

October 13, 2020

Hello SARA Team Safety Officers!

Just thought I would put together some information for you regarding questions that I had been asked as things may have been a bit confusing.

What is the Team Safety Officer Role?

Team Safety Officer- RAMP TEAM APP. Within Alberta, each team and/or cohort also requires a TEAM Safety Officer. The Team Safety Officer will not have contact with any participants unless they are also a coach. The duties of the team safety officer are as follows:

1. Adding ALL events and participants (players, coaches, officials) to the Team App. in RAMP (Association Safety Officer will assist).
2. Ensure all participants complete their COVID-19 Health Checklist prior (24 Hours Maximum) to participating in any sanctioned event.
3. Document team members who are marked available for an event, but do not attend in the event details tab of the RAMP App. (See below in RAMP app section how to do this).

## **RAMP APP**

All events must go on the RAMP team app for tracking purposes.

If a player arrives at an event after the event has started, and they have not completed the RAMP app COVID health check form, they may fill out a paper copy. Make a note in the event details (may have to do via desktop version, going in and editing the practice). Once you submit, then refresh the app, it will appear there as well.

I would like to help clarify question #4 on the team app. Here goes...

The question goes as follows.

Has the attendee had close contact with a symptomatic (someone with COVID-19 symptoms on the list above) close contact of a confirmed case of COVID-19 in the last 14 days?

Athlete A is confirmed with Covid 19, Athlete B is a close contact. Athlete C is a close contact of Athlete B. If Athlete B is exhibiting symptoms of Covid 19, then the answer for that question is yes. If Athlete B is not exhibiting symptoms, the answer is no.

I have also had questions regarding whether athletes can sign the COVID App after an event/practice/game has begun. The answer is no. At that point they will have to fill out a COVID Health Check form. The updated forms are available on the SARA website, and I will update them as RAB updates them (there is a new one that was just posted, and I'm expecting another update this week to change wording on it). I would only print a few off at a time, as with things changing, the form could be changing frequently.

## **COHORTS**

RAB is following AHS recommendations regarding the number of Cohorts an athlete can belong to. Currently unless a player is also a coach, or referee, they may only belong to one RINGETTE cohort. If an athlete belongs to another sport cohort, the athlete must inform RAB. Currently with the new guidelines released by AHS on October 8, 2020, that is unchanged, although athletes are still only recommended to only belong to one sport cohort.

## **SUPPLEMENTAL COACHES**

Supplemental coaches must fill out a COVID Health Check Form ( I would recommend a paper copy, then add it to the event details). Regarding dryland coaches at fitness facilities, most facilities have their staff fill out the form prior to working for the day. I would keep a note on who the trainer is, but not worry about a form, unless the facility does not have the trainer fill out a COVID Health Check Form.

## **DRESSING ROOMS**

I've fielded many questions regarding whether athletes should be coming dressed to their practices and games. St. Albert has not changed their guidelines as of yet regarding dressing rooms. As far as practices are concerned, if the ice is shared, then coming dressed is recommended as your team will only have access to one dressing room, whereas if you have a full ice practice, your team should be able to fit easily into both dressing rooms, so not necessary to come dressed.

Regarding games. I am working on that, and don't have any answers for you regarding when the number of athletes in a dressing room will change even though they are the same cohort. That is the City of St. Albert who is regulating that.

## **OFFICIALS**

This is the latest information, thank you Kristin for summarizing for me. The coaches officiating course will not be available before October 15, 2020.

Teams will be notified who their officials are prior to their games. The teams need to add the officials to their RAMP App, so that they can sign the COVID health check form on there.

### **RAB will have ZERO tolerance for abuse of officials.**

A decision regarding possible provincial play will be announced no later than November 15th.

### **-U14AA and higher**

should be assigned at least one cohorted official per cohort. If for some reason the officials do not show up for a game, it is to be played as shinny/scrimmage. There should be no coaches on or off the ice acting as officials. Coaches are expected to keep their players in check when it comes to safety on the ice during scrimmages.

### **-U10S3-14A**

-may or may not have assigned cohorted officials. At least one coach from each team should take the officiating course that RC is developing, therefore SARA is urging all coaches to take the course so we have plenty of options on each team. It is expected that in the absence of a certified official each team will provide one coach, who has taken the course, to officiate the game.

-Coaches who have not taken the course are NOT allowed to officiate any games, either on or off the ice. (Don't stand on the bench and blow a whistle)

-If one certified official comes to a game that will be the only official on the ice. Coaches may not join so that there are 2 officials.

-If no official comes to a game and there are no coaches present who have taken the officials course the game is to be run as a scrimmage. It should follow the same format as 14AA up.

## **U10S1&2**

-coaches are to use games as teaching games.

-no officials will be assigned

-infractions should be used as chances to teach the rules and direct players not be penalizing.

## **Minor Officials**

- Facilities should be sanitizing the minor official's box and equipment prior to each use

- Minor officials shall wear masks, should have sanitizer, provided by the home team

- Home will provide ALL three volunteers, visitors DO NOT provide any.

- Shot clock may move to other areas, if necessary, and only after communication with an on-ice official

- Players will enter and exit penalty boxes on their own o Use verbal communication to cue the players, or remind them to close the door properly

- On-ice officials will put on their masks if communication is not possible at a distance

- On-ice officials may direct or ask for the game sheet to be lifted up to the glass or provide instructions on filling out the game sheet, to limit touch points
- Avoid using the hole in the glass for communication, use doors if necessary
- Avoid sharing roles, limit contact points

**NOTE:** Minor officials are NOT part of the cohorts

Last but not least, if you have any questions, please review the information posted from RAB and AHS which is on the SARA website. Most answers are there. I have updated RQB's arena guideline on the SARA website. Coaches and managers, if you have a question, please consult with your team safety officer, and if they do not know or are unsure of the answer, then they can reach out to me and I will do my best to find the correct answer, and pass that information to all Team Safety Officers, as if it's a question on one team, I'm sure that it is a question on another.

Hope that helps

Craig Wing  
SARA Safety Officer