



2020-2021
COVID19 POLICY

Return To Play



Espanola Minor Hockey Association
PO Box 5076
Espanola, ON P5E 1S1
espanolaminorhockey.com

Message from The Executive

Since early March 2020, the world as we know it has changed dramatically. Many of our day to day routines and activities have been forever altered by COVID-19. Hockey is not immune. As we prepare for the next season. Communities and facilities across Canada have been working closely with their governing bodies to ensure a safe return to play while upholding the same values and equal play opportunities for all participants.

Our Executive is committed to ensuring that we provide the highest quality programming within the safest environment possible. We will continue to develop policies and work closely with our local facilities and municipalities within the confines of our health unit directives. By working together, as a community, we will be able to offer a safe hockey environment for our children to develop on and off the ice.



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Message from Hockey Canada

Health and safety are our priorities in establishing the guidelines for the Return to Hockey. While these guidelines apply on a national basis; it is important to recognize that most health and safety protocols are managed at the provincial/territorial level.

This comprehensive document is tailored for local use and allows for provincial/territorial/municipal guidelines to be implemented. It should be used in concert with public health authority guidelines, as well as Member guidelines.

Given the fluid nature of the situation and the corresponding provincial/territorial public health advice, we have provided links to government resources to allow our Members to be up to date in their local jurisdictions. We highly encourage you to review these links for the most up-to-date information on the COVID-19 response.

Dr. Mark Aubry
Chief Medical Officer



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Public Health Sudbury & Districts

1. Everyone must wear a face covering such as:

- a. a medical mask
- b. a non-medical mask
- c. a bandana
- d. a scarf
- e. cloth that covers the mouth and nose.

NOTE: Face shields are not acceptable forms of a face covering for the purpose of these instructions.

2. Must follow when in a building:

- a. Physical distancing of two meters
- b. Face covering required if physical distancing is not possible
- c. Routine screening for COVID-19 symptoms (including requiring those with symptoms to stay home and advise to be tested)
- d. Hand hygiene, cough, and sneeze etiquette
- e. Enhanced cleaning and disinfecting of surfaces

3. Section 1 & 2 does NOT apply if:

- a. Underage of two, or underage of 5 chronologically or developmentally who refuse to wear face covering
- b. People with medical conditions
- c. People who cannot wear or remove face covering without assistance
- d. For religious or cultural reasons



Public Health
Santé publique
SUDBURY & DISTRICTS

1300 rue Paris St
Sudbury ON P3E 3A3
T: 705-522-9200
F: 705-522-5182



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Hygiene

WHAT YOU CAN DO TO PREVENT THE SPREAD OF VIRUSES & STAY HEALTHY

- Wash your hands with soap and warm water for 20 seconds. If unavailable, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze, or cough/sneeze in your upper sleeve.
- Immediately throw away used tissues in the trash, then wash hands.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces, such as doorknobs, handles, light switches, tables, toilets, faucets, sinks and cell phones.
- Avoid touching common surfaces in public places – elevator buttons, door handles, handrails, etc. Use elbows or knuckles to push buttons when you do not have a tissue or sleeve to cover your hand or finger.
- Make sure others in your household, or anyone you are regularly in close contact with, follow these precautions.



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Facility Guidelines

GENERAL OVERVIEW

- Participation will be limited to the player and 1 Chaperone.
- All parties entering the facility are always required to wear a mask covering both nose and mouth.
- Players will be able to remove their mask while on the ice pad.
- Equipment will be worn to the rink apart from the players helmet, skates, and gloves.
 - Remaining items should be put on as fast as possible while exercising distance requirements and following the guidelines outlined by the arena.
- No dry land training or off ice warmups will be permitted.
- At the beginning of the season no dressing rooms, lockers or showers will be provided.
- Water fill stations will be shut off so be prepared to bring your own pre-filled water bottle.
- Upon completion of the allocated timeslot all participants are asked to return directly to their belongings and exit the facility as quickly as possible.
 - This will allow for proper sanitization of all areas prior to the next groups times lot.
 - Hand sanitizer and signage will direct flow and help with the evolving practices and procedures.



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EMHA Screening Guidelines

COVID-19 BUILDING ENTRY PROCEDURE

Before you leave your home to travel to an EMHA event you must complete the following health screening. You will be asked these questions upon your arrival at the arena which will be documented for insurance and compliance purposes.

SCREENING QUESTIONS

Are you currently experiencing any of the following?

1. Do you have any of the following symptoms:
 - a. Fever/feverish feeling
 - b. Chills
 - c. Dry cough
 - d. Difficulty breathing
 - e. Digestive symptoms such diarrhea, vomiting, or abdominal pain
2. Have you traveled within the last 14 days outside the area?
3. Have you had close contact with a confirmed / probable COVID-19 case?

SCREENING RESPONSES

If you ANSWERED **NO** to the above questions:

You may enter the arena / travel to your event location while maintaining social distancing of 6 feet between persons.

If you ANSWERED **YES** to any of the above questions, or refused to answer:

You are NOT allowed to travel or participate with EMHA. We advise that you follow your local health unit guidelines.



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Presumed or Positive COVID-19 Test

Immediate Removal From
Hockey Environment For
Anyone Within The Home



Report To Public Health
Authority and Follow
Guidelines



Public Health Authority
Determines Communication
Protocol And Contact Tracing



Note Required From A
Physician Or Public Health
Authority To Return To Play



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Conclusion

These uncertain times have necessitated specific measures to allow us to return to the sport we love. The Town of Espanola and EMHA Executive have worked with its Members and subject-matter experts within their applicable expertise to prepare our participants in the best manner possible.

We encourage a full understanding of these health and safety protocols and full distribution throughout our participant base. We fundamentally believe these protocols, if adhered to, put our Members and all participants in the best position to return to hockey in a safe and healthy manner. Together, we can return to the sport we love and do so in an environment that is as safe as possible.