



HALIFAX HURRICANES MINOR BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION



Effective March 7, 2022

(Replaces Version Effective January 16, 2022)

Halifax Hurricanes Minor Basketball Association

Back to Play Plan

OBJECTIVE

To provide a plan to that will allow the players, coaches, volunteers and parents/guardians of the Halifax Hurricanes Minor Basketball Association (the “**Club**”) to return to practice and competition in a safe manner.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The following principles will guide the development, amendment and execution of our plan:

- Our policies will comply with all health directives issued by the Province of Nova Scotia, including the Nova Scotia Health Authority and any other health related department (“**Public Health**”). Participants must be aware that Public Health guidance and restrictions will change from time to time and must understand that such guidance and restrictions will always take priority as this plan and the policies of our facility providers evolve to accord with Public Health changes.
- We will adopt the Back to Basketball Phased Guidelines or other evolving policies established by Basketball Nova Scotia subject only to the exceptions and specifications set out in this plan and by the facilities we use.
- This plan and all future amendments to this plan must be effectively communicated to all of our members. All policies related to this plan and COVID in general will be effectively communicated to our members. The Club will work to ensure that all policies are viewable on the Club’s website at www.hhbball.com.
- All coaches and volunteers will be required to provide an acknowledgment of our plan and agree to abide by and support the plan during the online registration process.
- This plan will mean added effort and inconvenience for our members. The best way to ensure that our members can return to the joy of sport is to ensure this plan can be followed. To support our members, we must make every effort to ensure this plan and its implementation is reasonable, is based on the best available advice of our health community and is modified as such advice and health directives evolve.

ADOPTION OF BNS GUIDELINES

This plan adopts the Back to Basketball Phased Guidelines established by Basketball Nova Scotia subject to the exceptions and specifications set out in this plan. Where there is inconsistency between this plan and the Back to Basketball Phased Guidelines this plan shall take precedence.

EVENT MANAGEMENT

Participation in all Hurricanes practices, games or meetings (each an “**Event**”) by a player, coach, volunteer, or parent (each a “**Participant**” and collectively “**Participants**”) is subject to the following:

1. All Participants must comply with all rules imposed by the facilities we use regardless of whether those rules are in addition to this plan or more stringent than this plan.
2. All Participants must comply with all rules imposed by any league or tournament in which a team plays regardless of whether those rules are in addition to this plan or more stringent than this plan.
3. For all Events, all participants must follow the then current Public Health advice with respect to mask wearing until play begins and resume wearing a mask at the end of play.
4. Each Team will have a staff of four adults: Head Coach, Assistant Coach, Team Manager and COVID Manager. The COVID Manager shall be primarily responsible for compliance with this plan. All other staff are expected to know the responsibilities of the COVID Manager and be able to act as a back-up should the COVID Manager not be able to attend an Event.
5. All Participants must comply with the Event COVID Protocol attached to this plan as Appendix “A”.
6. No Participant may attend an Event if he or she is experiencing any of the following symptoms: a) one of fever or cough; b) two or more of sore throat, runny nose/nasal congestion, headache or shortness of breath; or c) such other symptoms being identified by Public Health as new variants of COVID-19 arise (“**Covid Symptoms**”).
7. Any Participant who begins to experience Covid Symptoms during an Event must immediately put on a mask, notify the coach, distance as much as possible from other Participants and make arrangements to leave as soon as possible.
8. Events shall be separated by at least 10 minutes to allow for changing of groups between Events. Participants must leave the facilities as soon as safely possible. If a Participant is waiting for a ride before leaving he or she must wait in an area socially distant (6 feet) from all other Participants.

LIMITATIONS ON PLAY

All Participants shall comply with the following when participating in practice or games:

1. Numbers of Participants at and Event shall comply with gathering limits established by the Province.
2. Regardless of the maximum gathering limit, Participants that are not actively participating in practice or game play must make reasonable effort to remain 6 feet apart if sufficient space is available.

3. During breaks in play, including periods of instruction and water breaks, Participants must practice social distancing (6 feet) where possible.
4. All players must bring their own water and must not share water.
5. All Participants will comply with the Club's vaccination and masking policies as amended from time to time.

SPECTATORS

The club asks that no spectators be present during Events other than games. Parents/guardians may bring their children in and out of a facility provided that each parent/guardian complies with the then current Public Health advice with respect to mask wearing and leaves as soon as the child is safely with his or her team. If the facility is large enough to accommodate appropriate social distancing and the applicable gathering limits are not exceeded parents/guardians may attend games, but shall comply with the then current Public Health advice with respect to masks and social distancing at all times. Attendance may be limited by the facilities we use, basketball or league governing bodies, or Public Health restrictions.

REGISTRATION AND WAIVER

No person, other than invitees (for example, players, coaches, and volunteers from other teams, referees and scorekeepers) may participate in an Event (other than as a spectator) without first registering with the Club. Club registration shall include an agreement to abide by the terms of this plan and a waiver related to COVID-19.

TRAVEL

All team travel outside of Nova Scotia must be approved by the board of directors of the Club. Approval shall be considered based on current COVID-19 data, the sufficiency of the safety planning of the applying team and the host team and the origin of teams or individuals attending the event from other areas. Travel without approval may result in individual or team discipline including suspension and loss of gym time.

DISCOVERY OF COVID-19 CASES

Participants, or their respective parents/guardians, will be responsible to follow the isolation and exposure requirements established by Public Health. Failure to follow Public Health requirements may lead to suspension or removal of a Participant.



HALIFAX HURRICANES MINOR BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION



MEMORANDUM

Date: March 7, 2022 updated from January 16, 2022
To: COVID Managers and Team Managers
From: Hurricanes Board
Re: Event COVID Protocol

This document is our Event COVID Protocol. It must be followed for each practice, game or any other team gathering (each referred to as an “Event”). The goal of our protocol is to ensure we do all we can to prevent COVID-19 exposure at our Events and to comply with all Provincial, Metro Basketball Association of Nova Scotia (“MBANS”), and facility driven policies.

This Protocol is written to speak to the COVID Managers, but each Team Manager and coach must be prepared to step in if the COVID Manager is absent.

In addition to this Protocol you must read the Back to Play Plan posted on our website.

For the 2021-2022 season we will not be conducting the COVID check-in we performed last year. The revised guidance regarding exposures and isolations places the onus of notifying close contacts on the individual who is positive for COVID. We will remind families by email communication at the club level that they should not attend an Event if they have COVID-19 symptoms.

You will have to undertake the following to ensure compliance with vaccination and masking requirements.

Participants – Vaccination

“Participant” means each player, coach, and manager registered on the team roster.

As of February 28, 2022, there is no longer a requirement to provide proof of vaccination.

All vaccination records kept to this point are to be permanently destroyed.

Participants – Masking

All Participants must be masked with the only exceptions being:

- The Participant is undertaking physical activity, recovering from physical activity, or in a short break between physical activity such as a timeout or half-time.

- The Participant must temporarily remove the mask in order to clarify a necessary communication.

The COVID-19 Manager must enforce this rule with players and remind coaches and other managers of the rule.

Spectators – Vaccination and Masking

Spectators are permitted subject to the one spectator per player policy currently in effect.

Proof of vaccination need not be checked.

The attendance sheet must continue to be completed and saved.

Masking requirements are still in effect.

Non-Compliant and Disruptive Participants or Spectators

The COVID Manager is not expected to physically enforce any rules. If there is a disruptive Participant or spectator who refuses to leave, the COVID Manager will advise the Head Coach who will notify the referees.

Modifications

The club may modify this protocol and related policies from time to time.
