Illness

All team officials and players that are unwell or displaying symptoms **must** stay home. In the event that a player is sick, has tested positive for COVID-19, or is living with a person that is self-isolating, the player must stay out of the hockey environment.

Specifically:

- If a player tests positive for COVID-19 they must stay out of the hockey environment. They will require a note from their physician to return to play.
- If a player is sick but does not have COVID-19 the player should follow up with their physician or 8-1-1. They will require a note from their physician to return to play. If a player is exhibiting signs of COVID-19 but has not been tested they must remain out of the hockey environment and contact their physician or 8-1-1 for required steps to be taken. The player will require a note from their physician or public health authority to return to play.
- If a player or a person they live with is in isolation, neither the player nor those they live with can be in the hockey environment until all public health authority requirements are met.

If a player tests positive for COVID-19, Vancouver Coastal Health (VCH) will determine contact tracing and isolation requirements. It is possible, therefore, that one diagnosis on a team could lead to that team being required to pause hockey activities until the VCH Medical Health Officer determines it is safe to return. Give the doctor's note to the coach, safety person, or manager.

Phase 3 Cohort Model

The WMHA has entered Phase 3 of viaSport's Return to Sport. This means that WMHA players that are identified as being in the same cohort do not have to physically distance when in the field of play and that game play is allowed within specified cohorts. The field of play includes the ice surface, the benches, and the penalty box. Outside the field of play, those in your cohort must maintain two metres of physical distance (e.g, dressing rooms, hallways, staging areas, etc). WMHA team officials are not considered part of the cohort **if** they maintain a physical distance of 2 metres; if they cannot maintain distance they must wear a mask. Please note that the size of the participant group for each booking (practice or game) cannot exceed 50 individuals including participants, coaches, assistants, safety personnel, time keepers, and referees. This adheres to the PHO Order regarding [Gatherings and Events](#) (the Order). Facility staff are not counted among the limit of 50, as stated in the PHO order.

Cohorts

In accordance with viaSport's Return to Sport guidelines each Provincial Sport Organization (PSO) may implement cohorts during Phase 3 that will allow for participants to be involved in contact activity and breach the 2-metre physical distance guidelines. A cohort can consist of either fifty (50) people or four (4) teams based upon active roster sizes. Each cohort will consist of multiple teams in order to form a mini-league. Teams can only play games and share ice with teams in their cohort. The PCAHA will determine the game cohorts on behalf of the WMHA. The WMHA will determine cohorts for initiation teams that are not assigned PCAHA cohorts. Coaches are not considered part of the cohort model, as long as they can keep physical distance (2- metres) and wear a mask during Phase 3 activities. Therefore, a coach can serve as a team official with teams in multiple cohorts if required.

Cohort sizes are different from maximum group (event) sizes. When members of the cohort are gathering for games or activities, gatherings may not exceed 50 people.

Contact Tracing

The WMHA is required to keep a contact list of anyone that attends their event outside of RMOW staff. This includes players, team officials, visiting team players, visiting team officials, timekeepers, board members, etc.

Masks

Beginning Friday, October 23, 2020 masks are required for WMHA team officials, players and timekeepers while inside MPSC unless they are within a cohort and within the field of play. This includes but is not limited to shared spaces such as dressing rooms, hallways, staging areas, etc. As benches are included in the field of play, this does not apply to participants on the same team of the same cohort sharing a bench. Team officials are not considered part of the cohort and they must wear a mask at all times. Coaches that are on the ice for practices and are able to maintain 2m distance from all participants do not have to wear a mask. A team may have as

many team officials (to a maximum of 5) on the bench during a game, as long as they can maintain a minimum 2 metres physical distance from each other and the players.

Facility

The Resort Municipality of Whistler (RMOW) and MPSC have developed *Meadow Park Sports Centre COVID-19 Safe Work Guidelines for Public Entry* that establishes protocols and procedures designed to mitigate the risk of exposure and potential spread of COVID-19 to staff and members of the public. The WMHA must follow the protocols and procedures laid out in the guidelines. MPSC staff will ensure WMHA officials, players, and parents/guardians abide by these guidelines for the duration of their visit to the facility.

Note: The *Meadow Park Sports Centre COVID-19 Safe Work Guidelines for Public Entry* is a living document that is likely to evolve as public health measures and guidance evolves. As a result, the WMHA COVID-19 Safety Plan is also likely to change from time to time.

