

Covid-19 Policy

Grand Traverse Hockey Association

Statement as of September 1, 2020, Covid-19 Policy and Release of Liability

As of the date of this statement, Grand Traverse Hockey Association (“GTHA”) is hoping for a full hockey season. If the State of Michigan prohibits the continuation of youth sports, including ice hockey, during the season due to Covid-19, we will first assess the possibility of pausing and extending the season. We would like to remind our families that GTHA is a non-profit organization. We do not get refunds for ice time or officials if we cancel scheduled practices or games. In the event of a shortened season, however, we will address the need for credits or refunds to our members at the end of the season.

Our Covid-19 Policy is below. Please carefully read the Policy and the below Release of Liability.

As outlined in the Policy, we are taking numerous health and safety precautions this season, however, players and parents should understand the following:

- Your child may be exposed to Covid-19 through playing hockey. The State of Michigan has classified hockey as a “higher risk” sport for the spread of Covid-19.
- If anyone in your household has Covid-19, no one in your family may attend hockey activities unless otherwise allowed as provided herein.
- Your child and you, if you are a coach, may be required to quarantine due to a positive case of Covid-19 on your child’s team, or on another GTHA team you practiced with or on an outside team you played a game against.
- In the event of a positive case of Covid-19 in the program or opposing team, the local health department (LHD) will decide whether any individuals or teams must quarantine. GTHA does **not** make the decision but, for contact tracing purposes, we may be required to provide your name, contact information, the team’s hockey schedule and any other information requested to the LHD in the event your team may be impacted.
- In the event of a quarantine, your child may not be able to attend school and other activities in person for an extended period of time as determined by the LHD (currently 10-14 days, but subject to change). Coaches, parents, volunteers and others involved who are quarantined may not be able to go to work in person.
- Your child and their teammates, coaches and others may miss hockey due to a quarantine originating outside of hockey through school, another activity or work. If there are not enough players, games may be canceled. Eligibility for MAHA state tournaments is not guaranteed.

- You will not receive a refund of your hockey fees in the event of any quarantines, team or individual, even if hockey related, or canceled practices or games. This is consistent with our existing practice for injured or ill players and cancellations and reflects our obligation to still pay for ice time.
- Anyone who demonstrates a disregard for any GTHA, UA Hockey, MAHA, state or local Covid-19 protocols may be suspended by GTHA from hockey activities temporarily or for the season. Refunds will not be given.
- Subject to the then existing Orders, laws, rules and regulations, masks must be worn at all times, no exceptions. This means players, coaches, spectators, managers and anyone involved in team activities, must comply. Currently, GTHA plans to use locker rooms on a limited basis but can and will suspend use of locker rooms.

Parent Assumption of Risk, Release and Hold Harmless

PARTICIPATION IN A GTHA HOCKEY ON-ICE ACTIVITY BY YOU OR YOUR CHILD OR REGISTRATION FOR A PROGRAM DURING THE 2020-2021 SEASON CONSTITUTES YOUR AGREEMENT, ON BEHALF OF YOURSELF, YOUR CHILD AND YOUR FAMILY UNIT, TO (1) COMPLY WITH THE COVID-19 POLICY, (2) ASSUME ALL RISKS OF TRANSMISSION AND COMPLICATIONS OF COVID-19 AND (3) RELEASE AND HOLD HARMLESS GTHA AND ITS HOME ICE FACILITIES FROM ALL LIABILITY, DAMAGES AND LOSSES ARISING FROM YOUR PARTICIPATION AND YOUR CHILD'S PARTICIPATION IN ACTIVITIES ORGANIZED, HOSTED, SPONSORED OR PARTICIPATED IN BY GTHA.

Grand Traverse Hockey Association

COVID-19 POLICY FOR 2020-2021 SEASON

This Policy outlines the health and safety protocols adopted by GTHA for the 2020-2021 season in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. It will be updated if needed based on new information. The Policy shall apply to all participants in GTHA's House, Travel and Girls programming and their families and all associated coaches, volunteers and other attendees. The Policy is deemed accepted and agreed to by all such players, coaches, volunteers and families upon their family member's participation in a GTHA Hockey sponsored activity.

I. Obligations of Players, Parents, Coaches and Volunteers

1) **GOLDEN RULE – STAY HOME IF SICK OR IF DIRECTLY EXPOSED TO COVID-19.** Do NOT come to a practice or game (a) if you have any symptoms of Covid-19 or ANY other illness, (b) if you have had close contact (within 6 feet for more than 15 minutes) with anyone confirmed with Covid-19 in the last 2 weeks, or (c) if you have a fever of 100.4° or higher, even if you are not sick.

- Monitor for symptoms of illness and take the temperature of you and your child prior to coming to the rink (home or away).
- You will be asked to leave if you come to the rink when you are sick.

2) Respect for Your Team. Be aware that your actions may effect your entire team, other GTHA teams, opposing teams, coaches, referees, parents, and many others and take reasonable precautions to protect your own health and that of your teammates and coaches.

