

MOUNT FOREST MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

COVID-19 RETURN TO HOCKEY PLAN

SEPTEMBER 2, 2020

OVERVIEW:

This plan has been developed in conjunction with the Township of Wellington North, and follows the safety guidelines set by Wellington- Dufferin-Guelph Public Health Unit.

The goal of this plan is to meet the requirements of the OHF Return to Play Framework, that will allow our organization to run instructional training and development for players as well as modified non-contact game play, in the safest environment possible.

Advancement through stages 3b to 3e will be at the approval and direction of Hockey Canada and the OMHA. This plan is set to commence September 28th and end December 31st. The initial 4 - 6 week period will consist of practices, until a game schedule or format has been determined, amongst a predesigned group consisting of other organizations within our public health unit.

MFMH will begin to re-evaluate the program in December and make any necessary changes, consistent with any learnings and direction from the OHF, OMHA and Public Health Unit, effective January 2021.

We ask that MFMH association members and families follow the rules set out by the arena staff, which will be posted on the MFMH website.

Teams will consist of 9 skaters and 1 goalie.

1 Coach and 1 Trainer will be allowed on the bench, when game play commences.

Maximum of 30 participants on the ice at one time, including coaches and players.

U7, U8 and U9 will be provided 3 hours of combined ice time over a 2 week period, ice times will alternate. U11 and above will have 2 shared practices per week until game format commences.

Town Contacts will be conducting a meeting with centres in our Public Health Unit to determine a course of action on structure of game play. Eg. Tier1, Tier 2, HL or Even teams. Once this level is determined, Coaches, Town Contacts and the Coaches Committee Chair will divide the teams accordingly. Selections will depend on last year's team rosters and current skill level.

Practice will be shared ice, maximum of 20 kids on the ice at one time.

There will be a "Zero Tolerance" policy and if any player or family member does not adhere to the rules set out, they will be asked to leave the association with no refund.

It shall be understood that this is an evolving situation and Guidelines and Requirements may change on short notice.

COVID-19 REPORTING

A record of all participants, including name, phone number, date and time of session, must be maintained by each team. Upon request, this information must be provided to the Municipality and or public health unit in the event there is a need to contact trace a positive case.

COVID-19 SCREENING

All participants will be pre-screened for Covid-19 symptoms or exposure per the prescribed OHF Screening form, prior to participation in each session. A record of the pre-screening will be maintained by the Manager for 30 days and submitted to the Trainer-In-Chief, on the 20th of every month.

Participants who are not feeling well or are exhibiting symptoms of Covid-19, or who may have been exposed to Covid-19 must NOT participate in any session. In such instances, the Participant/Player must communicate this information with the Team Manager. The participant will not be allowed to return until such a time as medical clearance is obtained through a negative test or a quarantine period of 14 days has been reached.

The associations, Return to Play Committee will be responsible for the overall management of the Return to Play Plan, as well as monitoring updates from the OHF, OMHA, OWHA, local municipalities and the Public Health Unit. In addition, they will oversee the implementation of the Return to Play plan as it relates to Head Coaches, Trainers and Team Managers.

Return to Play Committee Members and contact information:

Anson Lewis - ansonlewis75@gmail.com

Amy Parker - amy.parker@elmirapet.ca

Amanda Rice - mandertuzzi@hotmail.com

Kevin McRobb - kmcrobbmfmh@gmail.com

Greg Henderson - hendereccles@outlook.com

Kyle Ferguson - gmfergie@hotmail.com

Jamie Mousseau - jamiemousseau@hotmail.com

COACH RESPONSIBILITIES

Each Coach is required to review the Hockey Canada Safety guidelines.

Each Coach is required to have reviewed the OHF Revised Framework

Each Coach will be supplied with a copy of the Return to Play document, once it has been approved.

Each Coach will be required to complete the Safe Return to Hockey course.

MFMH will provide all coaches with a copy of the Certificate of Validation and Certificate of Insurance once it is obtained.

The Coach will be required to communicate the details, of the return to play plan to all participants and parents, via a social distanced Team Meeting. They will be asked to distribute and collect an Acknowledgement form, which must be signed by all participants and parents, then returned to the MFMH Executive for safe keeping. A copy of the form will also be made available on the website, to download and complete.

The Head Coach of each team is responsible for adherence to this plan. Any non-compliance issues must be reported to the executive to be dealt with accordingly.

Coaches should ensure they have a safety plan for reporting illness signs or symptoms for any player.

TEAM MANAGER RESPONSIBILITIES

Each Team Manager is required to screen participants upon entry to the facility.

Team Managers will be provided with copies of the OHF Health Questionnaire, as well as the Approved Contact Tracing form.

They will be required to complete this information for each on ice session, and keep the records for 30 days. These records shall be submitted to the Trainer in Chief on the 20th of each month for safe keeping.

In the event a participant is exhibiting symptoms the Manager is required to notify a member of the Return to Play Committee, and communicate this information accordingly.