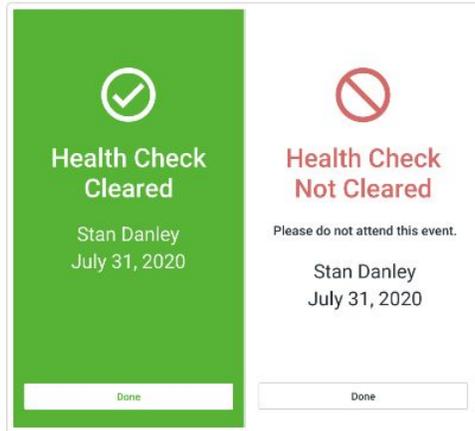
MPSC will look different this year and there are a number of guidelines the WMHA must follow to be allowed to use the facility. These are included below.

Enhanced Cleaning and Disinfection

The high touch points in the entry/exit areas, washrooms, arena lobby, arena change rooms, arena lobby overflow space, the player's benches, time keeper's booth, referee room, bleachers and entry/exit areas will be cleaned and disinfected between user groups by Meadow Park Sports Centre maintenance staff.

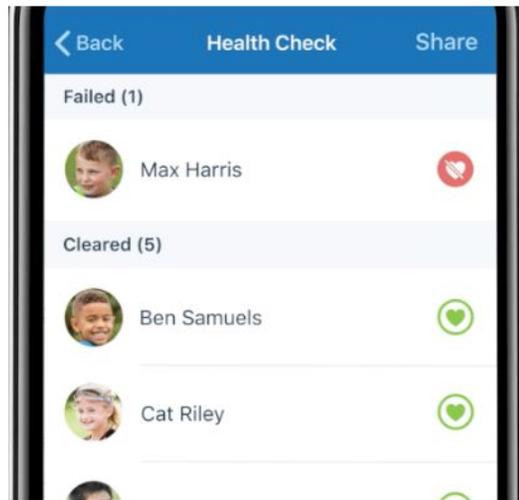
WMHA Home Team Health Screening

WMHA officials and players will be required to complete a TeamSnap health check on a mobile device prior to entering MPSC for a practice, tryout, or game. The questionnaire will open 8 hours before the scheduled icetime and will ask 4 questions recommended by the CDC for COVID-19 symptom screening. The HSPC for each team will confirm that each player and official has completed the health questionnaire and has a "green screen" prior to entering the facility.



Players and officials can either pull the green clearance screen on their mobile device to show the HSPC or the HSPC can see the list of completed health checks in TeamSnap.

It is the responsibility of the HSPC to ensure all players and officials entering the facility have completed and passed the healthcheck.



Example team manager Health Check view on iOS.

Note: HSPC's have been given administrator access in TeamSnap. If a player or team official has not completed the health check upon arrival at the facility - the HSPC can ask the player the questions verbally and complete and confirm the health check in the APP on behalf of the player.

Visiting Team Health Questionnaire

Visiting teams will be required to complete a health check/contact tracing form prior to attending games at MPSC. **Every player and rostered team official must complete their own form. Only rostered players and team officials are permitted in MPSC.**



WMHA | PRE-SCREENING QUESTIONNAIRE

Instructions:

- Every player and rostered team official will visit <https://www.whistlerminorhockey.com/covid> to complete the contact tracing form and health questionnaire.
- Visiting teams will click on their team category and complete the pre-screening questionnaire. EVERY player and rostered team official must complete their own form.

Whistler Minor Hockey Visiting Team COVID Questionnaire.

Please click on the link below to fill out the questionnaire for your up-coming game against Whistler Minor. One form per player/official.

U7

U11 C

U13 C

U15 C

U18 C

U9

U11 F

U13 F

U18 A

U13 A

Arriving Dressed in Gear

Participants are asked to enter the facility in as much hockey equipment as possible. Participants needing to change into skates must do so in the designated area outlined by their Manager.

WMHA understands that it will not always be feasible to come to MPSC in full gear. As an example, players that drive themselves or players in car seats may not be able to dress fully at home. It is important to follow guidelines specific to car seats and seat belts, and only equipment that can be worn safely under current laws or guidelines. When player safety might be compromised by riding in a car fully dressed in hockey equipment, the player should leave home partially dressed in their equipment, and should put on the remainder of the equipment after arriving at, but before entering, the facility.

