

Return to Hockey Plan

Prepared by South Muskoka Minor Hockey for review by OMHA





Return to Hockey Plan

Overview

South Muskoka Minor Hockey Association (SMMHA) has developed this plan based on guidelines from the Province of Ontario, the Simcoe-Muskoka Public Health Unit, the OHF Return to Hockey Guidelines and operational requirements as specified by the operators of our arena facilities (Town of Bracebridge, Town of Gravenhurst and the Township of Lake of Bays).

SMMHA is a member of the Ontario Minor Hockey Association (OMHA) and plays within the Muskoka Parry Sound Hockey League (MPS).

This plan meets the requirements of the OHF Return to Hockey Framework, Stage 3b (phase 2, stage 3) and follows the Hockey Canada Return to Hockey Safety Guidelines (June 4, 2020). It is the intention of SMMHA to revise and update this plan should it be required as the Return to Hockey progresses from Stage 3b through Stage 3e at the direction and approval of OMHA.

Registration

Pre-Registration was completed in August. All players were required to register at no-cost in order to reserve a spot in the SMMHA program for the 2020/2021 season. Any players that did not pre-register by the deadline were added to a wait-list on a first-come-first-served basis. This provided SMMHA an accurate count of players in each age group to aid with planning for the season.

Final registration is currently open with a deadline of Friday September 18, 2020. After this deadline teams will be formed and if required, registration will be offered to players that have been placed on the wait-list in order to fill rosters and maximize ice usage.

Registration payment has been split into two payments, the first instalment is due by September 18 and the second due December 1, 2020. This payment method was developed to eliminate the need for refunds should the 2020 season need to be suspended due to the pandemic.



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Roles of Bench Staff

All team rosters will include a minimum bench staff of one **coach**, one **trainer** and a **manager**. All bench staff are required to have up to date qualifications as required by Hockey Canada including the new “Planning a Safe Return to Hockey” and an up to date Vulnerable Sector Screening (VSS).

All bench staff will be required to read the following documents;

- OHF Return to Hockey Framework
- Hockey Canada Safety Guidelines
- OMHA Return to Play Framework – Addendum
- Hockey Canada RTH Safety Guidelines FAQ

All documents shall be provided to all team staff by SMMHA

Managers

For the 2020/2021 season, team managers will have an expanded role. The manager shall be responsible for completing Health Screening and Contact Tracing documentation for all team events. The manager shall restrict access to facilities for all players and players' family unless all required documentation has been completed the day of the team event. In the event the manager is not available to attend a team event it shall be the responsibility of the head coach to ensure these duties are completed.

Trainers

Trainers must practice medical isolation guidelines when attending to a player requiring medical attention, including but not limited to, wearing a mask or face covering and medical gloves.

Facilities

The SMMHA President has met with each of the three municipalities operating arena facilities used by SMMHA (Gravenhurst, Bracebridge, and Lake of Bays) to review and understand each facility operation and usage requirements. All rules set in place at each of the facilities shall be strictly adhered to.

The Town of Bracebridge requires the document COVID-19 – FACILITY RE-OPENING INDEMNITY (Appendix B) to be completed by SMMHA.



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Team Event Management

- The team manager will meet all players at the facility entrance.
- Health Screening and Contact Management documentation will be verified complete prior to allowing entrance to the facility.
- The Town of Bracebridge has issued a Daily Contact Tracing Log (Appendix A) which shall be completed for all users of the Bracebridge Memorial Arena. This log shall be completed by the team manager along with all other required health screening and contact tracing forms required.
- SMMHA has developed an online 'Google form' which shall be required to be completed by all players prior to entering any facility. See SMMHA Covid-19 Health Screening Questionnaire.
- All players shall arrive at the facility dressed in as much equipment as possible.
- Dressing room are closed in Gravenhurst with the exception of one room available for goaltenders to dress.
- Dressing rooms are open in Bracebridge and shall be assigned to a maximum of 6 players during each team event (bench staff shall direct players to assigned rooms) for the purpose of tying skates only.
- Players may enter the facility 15 minutes prior to their ice time.
- No spectators shall be allowed access to the facility.
- For cubs and IP pre-assigned parents shall be allowed in the facility to tie skates.
- Doors will be locked to prevent access at scheduled ice time.
- A maximum of 30 participants shall be allowed on the ice, including players and bench staff.
- Masks or face coverings shall be worn by all participants before entering the facility and will only be removed by participants before going on the ice.
- Once off the ice all participants shall don their mask or face covering.
- All participants shall exit the facility no later than 15 minutes after leaving the ice.