BEFORE YOU LEAVE FOR THE RINK

If a participant is experiencing any signs or symptoms of illness, do not attend session.

Ensure you have your mask for entry/exit of the arena.

Participants may arrive mostly dressed, in hockey equipment or change in the parking lot.

ARRIVAL

Please arrive no more than 15 minutes prior to each session.

Sanitizing is required upon entry to the facility, and will be provided.

Entry will be through the front door of the arena where you will sign in with Team Manager and proceed directly to the assigned change room. Masks must be worn upon entry and until you get to your change room.

Participants are asked to come dressed to the arena, dressing rooms are provided to each team, to put on skates, helmet, gloves and neck guards.

Skates may also be worn upon entry/ exit of the facility with skate guards on. Should a player require assistance with equipment, ONE parent may enter the arena, get screened and assist the participant. They must notify Team Manager or coach upon exit of the facility.

HYGIENE AND PHYSICAL DISTANCING

It is recommended that only 1 parent, for ages U7, U8 and U9 is allowed to remain in the facility while exercising proper distancing and masking guidelines. This parent, is asked to do so, on the walking track above the ice surface. We ask that parents of participants U11 and above, not remain at in attendance.

Hand sanitizer is required upon entry to the facility.

Participants and spectators must not cough or sneeze without properly covering their face. No spitting is allowed on the floor or on the ice.

There will only be allowed 10 kids per change room (1 team) and 1 Coach for monitoring purposes. During the time a Coach is present in the room, the door shall be open and a second member of the Coaching staff present outside.

There will be no off ice warm ups permitted.

Teams will have 15 minutes before and 15 minutes after each on ice session in the changeroom.

Use of washrooms and showers are on emergency basis only. Participants are urged to avoid use of these amenities.

ON ICE SESSIONS

Please expect the player to understand, the ice sessions are for development only at this time. The OHF requires a minimum of 2 weeks of development training before any game play format can be approved.

MFMH is in agreeance with the Township of Wellington North, that 1 parent for ages U9 and below, is able to be present for observation purposes, for safety concerns. However physical distancing must be maintained and they must remain on the walking track above the ice surface.

Ice sessions will need to follow physical distancing protocol. No masks or full visors are required while on the ice but keeping a 2m distance is suggested.

While having players on the ice, remaining players that are resting on the bench, shall do so with proper spacing.

Drills, activities, exercises, etc. are to be limited to those that can be done while maintaining social distancing.

There is to be no prolonged or deliberate drills, activities, or exercises, etc. that require physical contact among the players (ie. battle drills, body contact drills, partner exercises). Incidental contact in the course of other drills is to be minimized by the players.

Players must bring a full water bottle from home. The water filling station will not be in use. Please label your water bottle clearly, as there is to be absolutely no sharing of water bottles.

Absolutely no spitting!

Any equipment used by Participants during their ice session must be disinfected after use.

Teams will be required to remain on their half of the ice for the duration of their shared ice practice.

You will be required to exit and enter using only 1 bench per team.

The arena staff will try and avoid floods after practice to maximize the time the kids will have on the ice. Practices will be anywhere from 50-58 minutes in length.

DERARTURE FROM FACILITY

Upon completion of your ice session, participants are to proceed immediately to their designated changeroom, where they will have 15 minutes to remove necessary equipment and exit out the door closest to the assigned changeroom.

Absolutely NO loitering inside the facility.

No personal items are to be left in the changerooms.

Once the change room has been vacated, the Head Coach is to take a visual sweep of the room for any belongings as well, and notify the Manager once all players have exited the building.

Changerooms will be disinfected by arena staff after each use, as well as the bench that was used by the exiting team. In addition, the facility will be disinfected as a whole, 2 times per day. The Township is hiring extra disinfecting staff to keep the facility as clean and sanitized as possible.

Players can be greeted by their Parent/Guardian at the approved exit location, practicing safe social distancing protocol.

PROCEDURE IF PARTICIPANT IS SICK

Should any player/participant be experiencing signs or symptoms of illness, the Parent/ Guardian shall be notified immediately. The Manager will be required, to make note of this and notify the Public Health Unit, as well as the MFMH Executive. Anyone experiencing symptoms are asked to go to their nearest test centre to obtain testing.

Location: Legacy Groves 235 Union Street East, Fergus ON

Hours: Monday, Wednesday and Friday 10:00am – 6:00pm

If you have been directed to an assessment centre, call **519-323-0255 ext. 5082** to make an appointment. Please note, walk-ins are accepted however in order to minimize wait times an appointment is preferred.

**** MFMH Return to Play Committee met with the Township of Wellington North Recreation Department employees, Wednesday August 26, 2020 at the Cork Street Pavilion.**

Members in attendance were;

Township Recreation Head Tom Bowden and employee Nick Brock.

Committee Members: Anson Lewis. Amy Parker, Kyle Ferguson and Amanda Rice.