Dressing Room Access

There is dressing room access for groups leaving the ice only. Visiting teams will use change room #1, #2 and #3 (total capacity = 18) on exit only. Home teams will use change room #4 and

the hallway chair overflow (total capacity = 18) on exit only. The change rooms will only be available for taking off skates and putting on shoes, no changing clothes. The change room washrooms, including the toilets, the urinals and the sinks for handwashing will only be accessible following the team's ice time. Use of the showers is prohibited. Chairs will be set-up in the hallway as an overflow area (to a total of 6 chairs). If players are using the change rooms there must be two team officials supervising the dressing rooms to abide by the [Hockey Canada two-deep rule](#). The dressing room occupancies are listed below:

- Change Room #1 – 6 persons
- Change Room #2 – 6 persons
- Change Room #3 – 6 persons
- Change Room #4 – 12 persons

Spectators and Parent/Guardians

On Tuesday, October 20, 2020 viaSport and the BC Recreation and Parks Association issued a no spectator policy for the remainder of 2020 at indoor sporting facilities in B.C. Only team officials and players will be permitted inside MPSC. Parents/guardians are asked to remain outside the building as parents, guardians, siblings, and other spectators are not permitted in the facility. The doors to MPSC will remain closed to the public. MPSC is currently looking at options for filming and games and some practices for our initiation groups.

We understand that for the younger division, Hockey U9 and under, children will require assistance. MPSC has said that U6 parents can enter the facility to tie skates because this is a small group of 7. For the U7 age group that has 13 kids, parents can enter the facility but must use the overflow space where the cage is. There cannot be more than 24 people total in the lobby and cage area.

Protocols for Players Requiring Assistance (e.g. para-hockey, younger ages)

For age groups where parents need to assist players with equipment, the number of parents in the facility will be limited to one per player. Parent entry should be controlled to meet physical-distancing requirements. There may need to be a volunteer at the front door controlling access to limit the number of parents for U9.

Timekeepers Booth

There is only one person allowed in the timekeepers booth and for gameplay only. The timekeeper must sanitize their hands, with the sanitizer provided, prior to touching the score clock.

Facility Capacity

Public occupancy limits have been reduced for MPSC. Maximum capacity for each area of the arena is below:

- Front Desk Lobby 3 persons

• Arena Lobby	24 persons
• Arena Lobby Women's Washroom	3 persons
• Arena Lobby Men's Washroom	2 persons
• Arena Lobby Universal Washroom	1 person
• Arena Lobby Overflow	6 persons
• Ice Sheet	40 persons
• Change Room #1	6 persons
• Change Room #2	6 persons
• Change Room #3	6 persons
• Change Room #4	12 persons
• Arena Change Room Hallway Overflow	6 persons
• Referee Room	3 person
• Timekeeper's Booth	1 person
• Bleachers	23 persons (No spectators)

Occupancy limits are posted at the entrance to each of these spaces.

