



AFHA Safety Checklist for Return to Play

Welcome back! AFHA is excited for our hockey season to begin. Given these unique times, below is a reminder of the next expectations highlighted in the AFHA Return to Hockey COVID- 19 Safety Plan.

As Dr. Bonnie Henry reminds us, this isn't forever, but for now. We ask parents to review these procedures and have a discussion with your kids about what the new procedures and expectations are. Each team will have a volunteer COVID officer available during all sessions to help answer any questions, but please remember these are also volunteers and we are all learning as we move forward. These are new habits that we have to form as we are permitted to get back on the ice! In advance, we thank you and appreciate your help in adhering to these guidelines.

Before departing for the arena:

Conduct a self-assessment for COVID-19 symptoms.

All individuals entering the arena must confirm they are symptom free prior to entering the Arena (participants will need to complete online tracking in TeamSnap once the system is live).

- In the past 14 days, have you had a fever, cough, difficulty breathing, or had any other symptoms of, or tested positive for Covid-19;
- To your knowledge, has anyone you lived with or have been in close contact with in the past 14 days had a fever, cough, or difficulty breathing, or had any other symptoms of or tested positive for Covid-19;
- Have you traveled outside of BC/Canada in the past 14 days;
- Are you currently subject to a quarantine or self-isolation order?

If you answered yes to at least 1 of the above 4, contact the COVID officer immediately. DO NOT come to the arena.

Preparing to arrive at the arena

- Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds;
- Put on your hockey equipment. Departing for the arena you will be wearing shoes and/or skates with skate guards. Otherwise, you will be in full gear (goalie exemption – pads and skates can be put on at the arena). If there is a safety concern i.e. cannot wear hockey gear in a car seat, or you are driving, please put your gear on prior to entering the building;
- Fill your clearly labelled water bottle and bring it with you to the arena. Water filling stations will not be available. Come prepared;
- Tape your sticks before arriving at the arena. Sharing of tape once at the arena is not permitted;

When arriving at the arena

- Players need to be ready outside at the Sports Entrance 15 minutes before the start of session. **BE ON TIME.** If you're early, please wait in your vehicle until 15 minutes prior to the start of your session;
- One parent/ family member **ONLY** permitted to enter with players, siblings and young children will not be permitted;
- All participants and spectators waiting to enter the arena must maintain appropriate physical distancing (2 Metres) in line up.** Failure to do so may result in being denied entry to the arena.
- Players / spectators will be asked to sanitize their hands upon entry;
- You will be greeted by a team volunteer and be signed in and directed to either dressing room or lobby seating spot to put on skates;
- Players will proceed to the designated area to put on their skates; spectators who are not volunteering will move to designated spectator seating; no group discussions in the lobby.

AFHA Safety Checklist for Return to Play

- Players will take their belongings (including their filled water bottle) and proceed to the ice (will wait in designated lineup location maintaining physical distancing);
- Players will use appropriate entrance to ice and maintain distancing while entering ice surface;
- Spectators will utilize appropriately marked spectator areas and maintain social distancing during ice time.

During Ice Session

- In addition to the physical distancing guides on the benches and boards, markers will be placed on the ice boards/ glass to remind players of the 2-meter physical distancing expectations when active during the drill. All drills will be based on individual skill development. Body contact is not permitted in this Return to Hockey phase;
- There is a maximum 20 skaters and 5 team officials on ice/ in arena; maximum 20 spectators, which also includes the volunteers. (Abbotsford Ice Rink max 12 skaters / 3 team officials on ice)
- No sharing of water bottles or equipment (tape or wax). Come prepared;
- Avoid shaking hands, touching your face or removing your helmet or gloves during the ice session, No spitting allowed;
- Use designated rest rooms only (see chart/ signage at each arena).

Emergency response during Ice time

- All teams have a first aid kit that includes gloves, masks and hand sanitizer and cleaning materials as well as normal first aid kit items;
- All team officials including coaches, manager, HCSP and COVID officer responsible for ensuring COVID protocols followed. Zero tolerance for not following protocol. **If protocol is not followed, the individual will be asked to leave the arena;**
- Any player who develops symptoms/ becomes sick puts on a mask and is taken to an isolation room; COVID officer / check in parent monitor (ideally outside room; with masks if inside room); HCSP stays with the team. The Participating parent takes the participant out of the arena.

After Ice Session

- Shower facilities will not be available;
- Players will have 10 minutes to put on their shoes/skate guards within the designated space provided;
- Players will exit fully dressed through the designated doors;
- No group discussions within the rink (players, team officials or spectators).

Safety & Disinfecting Measures

- Player seating/ skate tying areas will not be disinfected between players/ ice sessions.
- Spectator areas will not be disinfected between ice sessions.
- No showers, players should bring their own towel which must be put into a bag and taken from the arena.
- Wash all water bottles, gear, jersey and equipment between ice sessions

The above measures are in place for the benefit and safety of our members and staff as the top priority. The above measures comply with the ViaSport / BC Government Return To Play Phase 2 guidelines. Should anyone not be prepared to meet the above guidelines, please contact the AFHA Communication Officer (778) 899-2364 immediately as these requirements are mandatory.

We are monitoring all procedures on a week-by-week basis and changes may be made based on direction provided by Public Health or the City of Abbotsford.