



March 13, 2021

TO: All Associations  
FROM: NYSAHA Board of Directors

All:

On Friday evening the Board of Directors met to discuss and finalize logistics with regard to the State and National Tournaments, and upcoming Tryout Dates, as follows:

- 1) Regarding the State Tournaments, see the below two documents: (i) the 2021 State Tournament COVID-19 Protocols that each participating team in the three State Tournament weekends will be required to follow; and (ii) a Spectator Release form that must be signed by each Spectator who enters the facility (the forms will be provided and collected at entry to the facility). **Please share the Protocols and Spectator Release with your teams and parents.**
- 2) If a team that has committed to participating in its State Tournament changes its plans and decides not to attend, that decision must be communicated to your Section President and the NYSAHA Tournament Director, Mark LaMarr (516-746-1964; [mark.lamarr@nysaha.com](mailto:mark.lamarr@nysaha.com)), **no later than March 19, 2021.**
- 3) With regard to the National Tournaments, there are two (2) important facts that your teams should and must be made aware: (i) if a team participates in the State Tournament and wins, that team will be the NYSAHA representative at that age classification **and the team is required to attend the National Tournament;** and (ii) at this time the only path for a team to qualify for the National Tournament is by winning the State Tournament - - **do not make reservations** unless the team wins and has received documentation from the New York District Registrar regarding that specific national tournament.
- 4) With regards to Tryouts, last week NYSAHA posted that Tryouts would begin as follows: 12U and younger age classifications could start the evening of 4/27/21; and 14U and older age classifications could start the evening of 5/17/21, thereby enabling all teams that participated in National Tournaments to return home and quarantine as was then required under State of New York rules. **HOWEVER, BASED ON NEW RULES ISSUED BY THE STATE OF NEW YORK THAT ANYONE TRAVELING DOMESTICALLY WILL NOT HAVE TO QUARANTINE UPON RETURN AFTER APRIL 1, 2021 UNLESS THEY ARE ILL, NYSAHA HAS CHANGED THE 14U AND OLDER TRYOUTS STARTING DATE TO 5/5/21, WHICH NOW CONFORMS WITH THE USA HOCKEY TRYOUT DATES FOR THE UPCOMING SEASON.**

Any questions, please contact your Section President or me.





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On behalf of the New York State Amateur Hockey Association, Inc.

## Joe Baudo

Joe Baudo  
President  
District Director

cc: NYSAHA Board of Directors



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## **2021 State Tournament COVID-19 Protocols**

New York State Amateur Hockey Association in conjunction with USA Hockey have executed the following protocols for the upcoming New York State Tournament. The protocols set forth in this document will be applied in conjunction with the local and state rules related to organizing gatherings/sporting events during the COVID-19 pandemic. The local and state rules/legislation take precedence if they create a higher restriction.

Each team and participants in the tournament are expected to adhere to best practices for the safety and health of themselves, their teammates, coaches, officials, and other participants, and to help ensure their team's an opportunity to have a successful tournament. This includes following risk mitigation strategies prior to the tournament, during travel, at all times in the arena, and at all times in the hotel, restaurants or other places visited throughout the duration of the tournament.

The NYSAHA has developed a COVID-19 committee that has been working with the local departments of health in order to have this upcoming tournament. The information in this document must be followed at all times in order to ensure a successful hockey weekend.

### **1. Pre-Game Screening**

Prior to entering the facility each individual will need to complete the NYSAHA COVID-19 Questionnaire. Once the questionnaire is completed their temperatures will be taken upon entering the facility. Please read the below instructions for your role in this tournament

### **Teams**

Each team is responsible for completing their team COVID-19 Questionnaire prior to entering the rink. Each team manager, or Head coach will be responsible for submitting the below sheet to the members at the entrance of the facility. Please make sure that this sheet is completed fully and arrives to the arena prior to your scheduled entrance that is determined by the rink specific protocol. This will assure swift entry and avoid delays of completing this form at the entrance. This document below will be emailed to the team manager and head coach prior to the tournament beginning and are responsible for having enough forms to complete the tournament.