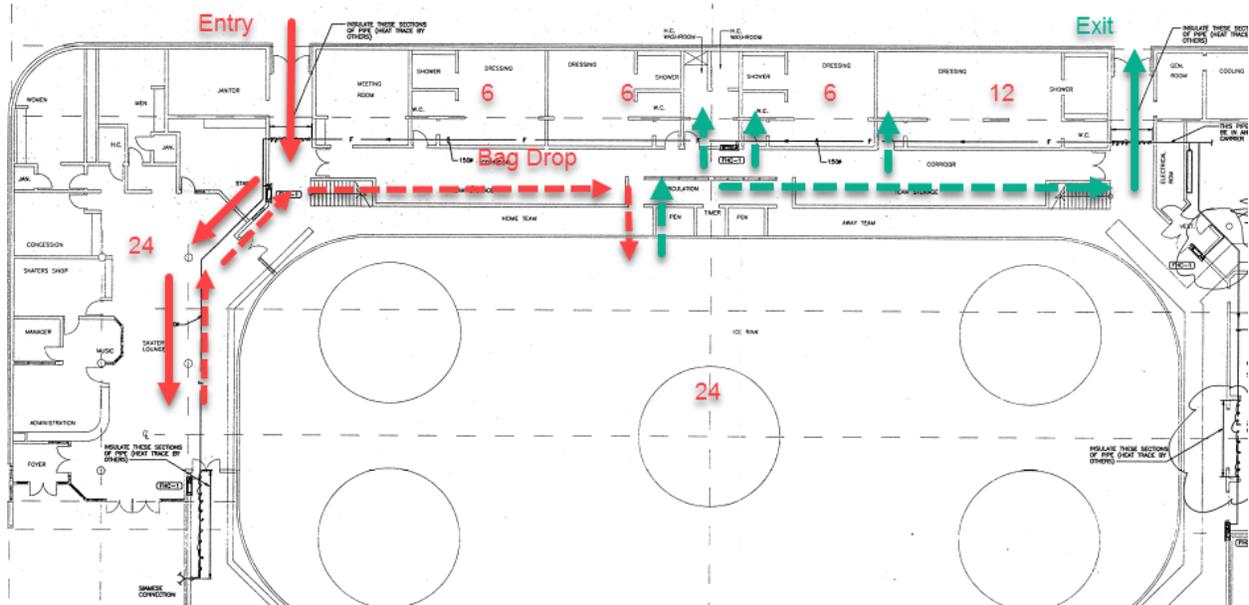
Space Between Booking to Avoid Contact and for Facility Cleaning

MPSC requires 15 minutes between practice ice bookings and 30 minutes between game ice bookings in order to minimize group cross-over, clean high-touch surfaces, and wipe down dressing rooms.

