



Slave Lake Minor Hockey Association
Covid-19 Visiting Team Guidelines

UPDATED: November 12, 2020

The following guidelines will be in place while the Province of Alberta remains in Stage 2 of the provincial re-opening plan and may be extended longer at the discretion of the Slave Lake Minor Hockey Association. These procedures are in compliance with the Covid-19 safety measures implemented by the Government of Alberta, AHS, Hockey Alberta and the Town of Slave Lake.

COHORT:

A cohort user group is defined as a bubble of participants and coaches whose members stay the same. A sport cohort can play in a regional cohort of no more than 50 people. This includes players and coaching staff. Parents, guardians and spectators are not considered part of the cohort. The Government of Alberta recommends that participants only belong to one sport cohort at a time. If your group does not meet the definition of a cohort, please follow the social distancing procedures as outlined in the guidelines below.

MRC GUIDELINES:

- spectators must maintain a 2 metre distance between members of different households.
- a maximum of 100 spectators is allowed per arena. (30 visitor, 70 home).
- children and youth spectators must be with a responsible adult seated in the arena. At no time will free play be permitted. (this includes mini sticks, running around the arena or playing in the stands).
- all spectators must be seated. Standing at the glass to watch games will not be permitted.
- children are not permitted in the lobby without an adult accompanying them.
- participants must not arrive more than 30 minutes prior to their scheduled ice time. They must exit the facility within 15 minutes once the scheduled ice time concludes.
- water bottles must be clearly labelled.
- players are encouraged to come to the MRC as dressed as possible.
- change rooms will only be available for user groups who identify as a cohort. Masks is encouraged in the change room. Showers will remain closed.
- Hockey Canada and the MRC are encouraging players not to bring hockey bags into the facility.
- a cohort cannot exceed more than 50 people. This includes players and coaches.

ENTERING THE MRC:

- players are encouraged to come to the arena as dressed as possible.
- hockey bags are discouraged from being brought into the MRC.
- players, coaches and spectators may arrive 30 minutes before their scheduled game time. Please do not enter earlier.

-COHORT TEAMS: players and coaches will wear their masks while they enter the facility. Masks will remain on until they are ready to proceed to the ice surface. Sanitize hands when entering the MRC, complete health screening and attendance sheet. Then proceed directly to the assigned team dressing room.

-social distance in public areas such as the lobby and bathrooms or wherever a 2 meter distance cannot be maintained. This includes participants of the team cohort as these common areas will have people outside of the team cohort.

-spectators, parents, guardians will enter the facility, sanitize, complete health screening, complete attendance sheet and proceed directly to the stands where social distance must be maintained.

-follow any signage or guidance provided by the MRC or their staff.

-SOCIAL DISTANCING TEAMS: players and coaches will wear a mask while they enter the facility. Masks will remain on until they are ready to proceed to the ice surface. Sanitize hands when entering the MRC, complete health screening and attendance with a SLMHA member. Then proceed directly to the assigned area for putting on skates.

EXITING THE MRC:

-COHORT TEAMS: participants and coaches will proceed directly to their assigned dressing room after leaving the ice surface, where they will then put their mask back on. They will have 15 minutes to undress essential equipment like skates and exit the MRC. Practice social distancing while transitioning through public areas, such as the lobby.

-loitering to socialize after your scheduled ice time will not be permitted (even if within the 15 minute exit time).

-parents, guardians and spectators are encouraged to exit MRC as soon as scheduled ice time or event ends. Do not wait in lobby for players to undress. Social distance as you transition through the lobby to exit.

-SOCIAL DISTANCING TEAMS: participants and coaches will proceed directly to the skate removal area after leaving the ice surface, where they will then put their mask back on. They will have 15 minutes to undress essential equipment like skates and exit the MRC. Practice social distancing while transitioning through public areas, such as the lobby.

-loitering to socialize after your scheduled ice time will not be permitted (even if within the 15 minute exit time).

-parents, guardians and spectators are encouraged to exit MRC as soon as scheduled ice time or event ends. Do not wait in lobby for players to undress. Social distance as you transition through the lobby to exit.

ATHLETE EXPECTATIONS:

-no yelling, spitting, dancing, singing, blowing nose or cheering.

-no sharing of water bottles.

-water bottles must be clearly labelled.