Practice Management (to be followed by all participants during team practice)

All players are required to bring their own water bottle, filled prior to entering the facility. There will be no sharing of water bottles.

The bench area will be closed during player development, practice and conditioning sessions. With the exception of players requiring medical attention.

Drills and activities are to be limited to those that can be done while social distancing as much as possible.

Participants are required to social distance at all times, on and off the ice.

No equipment shall be shared between participants.

Practice ice time shall only be shared by teams within a shared 'bubble'.



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Game Play

All game play shall be according to modified rules as set the the OHF and OMHA.

Bench area shall be used in accordance with rules set out by the facility operator.

No spectators shall be allowed in the facility.

All players are required to bring there own water bottle, filled prior to entering the facility. There will be no sharing of water bottles.

Players shall not engage in pre or post-game handshakes, celebratory hugs handshakes or high-fives.

Games shall only be played against teams within a shared 'bubble'.

Bubbles

All players shall be on an approved roster of up to nine players and one goaltender. Each team will be assigned to a 'bubble' including a maximum of 50 players (5 teams).

Wherever possible practices shall be run with two teams from within the same bubble in order to maximize ice usage. Practices shall maintain a maximum of 30 participants on the ice, including players and bench staff.

In order to provide competitive and fun hockey SMMHA, Huntsville Minor Hockey and Muskoka Rock Minor Hockey shall create bubbles using teams from each centre up to a maximum of 50 players in each bubble. The goal is to match teams in each bubble to create competitive bubbles at different levels of player ability making game play competitive and fun.

No SMMHA team shall participate in any activity with teams or players from outside of their bubble.

Communications

SMMHA notify all players and their families of their assigned teams. Prior to the first on-ice session SMMHA executive will oversee a parent meeting with each to outline Stage 3b operations during the first part of the 2020/2021 season.

This meeting shall cover the following;

- details of the return to hockey framework
- parent and player roles in a fun and safe return to hockey
- operations and access for each of the arena facilities
- health screening and contact tracking requirements



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SMMHA COVID-19 Health Screening Questionnaire

SMMHA has created an online Google form. The form requires members to fill out the following information;

- email address
- name
- phone number
- Which location are you entering?
- Have you travelled outside of Canada in the last 14 days?
- In the last 14 days, have you been in close physical contact with someone who tested positive for COVID-19?
- Are you experiencing any symptoms?

The responses are time stamped and recorded to a spreadsheet which for recording purposes will be stored on a Google drive and accessible by the team manager and the SMMHA secretary.

See appendix C for a preview of the online screening form.



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Updates and Reporting

The SMMHA president shall be responsible for the overall management of the SMMHA Return to Play Plan with specific focus on updates and/or changes from the local municipalities and the Simcoe-Muskoka District Health Unit.

The SMMHA centre contact (OMHA rep) shall be responsible for monitoring updates from the Hockey Canada, OHF, OMHA and MPS Hockey League. The centre contact shall also liaise with the centre contacts from the other minor hockey associations with which bubbles are formed.

The Director of Player Development shall liaise with SMMHA coaches and bench staff and oversee this plan as it relates to the role of head coaches and team managers.

The SMMHA secretary shall be responsible for all record keeping and reporting requirements. This will require direct communication with team managers.