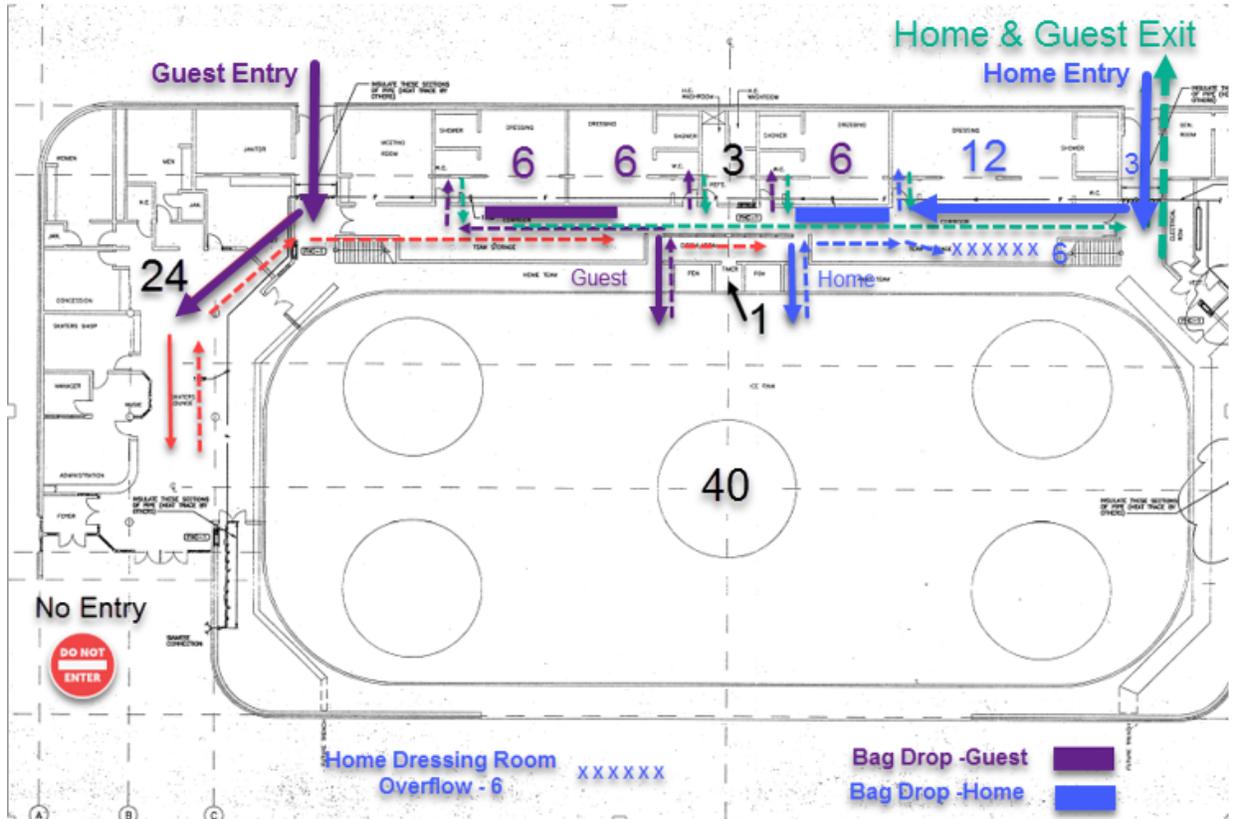
Common Corridors

The map below has been created to show where and how staff and public will move throughout the arena. Signage has been erected, and directional arrows, stickers and physical distancing decals have been placed on the ground to indicate how staff and participants will flow throughout the facility to maintain physical distancing. Traffic flow is one-way, to prevent staff and participants from converging on each other.

Participant Flow – Practices (no visiting team)



Participant Flow – Games



Arena Lobby Layout

Arena lobby capacity is limited to 24 people in total. MPSC staff will clean high touch surfaces between user groups and team ice time. There are chairs available to put on skates or remove skate guards with marked physical-distanced seating.

Communal Doors

Wherever possible, communal doors will be propped open, so staff and public can pass through without touching handles. Fire code provisions will be maintained.

Washroom Access

The arena lobby washrooms will be open and available for groups arriving. The maximum occupancy of the women's washroom is 3, and the maximum occupancy of the men's washroom is 2. The Public washrooms are not to be used as a changing room facility. The Dressing Room washrooms and Referee Room will be for groups exiting the Arena.

Other Amenities

Participants are advised to fill their water bottles at home. However, the water bottle fill-up station in the arena lobby is open for participants to use should they forget to fill their water bottle at home. Vending machines, phone charging stations, and the ATM will also be taped off and unavailable for use.

WMHA Officials and Player Arrival Procedure for Practices:

WMHA players and team officials will enter Meadow Park Sports Centre through the back entrance closest to the lobby (see map below). Players are to arrive at the back door 15 minutes before their scheduled ice time. The team safety official will confirm health questionnaires and players and team officials will walk to the lobby to put on the rest of their equipment. The lobby and exit procedures have not changed **for practices**.



The back entrance will be locked at the start of the team's scheduled icetime. Players must be on time as this door will lock at the start of the scheduled icetime. If you know you will be late, please re-arrange this with your Manager/Safety official so someone can meet you at that door to let you in. Please do not enter the front door of MPSC.

Procedure for the HCSP:

1. The Safety Official will enter the front door of the Meadow Park Sports Centre (MPSC) 20 minutes before their scheduled ice time. (If you are arriving with your player they can accompany you when you check-in and proceed to the lobby).
2. The Safety Official will check-in with the front-desk staff.
3. The Safety Official will walk through the lobby to the backdoor by the vending machines and open this door. The screenshot below lists ENTRANCE.
4. The Safety Official will confirm health questionnaires and direct players and team officials to the lobby to put on the rest of their equipment.
5. At the start of the scheduled icetime the Safety Official will close the entrance door. This door will lock to the outside.

Please ensure that only players and team officials are entering the facility. Initiation parents are allowed in to assist young players, but must leave the facility when they are done providing this assistance. There cannot be more than 24 people in the lobby at one time; this number includes MPSC staff.

Procedure for the Team Officials and Players:

Participants will line-up outside the MPSC front entrance, 2 metres apart, fifteen minutes prior to their scheduled ice time.

1. The HCSP will stand at the door and confirm that each participant has completed and passed the TeamSnap health questionnaire.
2. Once the participant is cleared for entry by the HCSP, participants will sanitize their hands - there is a sanitizer stand in the lobby. Participants will reference the COVID-19 Safe Practices banner located just inside the door and adhere to these guidelines while using the facility.
3. Participants will enter the arena lobby and proceed to the designated chairs provided, while remaining physically distanced.
4. Chairs will be used to put-on or tie-up skates, fasten helmets and remove skate guards. Any officials helping require a mask to do so.
5. MPSC will have additional space for parents to help players tying skates and fastening helmets by the skate aids/cage area through the glass door by the ATM.
6. When the ice is ready, players will take their belongings to the dressing room hallway (outside dressing room #1) before they go on the ice surface - players will not be allowed to re-enter the lobby after practice.

