



Dawson Creek Minor Hockey  
Return to Hockey Covid-19 Safety Plan

**2020 Winter Hockey Program**

Dawson Creek Minor Hockey Association  
“Phase 3” Pan for Memorial Arena

Start date for program: September 25<sup>th</sup>- TBD

Note: Policies could change at any time. If it does this document will be updated.

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## MISSION

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*The health, safety and welfare of all athletes, coaches, officials, volunteers, parents, and facility staff is the highest priority in the successful Return to Hockey, while balancing the needs of all individuals within the game.*



### **Hockey Canada Message:**

“Health and safety are our priorities in establishing the guidelines for the Return to Hockey. While these guidelines (Hockey Canada Safety Guidelines) apply on a national basis, it is important to recognize that most health and safety protocols are managed at the provincial/territorial level.”

“This comprehensive document is tailored for local use and allows for provincial/territorial/municipal guidelines to be implemented. It should be used in concert with public health authority guidelines, as well as association guidelines.”

*Dr. Mark Aubry – Chief Medical Officer*

On June 1, 2020 VIASPORT released their Return to Sport guidelines. These guidelines provide direction to Provincial Sport Organizations (PSO’s) and ultimately the minor hockey associations such as DCMHA, who fall under BC Hockey’s governance. On June 10th, BC Hockey announced their requirements and, if met, associations can re-start modified programming, after **June 15th.**

On August 24<sup>th</sup>, Viasport updated their return to play guidelines and moved to phase 3. This phase allows for contact drills and potential games though most protocols off the ‘field of play’ remain in place.

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## INTRODUCTION

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To maximize safety and the hockey experience, DCMHA has implemented the direction from the City of Dawson Creek, Memorial Arena, BC Health, and the Provincial sport authorities to form our association's specific return to hockey protocols. It is essential that all participants are diligent in following instructions and communicate the importance of this to their children. Collectively, we want to be leaders in bringing people back to the rinks safely and we all have a role to play to make this happen. We also understand that families may have different comfort levels with the risks associated with returning to hockey; ultimately, individuals will need to assess our skills-based summer hockey program and make an informed decision that best suits their family's risk tolerance.

We want to acknowledge the leadership and guidance from VIASPORT, Hockey Canada, BC Hockey, the City of Dawson Creek, and the Province of BC for their ongoing efforts and support.

We also want to thank the families in DCMHA for their ongoing patience and support as we try and navigate through these challenging times. We are not back to normal, but we are back to having our athletes on the ice and that is an amazing first step!

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## **ABOUT COVID-19 AND TRANSMISSION (FROM VIASPORT)**

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COVID-19 is transmitted via liquid droplets when a person coughs or sneezes, but also potentially when they are talking in very close proximity to another person. The virus in these droplets then can enter the body of another person when that person breathes in the droplets or when the droplets touch the eyes, nose, or throat of that person.

This transmission requires you to be in close contact – closer than the expected physical distancing of three to six feet. This is referred to as ‘droplet’ transmission and is believed to be the primary way COVID-19 is transmitted.

COVID-19 can also be transmitted through droplets in the environment if someone touches a contaminated area, then touches their face without cleaning their hands. The virus does not enter the body through skin, it enters through the eyes, nose, or mouth when the person touches their face. Unfortunately, human beings touch their faces very often throughout the day, much more than they realize. Therefore, regular handwashing and cleaning of high touch surfaces is extremely important.

For COVID-19, there are some emerging indications that there are people who can shed COVID-19 virus 24 to 48 hours prior to symptom onset, but at present, it is not known whether this is a significant risk factor for transmission.

Droplet transmission is much more likely when in close contact in an indoor setting. Transmission is less likely in an outdoor setting, where there is more space for people to keep physically distanced.

However, in the context of sports, even outdoors there can be risks from high-touch surfaces because many sports involve objects that are normally shared among players, coaches, or volunteers (balls, pucks, equipment, etc.).

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## VIASPORT TRANSMISSION MEASURES PHASE

**(Refer to Sport Activity Chart)**

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Per Via Sport, we are in **Phase 3** of the return to play plan.

Much of our return to hockey information is based on the specific points listed in the phase 2 planning chart, with amendments based on the phase 3 inclusion of contact drills and game play. While the association and facility will ensure that we create the safest possible environment as guided by health and sport authorities, *it is essential that all participants do their part in following the guidelines.*

During this transitional phase, there are our specific adjustments in each of the areas listed in the chart. *Our expectation is that parents read and educate their children on these expectations prior to attending the first session.* Staff and volunteers will also be enforcing these protocols at the field.

### **Restrictions in Place:**

- Participants may only engage in physical play, contact drills, or game play with their association team and within their assigned cohort, which as per BC Hockey may only consist of four teams.
- Each cohort team must follow BC Hockey and Via Sport recommendations.

