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Hockey PEI Return to Hockey Phase 4 Protocols Summary Phase 4 effective on October 13

Dear Hockey PEI Members:

On October 1, 2020, Prince Edward Island moved to a “New Normal” phase. This phase brings some changes to gathering limits and cohorts, as well as some changes to restrictions around sports and recreation.

The Hockey PEI Board of Directors has approved a move to a revised Phase 4 of the Return to Hockey Plan. This document is to help navigate the details of our new Phase 4, along with highlighting specific areas of concern that we believe our members will frequently have questions about. As a general rule, physical distancing must be adhered to where at all times possible.

Playing hockey right now is a privilege. Many provinces across the country are not playing games or are faced with significant restrictions in the way they play. Cooperation and buy-in from our membership will be integral in ensuring that we are able to operate despite the on-going pandemic.

Thank you in advance for keeping our great game safe. Good luck this season!

Regards,

Mike Hammill
President

This document is for ease of reference only. The Updated Hockey PEI Return to Hockey Plan, all facility rules and guidelines, and CPHO Guidelines must continue to be strictly followed. The Return to Hockey Plan, along with these protocols, can change at any time.





1. SPECTATORS

Please see our [Guidance re: Spectators and Gatherings](#) and the CPHO's [New Normal: Multiple Gatherings](#).

Spectators will be required to wear masks while attending any Hockey PEI activities.

Hockey PEI fully encourages facilities hosting spectators where safe to do so. Hockey PEI does not have authority over facility operational plans and cannot guarantee that all facilities will allow spectators; however, Minor Hockey Associations have been and will continue to be encouraged to work with facilities in hosting multiple gatherings, so that spectators can attend Hockey PEI activities.

2. PARTICIPANT TRACKING

****STAY AT HOME IF YOU DO NOT FEEL WELL OR HAVE BEEN ADVISED TO SELF-ISOLATE BY PUBLIC HEALTH****

All players, coaches, officials and spectators must be tracked and that information must be stored for 30 days for the purposes of potential contact tracing.

Those participating or attending a Hockey PEI activity are required to pre-screen prior to arriving at the activity; by attending, that participant is acknowledging that they pass the screening requirements. The pre-screening requirements will be frequently communicated to ensure individuals understand when they may not be permitted to attend.

It will be the responsibility of the Team Liaison to ensure all participants associated with their team (parents and spectators included) are tracked appropriately.

3. PHASE 4 - AREAS OF FOCUS

While there are no significant rule changes under Phase 4, there are some changes to the way we play in order to accommodate CPHO guidelines. All of these measures are **mandatory** and are in place to reduce the risk of transmission where possible.

Game play modifications are subject to change at any time throughout the season. If there are changes, we will give as much notice to the membership as we can.



- ON-ICE COHORT

The on-ice cohort is a maximum of 50 individuals.

Games will be restricted to the following number of participants:

- 1 off-ice official (timekeeper/scorekeeper)
- 1 trainer (to be provided by the home team)
- 4 on-ice officials (3 where required)
- 22 maximum participants per team (combination of players and coaches, e.g. 18 players & 4 coaches, 20 players & 2 coaches, etc.)

If there are exceptional circumstances, Hockey PEI must provide pre-approval.

No handshakes pre or post-game.

- MASKS

With the exception of players on the ice surface (and coaches during practice), masks must be worn by Hockey PEI members, including:

- Entering and exiting the facility
- Spectators
- In dressing rooms by players (until they are putting helmets on to go onto the ice) and bench staff
 - o When applying mask in dressing room post-game or practice: first wash/sanitize hands and wash face with a clean cloth before applying.
- Bench staff on the bench
- On-ice officials in dressing rooms
- Off-ice officials

Recognizing that there are some instances in which masks cannot be worn, exemptions may be made by the Minor Hockey Associations or Hockey PEI when accompanied by a physician's note.

- BENCHES

Physical distancing must be maintained where possible. While during game play it may be unavoidable to sit within proximity of one another, there are some measures around benches that need to be taken:

- No team cheers
- No team huddling around the benches
- Officials will be encouraged to start play quickly between period to avoid any congregating around benches

All players must have their own water bottles and those bottle are to be clearly identified.





- HAND HYGIENE

Hand sanitizer must be available to members in dressing rooms, on the bench, and in the penalty boxes. If the facility does not provide sanitizer in these areas, it shall be the team's responsibility.

When entering the facility and dressing rooms, all members must sanitize their hands.

- SCRUMS & ALTERCATIONS

Physical distancing after the whistle is of the utmost importance. Players are expected to immediately separate and distance themselves in between whistles.

There will be zero tolerance for face-washing. This will immediately result in a double-minor for head contact.

Officials are being encouraged to utilize their whistles to stop play earlier and prevent unnecessary scrums or altercations.

Penalties will be assessed to players causing scrums or altercations or those who are not abiding by whistles or instructions to leave the area.

No fighting at any level.

- SPITTING

No spitting is permitted at any time.

If a team is warned multiple times about spitting, officials will assess an Unsportsmanlike Conduct minor penalty Rule 9.2(a).

- BODY CONTACT

Regular body contact during game play is allowed where allowed under Hockey Canada and Hockey PEI Rules and Regulations; **however, players must physical distance immediately after the completion of a play.**

Players are encouraged to prevent unnecessary contact or collisions where possible.



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- DRESSING IN EQUIPMENT PRIOR TO TRAVEL

Some facilities may be mandating that players arrive dressed in their equipment prior to entering the facility.

When player safety might be compromised by riding in a car seat fully dressed in hockey equipment, the child should leave home partially dressed in their equipment where possible, and should put on the remainder of the equipment after arriving at, but before entering, the facility.

It is, however, recommended that players dress in their under-gear prior to arriving at the facility to reduce time spent in dressing rooms.

4. TOURNAMENTS & INTER-PROVINCIAL TRAVEL

Tournaments and Inter-provincial competition are not approved as of October 13; however, we plan to have a further update on these by November 1.

It is our intention to allow for inter-provincial competition and tournaments in the near future.