Ice Access Procedure:

Entry onto the ice for all participants will be through the Home Bench. The main arena doors will remain closed for the duration of the ice time.

On-ice Procedure:

- Up to 24 people will be permitted on the ice at any one time including team officials, referees, etc.
- Physical distancing (2m) does not need to be maintained for players in the same cohort. Coaches must maintain a 2m distance or wear a mask.
- Participants and coaches must keep gloves and equipment on at all times. Touching of pucks, nets, dividers and other equipment with bare hands is not permitted
- If a player requires the toilet during practice room 4 will be available.

Ice & Facility Exit Procedure:

- At the end of the ice session participants must leave the ice, put on their mask, and proceed single file, through the Home Bench door to the dressing room hallway.
- Users will collect their belongings and proceed to either change room 4 (max capacity of 12) or to the chairs (max capacity of 6) in the hallway to remove their skates. A minimum of two team officials must be present to supervise the dressing room to abide by the Hockey Canada two-deep rule. Players must physically distance themselves from each other.
- Participants will have 15 minutes to proceed to the exit at the NW end of the hallway which leads to the back lane of Meadow Park.
- The HCSP will stand at back doors by room 4 and see that players are safely returned to their parents
- Parents need to be reminded to be on time and collect their child from the doors at the back of the arena

WMHA Officials and Player Arrival Procedure for Games in the same cohort:

Visiting Team

A visiting team may bring a maximum of 18 players and a total of 22 participants to a game; this total of 22 includes players, coaches, safety people, managers, etc. The visiting team can have as many as 5 team officials on the bench as long as they can maintain a physical distance of 2m between themselves and other team officials. All team officials must be on the official team roster. Team officials must wear a mask at all times. Team officials that are not on the bench are permitted to sit in the bleachers.

Visiting team players and team officials will enter Meadow Park Sports Centre through the back entrance closest to the lobby (see map below). Visiting team players are to arrive at the back door 15 minutes before their scheduled game. A WMHA official will be at the door to meet the team and confirm that all players and team officials entering the facility are on the roster. Visiting team players will walk to the lobby to put on the rest of their equipment. There is a maximum capacity of 24 people in the lobby that must be maintained.



This back entrance will be locked at the start of the team's scheduled gametime. Players must be on time as this door will lock at the start of the scheduled game. If you know you will be late, please re-arrange this with the home Manager/Safety official so someone can meet you at that door to let you in. Please do not enter the front door of MPSC.

Procedure for the Visiting Team Players and Team Officials:

1. Rostered players and team officials will line-up outside the MPSC back entrance, 2 metres apart, fifteen minutes prior to their scheduled game time.

2. A WMHA official will stand at the door and confirm that each participant entering the facility is on the roster and is wearing a mask.
3. Once the participant is cleared for entry by the WMHA official, participants will sanitize their hands - there is a sanitizer stand in the lobby. Participants will reference the COVID-19 Safe Practices banner located just inside the door and adhere to these guidelines while using the facility.
4. Participants will enter the arena lobby and proceed to the designated chairs provided, while remaining physically distanced.
5. Chairs will be used to put-on or tie-up skates, fasten helmets and remove skate guards. Any officials helping require a mask to do so.
6. When the ice is ready, players will take their belongings to the dressing room hallway (outside dressing room #1) before they go on the ice surface - players will not be allowed to re-enter the lobby after practice.

Home Team

A home team may bring a maximum of 18 players and a total of 26 participants to a game; this total of 26 includes players, coaches, safety people, managers, timekeepers, board members, and a volunteer to check-in the visiting team. The home team can have as many as 5 team officials on the bench as long as they can maintain a physical distance of 2m between themselves and other team officials. Team officials must wear a mask at all times. Team officials that are not on the bench are permitted to sit in the bleachers.