### **Enhanced Protocols:**

- All participants will be asked to use personal hand sanitizers prior to entering the facility. Sanitizers will also be provided by the facility.
- Anyone (participants and parents) attending must review the symptoms check list daily. Anyone exhibiting any of the COVID-19 symptoms **SHALL NOT** attend and will need to report to the coach or communications officer. The facility and DCMHA will also have signage at the facility and all players will be screened by the coach or designated DCMHA official prior to being permitted to enter the facility.

## Participants:

- As mentioned, the group size, will be limited to **Facility recommendations**. DCMHA will adhere to the City of Dawson Creek guidelines.
- One spectator per athlete is permitted at this time as per municipal requirements.

## Equipment:

- All athletes will have their own equipment and water bottles. Refer to Hockey Canada guidelines on water bottles. No water bottles are to be shared at any time. No exceptions. **All water bottles to be marked and placed in the designated area.**
- Personal items are not to be shared or mixed with those from other athletes.
- Coaches training equipment will consist of pucks, cones, and other training aids as deemed necessary by the coaching staff. These will be managed and sanitized daily by the coaches and not touched by any athletes, except for pucks.

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## GUIDELINES

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Participation in DCMHA is completely voluntary. If at any point, a participant is feeling uncomfortable with the risks, they can and should remove themselves from the program. Everyone who chooses to participate will need to register online for the program in advance, sign the participant waiver form (appendix D) and should they want to opt for a credit/refund instead, we will honor that request as per our refund policy.

While we do not want to alarm participants, we do want to recognize the importance and role that players and parents play in ensuring that we resume hockey safely. The health, safety, and welfare of all participants is our highest priority. To this end, we have established the following guidelines for participants:

- **Parents must download the Return to Hockey Waiver (Appendix D) on behalf of all family members. The waiver is to be completed as part of the registration process.**
- Parents are asked to review all return to hockey protocols and to sit down with their child and explain the information and importance of abiding by all protocols and rules.
- All participants to follow the Hockey Canada [Illness Policy](#) (see Appendix C)
- We have confidence that the athletes will understand and listen to coaches and any volunteers, especially if the parents reinforce the rules beforehand. Any athlete who is struggling with the concept will first be reminded of the protocols, and if it continues, they will be removed from the session.

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## RISK MANAGEMENT

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We are taking every recommended step to ensure the safety of all participants. In addition to information provided, here are additional measures in place to mitigate risk:

- Appointment of a **Communication Officer** as recommended by Hockey Canada.

**This role will:**

- Monitor advice and direction from health and sport authorities
- Manage any contact tracing reports
- Oversee all program implementation to ensure compliance

All sessions will be delivered by DCMHA approved coaches, who have been trained in the summer program and Covid-19 protocols.

**The Dawson Creek Minor Hockey Association** is committed to keeping athletes on the ice. In order to do this safely and ultimately move towards return to games in the future, as approved by the authorities, we will be holding our staff and participants to the highest standards of the recommendations from the health authorities. We recognize that some of these protocols are inconvenient, **but we expect 100% compliance from everyone involved**. Please do not be offended if you receive a reminder of these protocols. We all have a role to play to get our sport back on the ice and to keep our community safe and healthy.



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## FACILITY MANAGEMENT

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Facilities are defined as all areas of the facility starting from the parking lot.

**Parking lots, entry and getting to/from the rink:**

- The expectation is that people:
  - Do not congregate
  - Always maintain physical distancing
  - If an athlete is not able to manage the above two points, they should not participate in the summer program.

**One parent/spectator per athlete viewing is permitted at this time. Only one parent/spectator per athlete will be permitted into the facility.**

Note: Parents are not to congregate in any area outside the facility, including the parking lot and outside seating areas. Anyone not in compliance will be asked to remain in their cars or leave and come back to pick up their child. Anyone found repeatedly defying this protocol, after having been informed, will be removed from the summer program.

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## FACILITY PROTOCOLS AND SCHEDULING

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We have developed a specific program that all athletes, parents, coaches, and volunteers are expected to follow:

- The User Group's Safety Exposure Control Plan must be posted at all entrances and the User is responsible for ensuring this plan is followed. A copy of the User Group's Safety Exposure Control Plan must be provided to the City of Dawson Creek to [recreation@dawsoncreek.ca](mailto:recreation@dawsoncreek.ca).
- Memorial arena will be divided into East and West sides.
  - Groups entering the facility will alternate sides, East and West, and only access the side that they have been assigned.
- Arrive not more than 15 minutes prior to your scheduled ice time.
- Late arrivals will not be permitted in the building as the doors will be locked.
- Do not enter the rink until permitted by staff and coaches enter through the correct doors.
- Follow staff directions, signs, and arrows, and maintain 2m distance.
- Enter the building fully dressed, except for skates, helmets, and gloves. Goalies are to come as dressed as possible. Finish Dressing at their designated area.
- Every rental must have a host from the User Group at the entrance of the facility. The User's host will screen patrons for COVID-19 symptoms, ensure only registered patrons are entering the facility, and ensure all patrons understand and will follow the User Group's Safety Exposure Control Plan directing patrons where to go.
- Patrons will bring their own equipment and disinfect it before and after each use.
- Where physical distancing cannot be avoided, non-medical masks must be worn. i.e. the host assisting a participant buckling a helmet.
- Non-fire doors that provide access to the approved spaces will be propped open to reduce touch points. Fire doors that provide access to the approved spaces will remain closed, and the patron will have to open it, with hand sanitizer available and disinfection with a viral disinfectant cleaner used between each User Group.
- Every athlete must have their own filled water bottle prior to arriving. (no sharing)
- One change room will be assigned to the group. This is for washroom use for participants only.
  - Showers are not to be used and will be blocked off.
  - This washroom will be cleaned with a viral disinfectant cleaner between every User Group
- One change room on each side will be designated as the sick room. Participants that

start to show symptoms of sickness after arrival will be placed in this room until a guardian can pick them up. Patrons that have symptoms before arriving must not enter the facility.

- a. The East side sick room will be room 107.
- b. The West side sick room will be room 141.

- **Spitting is strictly prohibited.**
- Penalty boxes and Player's boxes will be closed.
- The DCMHA coaching staff will be available to help with any questions or assistance as needed.
- The coaches have been educated regarding illness prevention measures and Covid-19 protocols.
- **Do not undress in the facility.**
- Athletes or parents will not be permitted to congregate after the conclusion of their session and must leave immediately.
- Maximum 50 people per group including participants, hosts, spectators, coaches, and staff.
- Concession will be closed.
- No use of Lobby except to enter and exit.
- Entrance and Exit to the facility will be the same location but separate doors with the hallway split in two indicating the direction of travel.
- Spectators are not advised; however, a sectioned off area will be available for one spectator per participant. Physical distancing markers must be followed.
  - Spectators are not permitted down the hallways with the participants.
  - Maximum 18 spectators per group.
  - Bleachers will be cleaned with a viral disinfectant cleaner once a day.
  - Washrooms on the East side of the building for spectators will be the public washrooms with limited stalls open.
  - Washrooms on the West side of the building for spectators will be the washroom in the ref room.
  - These washrooms for spectators will be cleaned with a viral disinfectant cleaner once a day.

**Note:** Physical gatherings of any size are not permitted in the parking area. Consuming alcoholic beverages in the parking lot and tailgating is prohibited as per the City of Dawson Creek and BC Hockey bylaws.

Your cooperation and compliance with the above protocols is very much appreciated and

will help ensure that we avoid any bottlenecking of people and occurrences where ***physical distancing becomes more challenging.***

The program schedule will be communicated directly by email. If you have questions about the schedule, please email Debbie Fynn (dcmha@pris.ca) , prior to arriving so we can assist you.

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## **EQUIPMENT MANAGEMENT AND CLEANING**

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Personal equipment (water bottle, sticks, health equipment) will be the responsibility of each athlete. We require that athletes do not share personal equipment under any circumstances. Personal equipment is to be marked clearly, placed on the bench, and removed at the end of each ice session. If you need your equipment to be marked, please let us know.

Training equipment used in the session will be managed by the coaching staff. All equipment will be sanitized daily. Training equipment is not to be handled or touched by the athletes at any time, other than pucks.

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## **FIRST AID**

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Should a minor injury occur, DCMHA will follow the Hockey Canada Safety protocols:

- The head coach or lead developer will communicate with the athlete to assess the injury verbally, at the minimum 2M physical distance.
- Depending on the injury, the following may occur:
  - The athlete go to the designated sick dressing room until they feel better to re-join the session.
  - The athlete will be escorted out of the facility by the coach, staff, or volunteer to meet their parent outside.
  - The athlete will receive first aid treatment only if required.

Note: If a safety person or coach provides first aid support, they will always do so with mask and gloves on, as physical distancing will no longer be possible.

In the event of an unforeseen serious injury, Hockey Canada Safety protocols will be

initiated and 911 will be called.

All injuries will be logged and tracked as per the Hockey Canada Safety protocols.

