

LANGENBURG MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION RETURN TO HOCKEY



This document is subject to change at any time with new direction provided by the Saskatchewan Health Authority, Government of Saskatchewan, Town of Langenburg, Saskatchewan Hockey Association and Hockey Canada

CONTENTS

Introduction	3
Requirements	3
Team Photos	4
Protocols and Safety	4
Insurance	5
Facility	6

INTRODUCTION

Langenburg Minor Hockey Association (LMHA) is under the direction and guidance of the Government of Saskatchewan and the Saskatchewan Health Authority in developing a “Return to Hockey” plan. Further guidance has also been provided by Hockey Canada, Saskatchewan Hockey Association and the Town of Langenburg.

The LMHA – Return to Hockey is current as of October 20, 2021 and is based on the requirements of the Government of Saskatchewan as of this date. Updates will be made accordingly to ensure compliance with evolving requirements.

REQUIREMENTS

The current Government of Saskatchewan public health order requires the use of non-medical masks in all indoor public spaces in Saskatchewan. All areas of the Langenburg Remax Arena are considered indoor public spaces.

The only people exempt from using a mask during LMHA activities are players and on ice officials under the age of 18 while they are engaged in athletic activity. This would include during practice or during a game.

Coaches and off ice officials are not exempt regardless of age.

Bandanas or gaiter masks are not appropriate face coverings.

Any player, coach or official who tests positive for COVID-19, has been deemed a close contact of a person who tested positive for COVID-19 or is experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 cannot attend or participate in any LMHA activities until the end of their required isolation period.

*** Players, coaches or officials who are fully vaccinated against COVID-19 and are not experiencing any symptoms of COVID-19 are exempt.

TEAM PHOTOS

Team photos are permitted, given that masks are worn by coaches and staff members prior to and after the photo has been taken.

PROTOCOLS AND SAFETY

The safety and well-being of players, coaches, officials, volunteers and families is of the utmost importance. Parents and players play a key role in the Return to Hockey plan. Their responsibilities include:

- Stay at home if experiencing any symptoms of COVID-19.
- Become educated on the safety protocols and procedures prior to attending any session and adhere to them while at the session.
- Ensure each player has their own water bottle which is sanitized prior to each session.
- Ensure equipment is dried, cleaned and/or sanitized following each session.
- Arrange appropriate transportation to and from each session.

Each LMHA team manager will be responsible for tracking all participants and attendees during team activities (practice, games, etc). All attendees will be required to sign-in on arrival to the facility. This information is to be kept for one month. A contactless form to be completed online may be available as arranged by each team's manager.

INSURANCE

Under Hockey Canada's current General Liability policy, the following is the definition for 'bodily injury':

“bodily Injury” means bodily injury, sickness, disease, mental injury, mental anguish or nervous shock sustained by a person, including death resulting from any of these at any time.

As it relates to COVID-19, that would fall within the definition - more specifically, under disease. Liability claims against Hockey Canada always need to be proven by the third party, so continuing to update and enforce risk-management guidelines as new risks emerge, such as COVID-19, are imperative. Understand that Hockey Canada and its Members are actively working on updating risk-management protocols related to Return to Hockey guidelines post-COVID-19.

As with all claim scenarios, the insurance company would investigate all claims presented against any member of Hockey Canada that falls within the 'bodily injury' definition and would confirm coverage based on the framing of the allegations.

It will also be important to review new municipal rink/private rink facility contracts post-COVID-19 for all rentals; in all likelihood, they will now contain a new clause which absolves the municipality/private facility owners of any liability related to COVID-19.

New lease agreements will need to be carefully scrutinized given that organizations will potentially have little control over cleaning/sanitizing of rented premises and shouldn't be expected to take on all liability related to COVID-19 in these facilities. (LMHA and Town of Langenburg will each be responsible for sanitizing specified areas of the facility.)

Finally, it should be noted that many insurance companies are implementing Communicable Disease/COVID-19 exclusions on all policies either immediately, or upon renewal. Hockey Canada can advise that AIG, who is Hockey Canada's primary General Liability insurer, has agreed to waive this exclusion in the General Liability policy until Sept. 1, 2023. Hockey Canada will NOT have this exclusion in its policy until that date, at the earliest.

FACILITY

The Town of Langenburg and the Langenburg Remax Arena are guided by the Government of Saskatchewan Public Health Orders and have not implemented any further restrictions on the facility use.

Should any facility users including: players, coaches, officials or spectators fail to comply with Public Health Orders while in the facility, the activity will be paused and will not resume until full compliance has been met.