

Frequently Asked Questions

2020-21 Season



1. Who decides on the process in which hockey returns?

Coordination between Ontario Public Health, Hockey Canada, OHF and OWHA

2. What do I do if my child or anyone tests positive for COVID-19?

Stay home and out of the hockey environment. It is also important to communicate with your physician and Niagara Regional public health authority, ensuring we follow the steps identified.

3. What is Modified Gameplay?

3on3 or 4on4, rules created by OWHA to reduce physical contact. There is no timetable on a return to 5on5 at this time

4. Team sizes?

Team sizes will vary to comply with OWHA and Public Health Units (PHU) of 50 total participants in a group for gameplay which includes Coaches and Trainers. Example 4 teams of 9 and a goalies with a coach and trainer will = 48 participants

5. Practices/Development numbers?

Mandate is 30 total participants on the ice at once this number to include coaches and trainers. Number is set by facilities and PHU.

6. Will we be playing in the Greater Hamilton Girls Hockey League?

At this time it is more likely that we will be playing within our Niagara Regional Public Health Unit with St.Catharines and Niagara Falls.

7. Should players/parents/coaches wear masks entering the facility and dressing room?

It is recommended anyone entering the facility should wear a cloth mask when physical distancing cannot be followed (it may also be required by the facility). Continue to monitor public health authority guidelines specific to wearing masks. Wearing a mask alone will not prevent the spread of COVID-19. You must consistently and strictly adhere to good hygiene and public health measures, including frequent hand washing and physical distancing. Niagara Regional

temporary mandatory mask bylaw in effect until Oct 1,2020. For important information on masks, please [CLICK HERE](#).

8. Is it a requirement for all individuals, regardless of their age, to wear a mask in the facility?
It is important to check public health authority information on masks. Currently the Niagara Public Health bylaw recommends cloth masks not being placed on children under five years of age.

9. Difference between U22 Intermediate and Senior HL +19?
Biggest is time, U22 will have more games a week while Sr. to play approximately once a week. Sr. is for busy women or College/University students not having a lot of time to play regularly. It is also for women who just want to keep playing at any age.

10. Will locker rooms be open?
Currently, until further notice facility guidelines players may need to come partially dressed, with limited time in the dressing rooms. Social distance is required. Possibly 15min before and 15min less. If this changes we will notify everyone.

11. Can players play both in OWHA and OMHA or Alliance
No, only under one governing body

12. Process this season?
Practice/Development September, October begins modify gameplay set by guidelines established by OWHA

13. Tournaments/Leagues
None this season just established group play

14. Traveling?
Travel is greatly reduced this season as we are going to remain in our PHU at this time.

15. Sr. Fundamentals?
Open to women 19+ who want to learn the fundamentals of hockey and just never had a chance to. Never too late to learn

16. Will coaches be permitted to be within two metres to help and support the player?
It is recommended that public health authority guidelines are adhered to and that instruction be given practicing physical distancing until further notice. Niagara Region requires everyone to wear masks. It is important to note that the safety person (Trainer) or coach may need to be within two metres of a player if the player suffers an injury, but the safety person (Trainer) or coach should wear a mask and, as recommended in the Hockey Canada Safety Program, non-latex gloves if treating a player for an injury.

17. Will parents be allowed in the stands to watch games?

Until further notice or directions from public health authority and facility guidelines there are no spectators. Families should be prepared to minimize the number of parents/guardians/spectators that attend in order to limit the number of people in the facility.

18. Should I disinfect my child's hockey gear after each practice/game?

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

19. Should I sanitize water bottles after each practice/game?

Bottles should be labelled and washed after each practice or game. There shall be no sharing of any water bottles at any time.

20. Novice HL

Will be half -ice development/practices until January, then we can plan for some half-ice gameplay against other Associations.

We hope the above questions and answers help everyone get an understanding on what is occurring this season. Please review our Return to Play, OWHA Return to Play and our Covid-19 Protocol.

See You At The Rink!