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## APPENDIX A: DCMHA PHASE 3 RETURN TO PLAY PLAN

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Dawson Creek Minor Hockey Association  
Return to Play Plan – **Ice Breaker Camp**  
“Phase 3” Plan for Memorial Arena

Start date for plan: September 25th

### **DCMHA has assigned Debbie Fynn as Communications Officer**

Responsibilities to include:

- Monitoring all updates from the public health authority, via Sport & Hockey Canada
- Communication with local facilities (public & private) on guidelines and updates
- Ensuring teams are following the prevention guidelines set by Hockey Canada
- Ensuring COVID-19 cases are reported: Health authority, BC Hockey, MHA, league & facility

### **Facilities**

The Communications Officer will lead correspondences with all applicable facilities. The Communications Officer will collaborate with neighboring MHAs and the District MHA when facilities are used by multiple Members. The following section has been completed by Memorial arena and will be evaluated and updated during each phase:

ViaSport Category	ViaSport Transition Measures	Overview of planning for compliance
Restrictions in Place:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No non-essential travel</li> <li>No groups of over 50 people</li> </ul>	<p>DCMHA Plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Follow local and provincial health guidelines, along with NSO, PSO &amp; LSO guidelines.</li> <li>Only DCMHA athletes and Coaches to be on the ice.</li> <li>Athletes arrive no more than 15 minutes prior to ice times and must exit within 15 minutes of conclusion of activity.</li> <li>Athletes arrive fully dressed, less skates and helmets. Goalies are to as much dressed as possible and finish dressing at their designated area.</li> <li>Dressing rooms; Follow Facilities guidelines and spacing signage.</li> <li>Facilities to provide entrance and exit strategies to reduce contact between groups.</li> </ul>
Enhanced Protocols	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased hand hygiene</li> <li>Symptom screening in place</li> </ul>	<p>DCMHA Plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Athletes and coaches must follow self-assessment screening protocol prior to arriving at facility. Stay home if exhibiting any symptoms. <a href="https://bc.thrive.health/covid19/en">https://bc.thrive.health/covid19/en</a></li> <li>Athletes are required to follow proper hand hygiene protocols prior to and during activities, including frequent hand washing before and after activities.</li> <li>Should first aid be required during an activity, all persons attending to the injured individual must first put on a mask and gloves. A first aid kit, along with extra gloves and masks, should be kept near the ice during all on ice activity.</li> <li>Participants refrain from spitting on ice or benches.</li> <li>Athletes dress before arriving without skates.</li> <li>DCMHA to provide a greeter for groups arriving for each ice time to enhance safety protocol and direction for athletes and families.</li> </ul>
Facility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Outdoor is safest</li> <li>Indoor facilities slowly re-opening</li> </ul>	<p>DCMHA Plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All warm-up and dry land activities to take place outdoors while maintaining appropriate spacing.</li> <li>Work with Dawson Creek on reopening plan and protocols and do tour of facility prior to each day's on-ice activities. Review with athletes/coaches.</li> </ul>

Participants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Small groups</li> <li>• No or limited spectators</li> </ul>	<p>DCMHA Plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Limit of one parent per player in designated viewing areas. If players on ice increase, parents</li> <li>• Benches use are if Facility allows it and DCMHA will adhere to all guidelines put in place by Facility and the PSO.</li> <li>• Increased groups based on direction of Dawson Creek &amp; Provincial Health Authorities.</li> </ul>
Non-contact activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fundamental movement skills</li> <li>• Modified training activities, drills</li> </ul>	<p>DCMHA Plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Station based approach recommended.</li> </ul>
Competition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In club play or games may be introduced</li> </ul>	<p>DCMHA Plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No competitive games outside of cohorts.</li> <li>• As per BC Hockey Cohorts are to have no more than a max of 4 teams.</li> <li>• If Team/Players want to leave Cohort, they have 14 day absent before joining another cohort.</li> <li>• Coaches/refs and Volunteers are not part of the Cohort and must Social distance from players. Masks are to be worn when Social Distancing cannot be obtained.</li> <li>• Player(s) are only allowed to be part of 1 Cohort at a time. Player can not play hockey for 2 separate Cohorts at the same time.</li> </ul>
Equipment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minimal shared equipment</li> <li>• Disinfect any shared equipment before, during and after use</li> </ul>	<p>DCMHA Plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No sharing of water bottles.</li> <li>• All protective equipment must always be worn and not be shared.</li> <li>• All athletes &amp; coaches will be asked to clean equipment after each session.</li> <li>• Any jerseys required should be washed before redistributing.</li> <li>• Coaches should limit use of whistles.</li> </ul>



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## **HYGIENE GUIDELINES**

### **From Hockey Canada Safety Guidelines**

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#### **PRIOR TO ACTIVITIES, DCMHA TO MEET AND DISCUSS WITH FACILITY:**

- ✓ Facility guidelines and requirements specific to physical distancing.
- ✓ Restrictions specific to the number of people allowed in public areas.
- ✓ Areas that may not be accessible – main lobby, dressing rooms, observation areas, showers, washrooms, etc.
- ✓ If dressing rooms are not available, have a common area to put on skates or remove skate guards with marked physical-distanced seating.
- ✓ Cleaning processes in the facility, including how often it is disinfected.
- ✓ General facility rules specific to practicing good hygiene.
- ✓ Personal hygiene requirements.