Home team players and team officials will enter Meadow Park Sports Centre through the back entrance at the NW side of the building (see map below). Home team players are to arrive at the NW back door 15 minutes before their scheduled game. The HCSP will be at the door to confirm that health questionnaires. Home team players will use the small lobby inside this door (maximum capacity of 3) and the area in the hallway outside dressing room 4 (maximum capacity of 6) to put on the rest of their equipment. **The WMHA, cannot exceed the maximum capacities of 3 in the exit lobby and 6 in the hallway outside dressing room 4 under any circumstances; team officials are included in this number. HCSP's will need to stagger player entries so that that maximum capacities are respected at all times. Failure to meet this requirement will result in WMHA losing their privilege to host games on home ice. Please respect this. Players that come in and are ready can go to the home bench and wait to make space for other players to enter the lobby and hallway.**



This back entrance will be locked at the start of the team's scheduled game time. Players must be on time as this door will lock at the start of the scheduled game. If you know you will be late, please re-arrange this with the home Manager/Safety official so someone can meet you at that door to let you in. Please do not enter the front door of MPSC.

Procedure for the Home Team Players and Team Officials:

1. Participants will line-up outside the back NW entrance, 2 metres apart, fifteen minutes prior to their scheduled game time.
2. The HCSP will stand at the door and confirm health questionnaires and confirm that all participants are wearing masks.
3. The HCSP wills stagger the entry or team officials and players so that the maximum capacities of 3 in the exit lobby and 6 in the hallway outside dressing room 4 are not exceeded.
4. Once the participant is cleared for entry by the HCSP, participants will sanitize their hands - there is a sanitizer stand in the lobby. Participants will reference the COVID-19 Safe Practices banner located just inside the door and adhere to these guidelines while using the facility.
5. Participants will enter the area inside the door (maximum capacity of 3) and the area outside dressing room #4 (maximum capacity of 6) and proceed to the designated chairs provided, while remaining physically distanced.
6. Chairs will be used to put-on or tie-up skates, fasten helmets and remove skate guards.
7. Once players are ready they can go to the home bench and wait to make space for other players to enter the lobby and hallway. Players will leave their belongings in the hallway (outside dressing room #4).

Procedure for the HCSP:

1. The Safety Official will enter the front door of the Meadow Park Sports Centre (MPSC) 20 minutes before their scheduled game time. (If you are arriving with your player they can accompany you when you check-in and proceed to the lobby).
2. The Safety Official will check-in with the front-desk staff.
3. The Safety Official will walk through the lobby to the home team entrance (see map above).
8. The Safety Official will confirm health questionnaires and direct players and team officials to the area described above to put on the rest of their equipment. The Safety Official will stagger the entry of team officials and players so that the maximum capacities of 3 in the exit lobby and 6 in the hallway outside dressing room 4 are not exceeded.
4. At the start of the scheduled game the Safety Official will close the entrance door. This door will lock to the outside.

Please ensure that only players and team officials are entering the facility.

On-ice Procedure for Visitors and Home Teams:

- Up to 40 people will be permitted on the ice at any one time including team officials, referees, etc.
- Physical distancing (2m) does not need to be maintained for players in the same cohort. Coaches must maintain a 2m distance or wear a mask.
- Participants and coaches must keep gloves and equipment on at all times. Touching of pucks, nets, dividers and other equipment with bare hands is not permitted
- If a player requires the toilet during practice room 4 will be available.

Ice & Facility Exit Procedure for Visitors and Home Teams:

- At the end of the ice session participants must leave the ice, put on their mask, and proceed single file, through the designated bench (Visitor or Home) to their designated dressing room.
- Visiting teams will use change room #1, #2 and #3 (total capacity = 18) on exit only. Home teams will use change room #4 and the hallway chair overflow (total capacity = 18) on exit only.
- A minimum of two team officials per team must be present to supervise the dressing room to abide by the Hockey Canada two-deep rule. Players must wear masks and physically distance themselves from each other.
- Participants will have 15 minutes to proceed to the exit at the NW end of the hallway which leads to the back lane of Meadow Park.

- The HCSP will stand at back doors by room 4 and see that players are safely returned to their parents
- Parents need to be reminded to be on time and collect their child from the doors at the back of the arena

Equipment Protocols

Water Bottles

Players should have individually labeled water bottles that are cleaned after use and filled at home. Water bottles cannot be shared. Water bottles are to be placed on the boards of the players benches spread 2 meters apart and clearly labelled for each participant. **Spitting is not permitted anywhere in the facility.**

Hockey Gear

Player equipment should be washed (e.g. jerseys, pant shells, socks) after each practice, following manufacturer guidelines. It is important that players ensure all equipment is kept clean at all times.