**As per Niagara County Department of Health guidance, teams will only be allowed one (1) spectator per player to enter the facility. Coaches, officials, and volunteers are not allowed any spectators.**







- All Participants are entering at will. By participating, everyone acknowledges they are feeling healthy, do not have a fever (temperature over 100.4 degrees) and can honestly answer “have not” to the CDC screening questions “Have you experienced: (1) COVID-19 symptoms in past 14 days, (2) positive COVID-19 test in past 14 days, and/or (3) close or proximate contact with confirmed or suspected COVID-19 case in past 14 days.”
- Each Participant may have no more than one spectator viewing the game.
- Each spectator will be required to sign a release at the entry desk prior to being allowed entry.
- All Participants and spectators must have a NYSAHA contact tracing waiver on file with each site the team is scheduled to play at.
- Participants may not arrive more than 20 minutes before their scheduled start time dressed minus helmets and skates.
- Spectators may not arrive more than 5 minutes before the scheduled game start time, to allow enough time to get the previous users out and public areas sanitized.
- Everyone must wear a mask at all times while in building.
- Everyone must use the hand sanitizer stations.
- Once in the building, you will be directed to the assigned locker room or designated spectator area.
- Follow specific facility guidelines for spectator viewing areas. Practice social distancing!
- Just prior to taking the ice, Participants may remove their masks and properly secure their helmets and exit the locker room.
- Spitting will not be tolerated anywhere within the facility.
- Scorekeepers, clock attendants, coaches, medical personnel and volunteers must wear a mask at all times.
- As much as possible, everyone should maintain 6’ social distancing on and off the ice.
- Showers will NOT be available for participants or officials.
- After game is complete, Participants have 10 minutes to remove their helmets and skates, retrieve belongings and exit. Spectators must exit immediately after the game. No loitering within the facility.
- Please exit the facility promptly and follow the facility specific guidelines for exiting.

### **3. Illness during the tournament**

At any point during tournament play if an individual is not feeling well they should be evaluated by a medical provider prior to showing up to the rink. Failure to act responsibly could jeopardize the entire tournament to early cancellation and not make up for any games. If you are not feeling well, please contact your healthcare provider and seek medical attention. When seeking medical attention outside of the ice rink facility, you will not be allowed to return to the ice rink until you have a New York State Physician Medical Clearance note that states the individual is cleared to return to athletic participation and/or work, as well as contains the following information: Physician’s name, Physician’s License number, address and telephone. If a COVID test was performed, NYSAHA will ask for a copy of the negative test result as well as a medical





clearance note from a New York State Physician in order for an individual to return inside the rink facility.

#### **4. Testing Sites**

In the event that an individual becomes ill, below are various testing sites that can provide a COVID-19 test.

##### **1. Niagara County**

- a. Family Pharmacy Plus: 320 S. Transit St, Lockport, NY 14094. Tel: (716) 433-3733
- b. Niagara County Community College – Diagnostic (Drive-thru): 3111 Saunders Settlement Rd, Sanborn, NY 14132. Tel: (888) 364-3065
- c. Wellnow Urgent Care – Wheatfield: 3190 Niagara Falls Blvd, Wheatfield, NY 14228. Tel: (716) 799-1002
- d. Niagara Falls Urgent Care – Diagnostic: 3117 Military Road Suite 2, Niagara Falls, NY 14304. Tel: (716) 297-2052
- e. Saguaro Bloom Buffalo- (Drive-thru): 500 Crosspoint Parkway, Getzville, NY 14068. Tel: (716) 704-2833
- f. Rosenkrans Pharmacy: 526 Main St., Medina, NY 14103. Tel: (585) 798-1650
- g. Wellnow Urgent Care - Niagara Falls: 7432 Niagara Falls Blvd, Niagara Falls, NY 14304. Tel: (716) 371-4260
- h. CVS Health COVID-19 Drive Thru Testing Site - **By Appointment Only** (Drive-thru): 9300 Transit Road, East Amherst, NY 14051 Tel: (716)-568-1038
- i. Community Health Center of Niagara - Niagara Falls Diagnostic: 2715 Highland Ave, Niagara Falls, NY 14305. Tel: (716) 986-9199

For additional testing sites please visit: <https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/find-test-site-near-you>.

#### **5. Positive Test Result**

If an individual test positive for COVID-19, that individuals' participation in the tournament will terminated. The individual that tested positive is responsible for notifying their respective team leader, and that team leader should immediately report the positive test result to NYSAHA tournament COVID committee. The NYSAHA tournament COVID committee will communicate





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directly with the local department of health to conduct contact tracing. Contact tracing may require individuals of a team to begin quarantine, and will no longer be able to participate in the tournament.