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## HYGIENE GUIDELINES

### From Hockey Canada Safety Guidelines (continued)

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- ✓ Minimize going in and out of doors, including the dressing room. Facility doors are considered high-risk touchpoints. Program/team staff should try and control the number of times players enter and exit dressing rooms, as this avoids contact with the door handles. Use the elbow to open.
- ✓ Absolutely no sharing of drinks or food.
- ✓ Towels should only be on the bench under the guidance of the safety person/trainer and for emergency use only. A towel should only be used once and then taken off the bench and washed.
- ✓ Paper towels/tissue can be on hand to wipe the face or blow the nose if on the bench. Ensure tissues are properly disposed of. Garbage cans or a plastic bag should be placed close to the bench.
- ✓ Emphasize to all participants that spitting and blowing the nose without tissue is absolutely forbidden.
- ✓ Each player needs to have a marked water bottle, which is washed after each ice session.
- ✓ Wash your hands after using restrooms with soap and water for at least 20 seconds AS PER HEALTH Authority Guidelines. Use alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available.

Proper Hand Hygiene:

<https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/healthy-living/hand-hygiene.html>

The Hockey Canada Safety Program recommends the following protocol for the use of water bottles:

- ✓ Good team hygiene includes ensuring all players and staff have their own water bottles to prevent the transmission of viruses and bacteria.
- ✓ It is prohibited for officials to drink from the goaltender's water bottle. If officials require water, they should have their own water bottle at the penalty bench.
- ✓ Bottles should be labelled and washed after each practice or game.
- ✓ There should not be sharing of water bottles in the penalty box, as well as no sharing of towels.

# APPENDIX A1: BC HOCKEY RETURN TO PLAY



Safety guidelines are now available via the links below from the Government of British Columbia, viaSport (on behalf of the BC Sport Sector) and Hockey Canada. These resources are meant to provide an introduction on how to prepare your Minor Hockey Association or League for a safe return to hockey.

The Safety Protocols produced by Hockey Canada are this first of many resources to be released, with additional guidelines in the following areas of focus: *Customer Engagement, Regulations, Officiating, Coaching, Seasonal Structure, Delivery Model, Registration, Events, High Performance Hockey, National Teams and Marketing & Communications.*

Next step(s) for BC Hockey members should be focused upon reviewing and applying these resources to their own association or league return to hockey plan that best prepares their particular participants and complies to expectations.



	Strictest Controls (over 15 May 18, 2020)	Transition Measures (between May 18 to June 1, 2020)	Progressively Loosen (from June 1 to July 1, 2020)	New Normal (after July 1, 2020)
Restrictions in Place	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintain Physical Distance (2m)</li> <li>No non-essential travel</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintain Physical Distance (2m)</li> <li>No non-essential travel</li> <li>No group gatherings over 50 people</li> </ul>	Refer to PHO and local health authorities	Refer to PHO and local health authorities
Enhanced Protocols	Increased hand hygiene	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased hand hygiene</li> <li>Symptom Screening in place</li> </ul>	Increased hand hygiene	Increased hand hygiene
Facility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Outdoor or within home</li> <li>Facilities and playgrounds closed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Outdoor is safest</li> <li>Indoor facilities slowly re-opening</li> </ul>	Outdoor/Indoor	Outdoor/Indoor
Participants	Individual activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Small Groups</li> <li>No or limited spectators</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Group sizes may increase</li> <li>Limited spectators</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Large groups allowed</li> <li>No restrictions on spectators</li> </ul>
Non-contact Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Low risk outdoor activities can occur (biking, running, etc.)</li> <li>Virtual activities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fundamental movement skills</li> <li>Modified training activities, drills</li> </ul>	Expansion of training activities	No restrictions on activity type
Contact Activities	Should not occur	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Should not occur</li> <li>CONTACT sports should look for non-contact alternatives to training</li> </ul>	Introduction to pair or small group contact skills	No restrictions on activity type
Competition	Should not occur	In club play or modified games may slowly be introduced	Interclub or regional game play may be considered	Provincial competitions and larger scale events may return
Equipment	No shared equipment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minimal shared equipment</li> <li>Disinfect any shared equipment before, during and after use</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Some shared equipment</li> <li>Enhanced cleaning protocols in place</li> </ul>	Shared equipment

## Checklist to Success

- ✓ **Review & Follow**
  - Provincial/territorial health authority guidelines
  - Local health authority guidelines
  - Hockey Canada Member guidelines
- ✓ **Plan**
  - Assign someone to monitor updates
  - Meet with your facility
  - Team staff clarify responsibilities specific to practices
  - Arrival at facility organized to meet guidelines
  - Hygiene requirements
  - Physical distancing in the facility
  - Guidelines around dressing rooms and showers
  - Physical distancing during on-ice sessions
  - Requirements for parents/guardians at the facility
  - Departure from facility organized to meet guidelines
  - Procedure if participant is sick
- ✓ **Meet with Parents/Guardians/Participants**
  - Overview of what to expect
  - Safety steps put in place
  - Their role in creating a safe and healthy environment
- ✓ **At the Facility**
  - Practice physical distancing
  - Practice responsible hygiene
  - Follow public health authority guidelines
  - Follow Member and facility guidelines
  - Have fun!