Sharing of Equipment

Personal player equipment must not be shared. It is important players come to the arena organized with all of their gear.

Shared Equipment

Where possible, players will use their own equipment. Activities must minimize shared equipment. Where equipment has to be shared, protocols need to be in place for

- regular cleaning,
- disinfection between users and
- hand washing before and after use

As we get closer to the season, we'll provide details on cleaning requirements for specific equipment.

APPENDIX A

Do your Part

Everyone has a part to play to keep all players on the ice safely. The following are based on Hockey Canada Safety Guidelines.

Players

- Always respect and listen to coaches, managers and other staff as they create a safe environment.
- Respect the Meadow Park facility and the facility staff and the guidelines put in place.
- Be familiar with facility guidelines and requirements specific to the prevention of COVID-19.
- Minimize going in and out of doors, including dressing room doors. Facility doors are considered high-risk touchpoints. Use the elbow to open.
- Absolutely no sharing of food or drinks.
- When coughing or sneezing:
 - Cough or sneeze into a tissue or the bend of the arm, not the hand.
 - Dispose of any used tissues as soon as possible in a lined waste basket and wash hands.
 - Avoid touching the eyes, nose or mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid contact with anyone who is sick.
- Follow the instructions of your public health authority if you are notified that you have been in contact with a person who has tested positive for COVID-19.

Parents

- Respect and listen to coaches, managers and other staff as they create a safe environment.
- Respect the MPSC and the facility staff and the guidelines put in place.
- Be familiar with facility guidelines and requirements specific to the prevention of COVID-19.
- Learn and follow the guidelines put in place by the WMHA and volunteer staff.
- Talk to kids about the importance of preventing COVID-19 in the hockey environment, including physical-distancing guidelines.
- Stress washing of hands before leaving for hockey, before going into the rink, after using the washroom, after the hockey activity and after leaving the facility.
- Stress to kids not to touch their faces while at the hockey activity.
- Make sure kids let you know if they are not feeling well.
- Make sure kids have their own clean water bottle, labelled clearly with their name, and stress the importance of not sharing water bottles.
- Follow the instructions of your public health authority if you are notified that you have been in contact with a person who has tested positive for COVID-19.

Coaching Staff & Managers

- Be familiar with public health authority guidelines, and adhere to them.
- Review the WMHA Return to Hockey plan and COVID-19 Safety Plan.
- Be familiar with facility guidelines and requirements specific to the prevention of COVID-19.
- Host an initial meeting with parents/guardians/participants to review how programming will look and allow them to ask questions (can be done virtually if required).
- To minimize large groups in the facility as much as possible, players can meet family in vehicles (if their age permits) to follow physical-distancing requirements of the public health authority and local facilities.
- Minimize congregation in areas of the facility, such as the lobby, as much as possible.
- If there are multiple entrances to the ice surface, split the players into groups and have them space appropriately to meet physical-distancing standards at each entrance.
- Encourage participants to minimize their time in or around the facility. Have participants put on their shoes or skate guards so that they can leave quickly.
- Remind players and parents to follow physical-distancing guidelines when leaving.
- For age groups where parents need to assist players with equipment, limit the number of parents in the dressing room/change area at any one time to one per player. Parent entry should be controlled to meet physical-distancing requirements.
- Follow Hockey Canada guidelines for best practices related to on- and off-ice activities.

Safety Person & Trainer

- Ensure the health and safety of the players and help to create a safe and welcoming environment.
- Educate parents and players on the need for each player to have their own water bottle labelled with their names. Players should take their water bottles home and wash them before the next session.
- Emphasize to players the importance of washing their hands regularly with soap and water or hand sanitizer. Carry extra hand sanitizer and disinfectant wipes in the first-aid kit.
- Emphasize to players the importance of keeping their equipment clean.
- Be familiar with the hygiene protocols from Hockey Canada, viaSport, the WMHA and the RMOW and emphasize to players and parents the need for total cooperation concerning hygiene.
- Work with coaches to support physical distancing, hygiene and return to play after illness.
- The safety person/trainer should wear non-latex gloves on the bench for practices and games.

- Gloves should be worn when handling equipment and when treating a player.
- Hands must be washed and gloves changed between each player contact.
- Cloth masks should be worn when treating players and when physical distancing cannot be practiced. Latex gloves and masks are are stored in the coaches locker