- Practice social distancing and masking outside of hockey and be sensible about higher-risk activities.
- Practice good hygiene – wash and/or sanitize your hands frequently, including upon entering the rink, carry your own hand sanitizer and cleaning wipes, wash your jerseys regularly and air out/clean your hockey gear after every use.

3) Respect for the Rules. Respect and strictly adhere to (A) all rink restrictions for all games, home and away, (B) all rules of hosting programs, including GTHA events, and (C) all additional on-ice and locker room health and safety precautions requested by Center Ice/Howe, your Head Coach, and those requirements required by MAHA and GTHA.

4) Reporting of Illness. Promptly report to your Head Coach and Division Vice President by email if you or a household member are sick. **Do not come to the rink while waiting for the results of a Covid-19 test.**

- You will not be penalized for missing hockey for these reasons and your commitment will not be questioned so long as you communicate promptly, openly and honestly.

5) Medical Diagnosis. Promptly seek a medical diagnosis if you are sick and promptly report to your Head Coach and Division Vice President whether you have been diagnosed with Covid-19 (yes or no).

6) Quarantines. Promptly report to your Head Coach and Division Vice President if you are subject to a quarantine for any reason, even if you are not sick. You may not participate in GTHA Hockey activities until such quarantine expires.

- Quarantines may be required due to travel or exposure at school, another sports team or work or due to a household member.

7) Personal Travel. Use reasonable judgment in avoiding discretionary travel to a “hot spot” or “restricted state.” State quarantine requirements due to travel must be strictly followed.

8) Other Risks of Exposure. Use reasonable judgment regarding whether to refrain from hockey activities and/or quarantine and/or take a Covid-19 test if you have close, sustained contact with someone from a “hot spot” or “restricted state” or if you are otherwise at high risk of having been exposed to Covid-19 (i.e., a houseguest who becomes ill with symptoms of Covid-19, etc.).

9) Team Socializing. Use reasonable judgment if engaging in activities with your team outside of the rink. Team dinners and team get-togethers are discouraged.

- The State may impose specific restrictions and best practices for health and safety should be followed at all times for any team socializing, including social distancing, masking, cleaning, no sharing of food, staying outdoors if possible, etc.

10) No Sharing of Equipment and Food. Do not share water bottles, food/snacks (unless individually wrapped) or any protective hockey equipment with any other player.

II. Health and Safety Protocols for Hockey Activities

Subject to the existing Orders, laws, rules and regulations:

- 1), Masks must be worn by all participants and attendees at all times, no exceptions. Coaches must wear masks as well and should avoid close contact with players.
- 2) Everyone in attendance at an activity should remain socially distanced off the ice and masks must be worn.

3) Social distancing between players will be employed on the ice at practices as much as possible and may include limiting numbers on the ice and/or rotating players on the bench or off the ice.

•Certain on-ice drills will involve close contact but will be limited to players on the same team. Games involve close contact among teammates and players from the other team.

4) Players (other than goalies) should come as dressed as possible in their hockey gear. Social distancing and masks are required in locker rooms at all rinks. Time in the locker room should be minimized and in no event exceed 15 minutes. Players may choose not to use the locker rooms.

5) Locker rooms at Centre Ice, if open, will be assigned by rink management staff. Other locker rooms are off limits. No one should travel between locker rooms.

6) Ice cuts will be done between practice sessions for spacing and cleaning purposes, with limited exceptions as set forth in the ice schedule and managed by Centre Ice personnel.

7) Spectators at practices and games (home and away) will be limited in number as required by State orders and rink policies. Health screening questionnaires and temperature checks will be required for all participants. Rink policies have been communicated by email, on the website and in signs at the rink.

8) Shared equipment, such as pucks, nets, cones, benches and time clock, will be handled by as few people as possible (primarily coaches/volunteers/officials) and, where feasible, wiped down periodically.

9) No huddles unless safely spaced and no fist bump or hand-shake lines.

III. Program Protocols

1) Compliance with Orders and Guidance. All applicable and mandatory government orders and all rules of the governing hockey authorities and hosting facilities shall be followed. All non-mandatory guidance shall be followed to the extent applicable and practical in the context of GTHA's activities.

2) Changes to Program. If it is not practical for GTHA to follow an order or guidance, either from a logistical or cost perspective, GTHA may modify, limit, reduce, cancel or discontinue all or part of its programs. GTHA may also adopt additional measures to ensure the health and safety of the community, including cancellation of practices, games and programs.

3) Confidentiality and Sharing of Information with Health Department. Information provided to GTHA regarding the health status of a player, coach or family member will be treated confidentially. To expedite contact tracing in our program, however, we will report a positive case of Covid-19 of any player or coach to the local health department as

explained below. We may also notify our program, without identifying the individual or the impacted team(s), that a player or coach has tested positive for Covid-19.

4) Attendance Tracking; Alternates. For contact tracing purposes, Teams must track attendance of players and assistant coaches at all practices and games. Game sheets must accurately reflect attendance of all players on both teams. Managers should track attendance at other team activities. Coaches and teams should be prepared to play games with short benches.