- do not attend team games if you are experiencing any Covid-19 symptoms. For those that suffer from asthma or allergies, you should not be attending games if your symptoms are more severe than your normal baseline of health. If you are experiencing a normal symptom of allergies, you can attend. However, you must be cognisant that if it gets worse than normal or you develop additional symptoms that does not normally accompany your allergies, you should stay home until you have received a negative test or you feel better. If your association has policies in place regarding Covid-19 symptom, allergies or asthma that is more restrictive than our guidelines, please follow their procedures.
- wear a mask while entering the MRC until player is ready to put on helmet and proceed to ice surface.
- cohort users do not need to socially distance on the bench.
- social distancing users need to social distance in the lobby, hallways, skate tying area and on the bench.
- if a player chooses to participate in more than one sport, SLMHA and Hockey Alberta recommends they isolate for 14 days before joining the next sport. If both activities are occurring during the same timeframe, the individual will not be considered part of either teams cohort. They will be required to social distance whenever interacting with the team while on the bench, in the dressing room or anywhere else off-ice.

SPECTATOR/PARENT/GUARDIAN EXPECTATIONS:

- masks may be required within certain areas of the arena. (in the Pembina arena (commonly referred to as Arena 2) masks will be required to sit on the stands that run parallel with the length of the ice as social distancing is not possible in this area).
- no yelling, spitting, dancing, singing, blowing nose or cheering.
- do not send a participant to a game if they are experiencing Covid-19 symptoms.
- do not attend events if you are experiencing Covid-19 symptoms yourself.
- social distance whenever possible. Wear a mask when you cannot maintain a 2 metre distance between yourself and members of another household.
- social distance in main areas of the arena, such as the lobby and washrooms.
- enter the MRC and proceed directly to the stands. (unless required to assist a player). Anyone helping to tie skates for youth players will be required to wear a mask, sanitize hands and wear gloves. (please bring these items with you).
- a maximum of 100 spectators is allowed in each arena. (30 visitor, 70 home).
- if a parent or guardian chooses to coach more than one sport or more than one team, they will not be considered a part of either teams cohort. They will be required to social distance whenever interacting with the team while on the bench, in the dressing room or anywhere else off-ice.

RAPID RESPONSE PREPAREDNESS AND PLAN:

- SLMHA encourages all visiting teams to develop a rapid response plan in the event that a coach or player develops symptoms while travelling with the team and visiting our arena. We encourage all teams to bring a PPE kit with them that includes: masks, gloves and hand sanitizer to be used in the event they need to tend to a symptomatic person.

CONTACT TRACING:

-all team events such as games require a detailed tracking of who attends the event. When you arrive at the MRC a SLMHA member will be at the entrance taking attendance and asking for a contact number. This information will be kept for 14 days.

HEALTH SCREENING:

-all players and spectators will be asked the following health screening questions when they enter the MRC. No one who answers yes to any of the following screening questions will be permitted into the facility.

Slave Lake Minor Hockey Association
COVID-19 Screening Questions

1. Do you have any of the following symptoms;
 - fever
 - cough
 - shortness of breath
 - sore throat
 - chills
 - painful swallowing
 - runny nose
 - feeling unwell/fatigued
 - nausea/vomiting or diarrhea
2. Have you travelled outside of Canada in the last 14 days?
3. Have you had close contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19 in the last 14 days?
***If you answered yes to any of these questions you will not be permitted into the facility, please exit and complete the AHS self assessment tool online.**

COMPLIANCE OF PROCEDURES:

-given the risk of a Covid-19 outbreak, it is pivotal that all policies and procedures are followed. Associations, teams or users claiming ignorance of guidelines will not be permitted as an excuse. We must all work together to ensure a successful season. The MRC has implemented the following consequences for disobeying these procedures;

Visiting Teams- will be required to follow the protocols of the MRC. The first offense will result in a letter advising them of the breach and the rules that need to be followed. A second offense will result in that team not being permitted to use the MRC facility.

SLMHA COVID COORDINATOR:

-the designated covid coordinator is responsible for implementing procedures within the SLMHA to ensure communication, education and compliance of the Covid safety measures is followed at all levels. If you have any questions regarding these guidelines or visiting our arena, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Current Covid Coordinator is: Pam Boucher: call/text **780-805-1422** or email pamlawson82@hotmail.com