<b>Personal Hygiene:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Frequent handwashing</li> <li>Cough into your sleeve</li> <li>Wear a non-medical mask</li> <li>No handshaking</li> </ul>	<b>Stay Home if You Are Sick:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Routine daily screening</li> <li>Anyone with any symptoms must stay away from others</li> <li>Returning travellers must self-isolate</li> </ul>	<b>Environmental Hygiene:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>More frequent cleaning</li> <li>Enhance surface sanitation in high touch areas</li> <li>Touch-less technology</li> </ul>	<b>Safe Social Interactions:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meet with small numbers of people</li> <li>Maintain distance between you and people</li> <li>Size of room: the bigger the better</li> <li>Outdoor over indoor</li> </ul>	<b>Physical Modifications:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Spacing within rooms or in transit</li> <li>Room design</li> <li>Plexiglass barriers</li> <li>Movement of people within spaces</li> </ul>
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## APPENDIX B: DEFINITIONS

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**Return to Sport:** Return to Sport refers to the process of developing and implementing guidelines for sport organizations to operate safely in B.C. during this pandemic. Return to Sport Plans will be unique to each sport and must follow Provincial Health Office orders and recommendations. One set of guidelines will be created for each sport by the Provincial Sport Organization, and all club and PSO sanctioned activities should follow this set of guidelines.

**Cohort:** Is a group of participants who primarily interact with each other within the sport environment over an extended period of time. Cohort is to be no more than 4 teams.

**Physical Distancing:** According to the Provincial Health Officer, physical distancing requires keeping two meters (6 feet) (or at least two arms lengths) of space between individuals. It also includes staying at home when you are sick, even if symptoms are mild.  
FOR HOCKEY = APPROXIMATELY ONE ADULT STICK LENGTH

**Provincial Health Officer (PHO):** The Provincial Health Officer is the senior public health official for B.C., and is responsible for monitoring and reporting on the health of the population of B.C. This office works with the B.C. Centre for Disease Control and provides independent advice to the ministers and public officials on public health issues.

**Community Focused:** Community focused sport activities take place within the home sport community or clubs or associations where participants are members. This means avoiding cross-regional, inter-provincial or cross-country travel for sport.

**Recreation** as defined by the Canadian Parks and Recreation Association is the "experience that results from freely chosen participation in physical, social, intellectual, creative and spiritual pursuits that enhance individual and community wellbeing." Physical activities would include those undertaken as leisure, fitness training and sport-related activities that are done at the discretion of the individual (e.g. – use of parks, hiking trails, public recreation facilities), either self-led or facilitated by recreation leaders and are not included within the context of this document. Refer to Appendix B for a list of additional definitions pertinent to Return to Sport.

**Organized Sport Activities:** Involve several people doing something together in a structured way and is facilitated by a Provincial Sport Organization or Local Sport Organization.

**Competitive Activities:** Competitive activities are formal, organized games, matches and tournaments between participants where scores are recorded, and standings are kept.

**Rule of Two:** The goal of the Rule of Two is to ensure all interactions and communications are open, observable, and justifiable. Its purpose is to protect participants (especially minors) and coaches in potentially vulnerable situations by ensuring more than one adult is present. During the pandemic, compliance remains mandatory and organizations must ensure a coach is never alone and out of sight with a participant without another screened coach or screened



adult (parent or volunteer) present.

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## APPENDIX C: ILLNESS POLICY (VIASPORT)

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In this policy, “**Team Member**” includes an employee/staff, coach, volunteer, participant, athlete, or parent.

### 1. Inform:

- ✓ The DCMHA staff immediately if you feel any symptoms of COVID-19 such as fever, chills, cough, shortness of breath, sore throat and painful swallowing, stuffy or runny nose, loss of sense of smell, headache, muscle aches, fatigue and loss of appetite.

### 2 Assessment:

- ✓ Athletes and parents must review and conduct the self-assessment prior to participating in any association activities.
- ✓ Coaches will screen athletes prior to entering the facility and also visually monitor athletes during the session to assess any early warning signs as to the status of their health if needed. This will be reported to the Administrator and parents.

