



Covid Coordinator & Hockey Programs Update

April 2021

By Mike Terwilliger

Covid Coordinator:

In December of 2020, my job duties shifted to focus on being the Minnesota Hockey Covid Coordinator. It's been a busy few months in that role. I gave a brief recap of my duties in the January update and the Winter Meetings. From the end of January through the end of the season (March 28th), the Covid Coordinator role continued to take up my time. Things our Return to Play Group navigated and did from January 24th – March 28th were:

- Kept in contact with our associations. We found that the best way to deliver news and updates was via Webinar and Zoom calls. Some updates were done that way, and others were done via Webinar/Zoom when the topic was larger and more important.
- Stayed in daily contact with Association Covid Contacts and helped with
 - o Advice on covid issues and cases
 - o Answered general questions on cases, quarantine guidance, and our Phase 4, 5, and 6 Guidelines as they morphed and evolved.
 - o Connected ACC's with the MDH Sports Team
 - o Worked with a local health organizations (primarily Olmsted and St. Louis Counties) on getting their guidance more in concert with the MDH Sports Team's.
 - o Worked with MDH Sports Team daily to help insure proper reporting of cases and that ACC's were following their guidance.
 - o Worked with most District Directors at one point or another, on Covid Guidance within their district.
- It seemed like about every 2-3 weeks there would be a new "hot button" issue or topic to work through. Some examples were:
 - o Carver County recommended pause from MDH
 - o Updated guidance on shortened quarantines from MDH
 - o Positive Opponent quarantine guidance (i.e. if you play an opponent with a positive case on the ice during the game, both teams have to quarantine)
 - o Different guidance from Local Health vs. MDH Sports Team
- There was relatively little activity once we got to Regions and the State Tournaments which was a blessing. There were a few cases to navigate, but with far fewer teams still playing the number of cases to weigh in on was less.
- Since April, I have been assisting Mac and the High Performance Program on Covid cases they have had.
 - o There has been about 10 cases during the HP Spring Season that I have weighed in on and/or contacted the MDH Sports Team on

- I'll continue to make myself available for covid guidance for the rest of the spring and into the summer events we are running.

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HOCKEY PROGRAMS UPDATE

Spring Clinics:

I have booked clinics at a number of rinks for this summer and fall. Some of the locations so far are: St. Cloud, PIC, Super Rink, Lakeville, Stillwater, New Hope, Burnsville, Shakopee, Luverne, and TRIA Rink. Derek and I will be publishing those dates, clinics, and locations in the next week or so. I'll also let District Directors know the schedule of these. Clinics include

- Girls
- Goalies
- Defense
- Bantam Prep (essentially a re-tooled Body Contact)
- Association

Little Wild:

We have the 14 Little Wild sites staffed with our coaches all leading each site. So far we're 3 weeks in and things are going well. These clinics will be ending over the next few weeks. In the past we've normally had these in the fall and had 65 skaters on the ice....the Spring Little Wild has only 40 skaters on the ice (per Covid Guidelines) and each site has a healthy waiting list. One thing we've noticed is that the general skill level of these beginners is a bit higher as some of the kids have been doing skating lessons or skating outside during the winter....also, for the only time ever, Little Wild is allowing some players that have played 1 year of mites to do it.

Glen is working with the Wild to arrange for Fall sites and we hope that the numbers can be more than 40 per site then.

Girls Gold Rush Camp:

The Girls Gold Rush Camp will be in Burnsville this summer. The dates of it are: August 2nd – 5th. Registration just opened and we're already at 17 players. Lead instructors are Brooke White, Maddie Rooney, Kelly Pannek, and Sid Morin.

Never Too Late Clinic:

We have expanded to 2 sites for this summer's Never Too Late Camp. They are Bloomington Ice Garden and Coon Rapids Ice Center. We're hopeful that Dick's will be a supporter of this again, but if not we're making preparations to help players acquire gear if they need some. The clinic will be a total of 8 times (2 times a week for 4 weeks) and will be primarily in July and into early August. Registration just opened for these clinics and we're up to 9 registered. We're hoping to have at least 20 at each site. In 2019 at the NTL Clinic, we had 23 skaters and 22 registered for hockey that season!

Winter Events Scheduled

We've scheduled these events for the winter at TRIA Rink:

- Ice Bowl Tournament
- Honor The Game Tournament
- 4 Corners – girls 12u B
- 4 Corners – boys PWB

Steering Committee

I'll be meeting with our Steering Committee, led by Tom Slaird the first week in May. Now that Covid is settling down a bit, and we're able to re-introduce some Hockey Programs again, we're going to meet and discuss where things are at, and what makes sense for the next few seasons. Kind of fun to be working on HOCKEY STUFF again 😊