



## NAI Hockey Season 2020/2021 Special Considerations

*Rather than modify our Guidelines and Regulations, we need to highlight particular items of concern here. These items take precedence over the regular Approved League Regulations because they are necessary for our League to comply with current Alberta Health Requirements and Hockey Alberta Rules for this year, effective the Return To Hockey Update October 9, 2020*

### **No Game Changes**

Games must be played on assigned dates to avoid quarantine issues.

### **No Reschedules**

If a team can not make it due to weather or sickness, it does not get rescheduled. It is canceled. Both teams end up with less games. If some sort of team negligence is proven for the cancelation, fines will be given according to a forfeit of the game. If a visiting team can not make it due to weather or sickness, the visiting team will still be responsible for half the ice and referee expenses.

### **Team Managers must Talk Together**

Because every arena has different covid related restrictions, the team managers must speak to each other before a game so that the visiting team is aware of what they can and cannot do. This includes everything from where to enter and exit the building, how many spectators are allowed, expectations for mask wearing, and dressing room access and time limits before and after the game. Please remember to also discuss the normal game management protocols such as the number of floods and the time frame for when the game has to end.

### **Cohort Number Calculations**

Cohorts of 50 or less are based on player counts submitted by teams/associations and do not include coaches. All coaches will be required to adhere to guidelines to remain on the bench, including the wearing of masks, and physical distancing "wherever possible" (per AHS and HA restrictions).

For those who are counting participants at a particular game, bear in mind that many of the cohorts we built involve more than the two teams on the ice. Governors have a list of teams and the cohorts they are in. They will be monitoring that teams are following the cohort rules.

It is each Association's responsibility to ensure the cohort is not exceeding the maximum amount of 50 when playing games. Simply counting the players listed on the website may not be accurate because of attendance - someone may be injured or sick or suspended or be a late addition to a team. Game sheets should be our record. Talk to the managers to confirm numbers!

### **Team Placements & Regular Season**

Placements (tiering) will be decided in mid-December. Prior to this feedback is encouraged through discussion with the division Governor or Senior Governor and submission of a Tiering Request Form available on the website.

Regular Season will not be declared by the NAI until AHS and HA give a formal announcement to all associations and leagues. When announced we will be working within those guidelines to provide the best experience possible for the players.

*\*\*Remember, communication is the key element to success this season. Please communicate often with your opponents, and remember the chain of communication protocol for the league - Association President, Tier Governor, Senior Governor, Vice-President, and lastly NAI President.*