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**Spectator Assumption of Risk, Waiver of Liability, Release And Indemnification Regarding  
The New York State Hockey Association, Inc. (“NYS Hockey”) 2021 State Tournaments**

IT IS THE EXPRESS PURPOSE OF THIS AGREEMENT THAT A SPECTATOR ATTENDING THE 2021 NYS HOCKEY STATE TOURNAMENTS (THE “TOURNAMENTS”) BE REQUIRED TO EXEMPT, WAIVE, RELEASE AND RELIEVE RELEASEES FROM LIABILITY FOR BODILY AND PERSONAL INJURY AND ILLNESS, INCLUDING WRONGFUL DEATH, PROPERTY DAMAGE AND ANY OTHER LOSS SUFFERED BY SPECTATOR CAUSED BY OR ARISING FROM ANY ACT OR OMISSION, INCLUDING THE NEGLIGENCE, IF ANY, OF ANY RELEASEES, WHILE ATTENDING THE TOURNAMENTS.

1. For the purposes of this agreement (“Agreement”), the term “Releasees” includes USA Hockey, Inc., NYS Hockey and its local Associations, member teams, event hosts, sponsors and advertisers, and the respective officers, directors, agents and employees of the foregoing, as well as other participants and attendees, coaches and officials.

2. By signing this Agreement, Spectator acknowledges that he or she is of legal age, or, if under the age of 18, that Spectator’s Parent(s) or Guardian(s) has (have) read this entire Agreement and understands its contents. For and in consideration of the undersigned Spectator’s attendance at the Tournaments, Spectator unconditionally and irrevocably waives, releases, holds harmless and relinquishes to the fullest extent permitted by law, the Releasees from and against any and all claims and demands for liability and cause(s) of action, including for personal injury, illness, wrongful death, property damage, or any other losses incurred by Spectator, arising out of his or her attendance at any Tournament and/or activities incidental thereto, including the premises, services or facilities, whenever or however such occur for the period that Spectator’s attendance may continue and, by this Agreement, any such claims, rights, and causes of action that Spectator may have are hereby waived, released and relinquished, and Spectator does so also on behalf of Spectator’s estate, heirs, executors, administrators and assigns.

3. Spectator acknowledges, understands and agrees that attendance at any Tournament involves risks and dangers including that of sickness arising from any and all communicable disease, germs, bacteria, viruses or infections, including without limitation the virus responsible for COVID-19 (including any variants thereof), whether now known or later discovered. Spectator further acknowledges that there may be risks and dangers not known to Releasees or not reasonably foreseeable at this time. Spectator acknowledges, understands and agrees that all of the risks and dangers described throughout this Agreement, including those caused by the negligence of Spectator, a Releasee, and/or others, are included within the waiver, release and relinquishment described herein.

4. Spectator further acknowledges, understands and assumes the risks, if any, arising from the conditions and use of ice hockey rinks and related premises, and acknowledges and understands that included within the scope of this release is any cause of action (including any cause of action based on negligence) arising from the performance, or failure to perform maintenance, inspection, cleaning, disinfecting, supervision or control of such areas and for the failure to warn of dangerous



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conditions existing at such rinks, for negligent selection of certain Releasees, or negligent supervision or instruction by any Releasee.

5. Spectator willingly agrees to comply with the stated and customary terms and conditions for attendance at each Tournament, including with respect to protection against infectious diseases. If Spectator observes any unusual or significant hazard during his or her attendance, Spectator agrees to remove himself or herself therefrom and immediately bring such hazard to the attention of the nearest Tournament official or administrator. Spectator understands that while applicable facility and Tournament rules and personal discipline may reduce these risks, the risk of serious illness and death does exist.

6. Spectator agrees that, if any claim for Spectator's personal injury, death or property damage is commenced against any Releasee, Spectator (or his or her estate, as applicable) shall defend, indemnify and save harmless such Releasee with respect to any and all claims or causes of action (including costs and legal fees) by whomever or wherever made or presented for Spectator's personal injuries, death or property damage.

7. Spectator acknowledges, understands and agrees that he or she has: (a) had sufficient time to read and consider the terms of this Agreement; (b) been fully advised of, and understands, the potential dangers of attending a Tournament; (c) not relied upon any representations, statements or inducements of any Releasee that are not set forth in this Agreement; and (d) signed this Agreement voluntarily and without any duress, understanding that these waivers and releases are necessary to allow Spectator to attend any Tournament.

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_, 2021

\_\_\_\_\_  
Spectator's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Spectator's Name (please print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature  
(if participant is 17 years of age or younger)



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