### 3. If a Team Member is feeling sick with COVID-19 symptoms:

- ✓ They should remain at home and contact Health Link BC at 8-1-1.
- ✓ If they feel sick and /or are showing symptoms while at the facility, they should be sent home immediately and have them contact 8-1-1 or a doctor for further guidance.
- ✓ No Team Member may participate in a practice/activity if they are symptomatic.

### 4. If a Team Member tests positive for COVID-19:

- ✓ The Team Member will not be permitted to return to the facility or any activity until they are medically cleared of the COVID-19 virus. See Appendix C3.
- ✓ Any Team Members who are part of the same session with the infected Team Member will also be removed from the facility/activity for at least 14 days to ensure the infection does not spread further.
- ✓ Close off, clean and disinfect their work/practice/facility area immediately and any surfaces that could have potentially be infected/touched.

**5. If a Team Member has been tested and is waiting for the results of a COVID-19 Test**

- ✓ As with the confirmed case, the Team Member must be removed from the facility/activity.
- ✓ The Public Health Agency of Canada advises that any person who has even mild symptoms to stay home and call the Public Health Authority of B.C.
- ✓ Other Team Members who may have been exposed will be informed and removed from the facility/activity for at least 14 days or until the diagnosis of COVID-19 is ruled out by health authorities.
- ✓ Close off, clean and disinfect their work/practice/facility area immediately and any surfaces that could have potentially be infected/touched.

**6. If a Team Member has come in contact with someone who is confirmed to have COVID-19:**

- ✓ Team Members must advise the Association and coach if they reasonably believe they have been exposed to COVID-19.
- ✓ Once the contact is confirmed, the Team Member will be removed from the facility/activity for at least 14 days or as otherwise directed by public health authorities. Team Members who may have come into close contact with the Team Member will also be removed from the facility/activity for at least 14 days.
- ✓ Close off, clean and disinfect their work/practice/facility area immediately and any surfaces that could have potentially be infected/touched.

**7. Quarantine or Self-Isolate if:**

- ✓ Any Team Member who has travelled outside of Canada or the province within the last 14 days is not permitted to enter any part of the facility and must quarantine and self-isolate.
- ✓ Any Team Member with any symptoms of COVID-19 is not permitted to enter any part of the facility and must quarantine and self-isolate.
- ✓ Any Team Member from a household with someone showing symptoms of COVID19 is not permitted to enter any part of the facility and must quarantine and self-isolate.
- ✓ Any Team Member who is in quarantine or self-isolating as a result of contact with an infected person or in families who are self-isolating, is not permitted to enter any part of the facility.



## APPENDIX C1: ILLNESS POLICY (HOCKEY CANADA)

Note that the procedure below applies to non-injury related illness and all other return to play guidelines specific to injuries still apply.

### SECTION 7

# Recommended Return to Hockey Procedures

The following are recommended guidelines for team staff, parents and guardians for participants who are sick or showing symptoms of COVID-19. It is important to remember that public health authority guidelines and advice from physicians must be followed in any situation where a participant is sick.



## APPENDIX C2: ILLNESS POLICY (HOCKEY CANADA)

# Positive COVID-19 Test in Hockey Environment

### Important!

If a sick participant (or their parent/guardian if the participant is a minor) elects to inform a team/hockey association/Member that they have been diagnosed with COVID-19, the individual informed shall seek the sick participant/their parent's/guardian's consent to contact public health authorities in order to obtain advice on communication with other potentially impacted participants. The sick participant (or their parent/guardian if the participant is a minor) should be asked to advise Public Health of this consent.

Explain the communication that will take place and NEVER disclose the sick person's name.

PARTICIPANT  
TESTS POSITIVE FOR COVID-19  
AND CONTACTS THEIR PHYSICIAN  
  
FOLLOW PUBLIC HEALTH GUIDELINES

IMMEDIATE REMOVAL FROM HOCKEY ENVIRONMENT FOR ANYONE IN THE HOME

REPORT TO PUBLIC HEALTH AUTHORITIES, FOLLOW GUIDELINES

PUBLIC HEALTH AUTHORITY DETERMINES COMMUNICATION PROTOCOL AND TRACING OF ALL CONTACTS  
  
COOPERATE ON ANY NECESSARY COMMUNICATION.

NOTE REQUIRED FROM A PHYSICIAN OR PUBLIC HEALTH AUTHORITY TO RETURN TO PLAY

In Canada, the management of public health crises is a matter involving close coordination between all levels of government. There is therefore a variety of public and private sector privacy legislation at the federal, provincial and territorial levels that govern the collection, use and disclosure of personal information. There are provincial and territorial privacy authorities that oversee compliance with the [privacy legislation](#) at the federal, provincial and territorial levels that govern the collection, use and disclosure of personal information. There are provincial and territorial privacy authorities that oversee compliance with the privacy legislation in their respective jurisdictions, and some have [published their own statements](#) relevant to the matter of COVID-19.