Stephanie Oates
President
South Muskoka Minor Hockey


Andrew Guthrie
OMHA Rep.
South Muskoka Minor Hockey



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Appendices

Appendix A: Daily Contact Tracing Log – Bracebridge Memorial Arena

 BRACEBRIDGE The Heart of Muskoka				
Daily Contact Tracing Log during Covid-19				
<i>This Log pertains to</i> individuals who participate at the Bracebridge Memorial Arena. This information is required by the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit for contact tracing.				
Date: _____				
Name	Address	Phone Number	In Attendance – Y/N	Actively Screened- Y/N



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Appendix B: COVID-19 – FACILITY RE-OPENING INDEMNITY Town of Bracebridge



The Corporation of the Town of Bracebridge COVID-19 – FACILITY RE-OPENING INDEMNITY

WHEREAS, the Province of Ontario declared a state of emergency on March 17, 2020 to help prevent the spread of the COVID-19 virus;

AND WHEREAS, in consultation with the Chief Medical Officer of Health and local health officials, the Provincial Government is permitting certain businesses and services to reopen by easing restrictions in communities where it is safe to do so, based on trends of key public health indicators such as lower rates of transmission, increased capacity in hospitals, and progress made in testing;

NOW THEREFORE in consideration of the Town of Bracebridge re-opening its facilities, or a portion thereof, as permitted during the COVID-19 Pandemic Emergency, the undersigned Organization hereby agrees to the following terms and conditions:

1. That we have reviewed and understand the:
 - Orders issued under Ontario's Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act;
 - Guidelines issued by Ontario's Chief Medical Officer of Health and the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit; and
 - Guidelines approved and issued by our associated Provincial Sport Organization;in relation to the gradual re-opening of our sports program and access to public facilities.
2. That we agree to follow all applicable Orders and guidelines.
3. That we understand it is our responsibility to ensure that all of our coaches, volunteers, athletes and other participants understand and agree to follow all applicable Orders and guidelines.
4. That we hereby indemnify The Corporation of the Town of Bracebridge and its employees and representatives against any and all claims and demands associated with a breach of the Orders and guidelines described herein by our members, participants, staff or volunteers associated with our Organization.
5. That the Town may, at its sole discretion, withdraw the organization's access to all or a portion of the Town's facilities as required due to the COVID-19 Pandemic Emergency or other urgent situations.

I/We have authority to bind the organization.

Organization's Name	_____	
Name Signing Officer #1	_____ Title	_____
Signature	_____ Date	_____
Name Signing Officer #1	_____ Title	_____
Signature	_____ Date	_____



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Appendix C: Preview - SMMHA Covid-19 Health Screening Questionnaire

You're in BEAR Country SMMHA

Covid Self Check - SMMHA Board Members

* Required

Email address *

Your email

Name *

Your answer

Which location are you entering? *

Choose

Have you traveled outside of Canada in the last 14 days? *

☐ Yes

☐ No

Are you experiencing any of the following symptoms? *If you are experiencing any of the following symptoms please do not enter the building and contact your administrator or supervisor. *

- Difficulty breathing or shortness of breath
- Chest pain or pressure
- Loss of speech or movement
- Fever (feeling hot to the touch, a temperature of 38°C or higher)
- Cough that's new or worsening (continuous, more than usual)
- Lost sense of taste or smell
- Chills
- Sore Throat, Difficulty swallowing
- Runny, stuffy or congested nose (not related to seasonal allergies or other known causes or conditions)
- Stuffy or congested nose (not related to seasonal allergies or other known causes or conditions)
- Pink eye (conjunctivitis)
- Headache
- Digestive issues (nausea/vomiting, diarrhea, stomach pain)
- Muscle aches
- Extreme tiredness that is unusual (fatigue, lack of energy)
- Falling down often
- For young children and infants: sluggishness or lack of appetite

☐ Yes, I have some symptoms

☐ No, I am not experiencing any of the above symptoms.

☐ Send me a copy of my responses.

Submit

Preview - Response Summary Spreadsheet

Covid SMMHA Board Members (Responses)						
File Edit View Insert Format Data Tools Form Add-ons Help						
100% 123 Default(Ar... 10 B I A						
Timestamp	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	Timestamp	Email address	Name	Which location are you entering?	Have you traveled outside of Canada in the last 14 days, have you?	Are you experiencing any of the following symptoms?
2						
3						
4						
5						
6						
7						
8						