



COVID-19 Best Practices Return to Hockey

The EFHL and its member organizations are committed to creating a fun and safe environment for all stakeholders as we enter the 2021-2022 Hockey Season. To facilitate this and alleviate some of the anxiety our participants and stakeholders may face as we return to Hockey, the Edmonton Federation Hockey League is providing the following suggestions to alleviate some of those concerns. These suggestions are not mandatory. They are recommended practices to increase both the comfortability and safety for all participants and stakeholders.

1. We recommend that any player, coach, official or spectator who is not comfortable returning to a non-mask environment to wear their mask in facilities, dressing rooms or on Players benches. Some individuals and families are exercising different levels of risk and we want to ensure that all families feel comfortable participating in minor hockey regardless of their health decisions.
2. All stakeholders should continue to socially distance as much as possible in dressing room environments prior to entry to the ice surface and in the stands for spectators.
3. We continue to recommend cleaning and sanitizing of water bottles and equipment following each hockey activity as well as no sharing of water bottles, towels or other equipment.
4. All stakeholders should continue to stay away from recreational facilities and team activities if they are sick, not feeling well or have any Covid-19 symptoms.
5. Staff back up plans should be in place to ensure no staff member needs to attend any team activity if they are not feeling well or have any Covid-19 symptoms.
6. We continue to encourage hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette:
 - Encourage athletes to wash hands before and after their activities;
 - If soap and water are not readily available, the use of hand sanitizer is recommended;
 - Discourage spitting and encourage everyone to cover their mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing;
 - Encourage athletes, coaches and spectators from singing, chanting or yelling as much as possible;
 - Ensure adequate supplies to support healthy hygiene
7. Continue to be mindful and have mutual respect for all participants and stakeholders regardless of the level of risk they may be exercising.

Our sport relies on a community of volunteers to provide a high level of commitment to make minor hockey a success throughout the EFHL and its member organizations. We need to continue to work together and ensure we provide a safe and fun environment for all stakeholders as we embark on the 2021-2022 season.