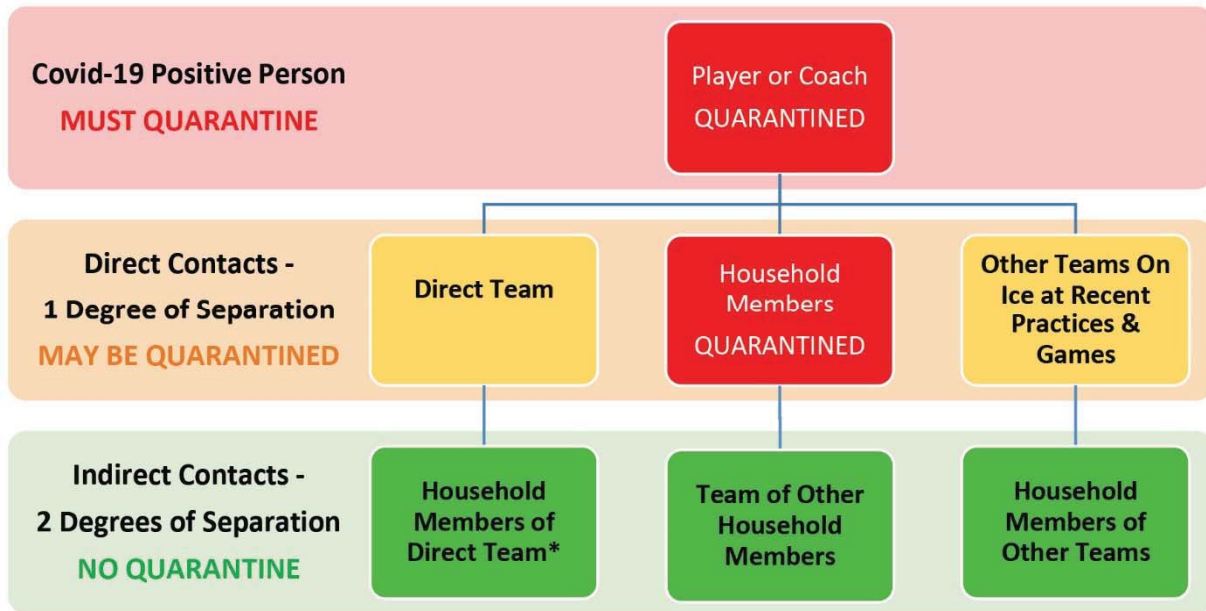
5) Game Restrictions. Games against out-of-state teams played at Centre Ice/Howe are discouraged. Away games against out-of-state teams should be minimized. No games (home or away) may be played in or against a team from a “restricted state” or an area subject to a travel advisory. If a state or local order prohibits hockey or youth sports games in a particular geographic area (town, city, county), games (home and away) in or against teams from such area should be canceled even if local rinks in that area are open.

6) Tournaments. GTHA has cancelled our tournament schedule for the 2020-2021 season. Teams are discouraged from participating in other tournaments, particularly if out-of-state, even if the state is not restricted. Teams may not participate in any tournament in which a team from a “restricted state” is participating.

7) Violations. Anyone who demonstrates a disregard for any GTHA, state or local Covid-19 rules may be suspended from hockey activities temporarily or for the season or subject to review by GTHA’s Executive Board for other disciplinary action, up to and including expulsion from the Association. Refunds will not be given.

Quarantining of Teams and Individuals If a Player or Coach Tests Positive for Covid-19

GTHA will work closely with the local health department (**LHD**) of any player or coach who tests positive for Covid-19 in order to expedite contact tracing in our program. Laboratories report positive cases to the State and LHD, which performs contact tracing for all individuals who reside in their district. The following illustration outlines when a GTHA Hockey team or participants will or may be required by the LHD to quarantine due to a positive case. Anyone subject to a quarantine will be prohibited from participating in GTHA Hockey activities until cleared per the LHD protocols. Refunds will not be given due to quarantines, even if hockey related. Quarantines may result in game cancellations and may render an individual or a team ineligible for MAHA state tournaments.



*Unless household member is also a player or coach on the diagnosed person's team.

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| Red | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Player or coach who tests positive must notify GTHA and quarantine along with their household members per physician's orders and LHD/CDC protocol. 2) Laboratories report positive cases to the State/LHD. GTHA will also report the positive case to the LHD to expedite contact tracing within our program. |
| Yellow | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3) GTHA will cooperate with the LHD for contact tracing purposes. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o LHD will request the names, contact information and team hockey schedule of everyone on the direct team and potentially any other team at its practices or games within the incubation period (currently 2 days prior to symptoms or, if none, test date). 4) The LHD will determine which teams or individuals must quarantine based on the likelihood, timing, nature and duration of close contact at hockey activities and the safety precautions in place (distancing, masking, etc.). 5) The LHD will notify all impacted individuals and GTHA of any quarantines. 6) GTHA will cancel/reschedule practices and games as needed. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o If, due to absence at a hockey activity, an individual player or coach is not subject to a team quarantine, team activities may still be canceled. |
| Green | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No action taken by GTHA. • No additional quarantines in effect. |