## APPENDIX C3: ILLNESS POLICY (HOCKEY CANADA)

Note that the procedure below applies to non-injury related illness and all other return to play guidelines specific to injuries still apply.

**PARTICIPANT ADVISES TEAM STAFF  
THEY ARE NOT FEELING WELL  
AND WILL NOT BE ATTENDING**

Participant is advised to follow up with their physician. They will require a note from their physician to return to activity.

Any participant with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 should not return to the hockey environment until all public health authority steps have been completed. They will require a note from their physician or public health authority to return to activity.

If a participant is confirmed to have COVID-19, refer to the following section for recommended communication.

**PARTICIPANT ADVISES  
THEY HAVE SYMPTOMS OF COVID-19  
AND WILL NOT BE ATTENDING**

If a participant has COVID-19, they should follow up with their physician and public health authority for instructions.

Any participant with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 should not return to the hockey environment until all public health authority steps have been completed. They will require a note from their physician or public health authority to return to activity.

If a participant is confirmed to have COVID-19, refer to the following section for recommended communication.

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## APPENDIX D: PARTICIPANT AGREEMENT

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Application - all athletes, coaches, members, volunteers, participants, and family members of participants while in attendance at Association activities (“Participants”).

All Participants of the **Dawson Creek Minor Hockey (DCMHA)** agree to abide by the following points when entering designated public facilities operated by the City of Dawson Creek and/or participating in Association summer hockey activities under the RTP Protocol:

- ✓ I agree to symptom screening checks prior to entering the facility and will let DCMHA know if I have experienced any of the symptoms in the last 14 days.
- ✓ I agree to stay home if feeling sick and remain home for 14 days if experiencing COVID-19 symptoms. If Tested and test comes back negative, I will return when symptom free with a doctor’s note to be presented to DCMHA Official.
- ✓ I agree to sanitize my hands before entering the facility and upon exiting the facility.
- ✓ I agree to sanitize my equipment after each session with approved cleaning products.
- ✓ I always agree to continue to follow physical distancing protocols of staying at least 2 meters away from others.
- ✓ I agree to not share any equipment before, during or after practice times, including water bottles.
- ✓ I agree to abide by all of the Associations and Dawson Creek Memorial Arena COVID-19 Policies and Safety Guidelines.
- ✓ I understand that if I do not abide by the policies/guidelines, that I may be asked to leave all programs.
- ✓ I acknowledge that continued abuse of the policies and/or guidelines may result in suspension from the association.
- ✓ I acknowledge that there are risks associated with entering the Memorial Arena facilities and/or participating in association activities, and that the measures taken by the association and participants, including those set out above and under the Return to Hockey Protocols, will not entirely eliminate those risks.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Participant Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Parent or Guardian)

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## APPENDIX E: DISCLAIMER

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### Disclaimer:

The information in this document is not intended or implied to be a substitute for professional medical advice, diagnosis, or treatment. The Dawson Creek Minor Hockey Association makes no representation and assumes no responsibility in respect of their information concerning COVID-19 as the circumstances are constantly changing, and any information on COVID-19 should be obtained from your Public Health Authority.

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## APPENDIX F: RESOURCES

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Public Health Authorities in Canada: <https://www.justice.gc.ca/eng/cv/author.html>

COVID-19 Information: <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/coronavirusdisease-covid-19.html>

Provincial & Territorial Resources: <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirusinfection/symptoms/provincial-territorial-resources-covid-19.html>

COVID-19 Awareness Resources: <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirusinfection/awareness-resources.html>

COVID-19 & Privacy: [https://www.priv.gc.ca/en/privacy-topics/health-genetic-and-other-body-information/healthemergencies/gd\\_covid\\_202003/](https://www.priv.gc.ca/en/privacy-topics/health-genetic-and-other-body-information/healthemergencies/gd_covid_202003/)

Travel Advisories: <https://travel.gc.ca/travelling/advisories>

Proper Hand Hygiene: <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/healthy-living/handhygiene.html>

Disinfectants & Hand Sanitizers: <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/drugs-healthproducts/disinfectants/covid-19.html>

Hockey Canada: <https://www.hockeycanada.ca/en-ca/exclusive/return-tohockey>

Hockey Canada Members:  
<https://www.hockeycanada.ca/enca/corporate/contact/branches>

Hockey Canada Safety Programs: <https://www.hockeycanada.ca/en-ca/hockeyprograms/safety/essentials/safety-program>

Hockey Canada Safety Essentials: <https://www.hockeycanada.ca/en-ca/hockeyprograms/safety/essentials>

Coaching Association of Canada: <https://coach.ca/covid19>

Public Health Authorities in Canada: <https://www.justice.gc.ca/eng/cv/author.html>

Northern Health: <https://www.northernhealth.ca/>

ViaSport BC: <https://www.viasport.ca/>