



Regina, September 1, 2021

Subject: COVID-19 weekly information note #12

Hello all Water Polo Saskatchewan members,

With the end of the Summer Holidays comes the return to school AND the return to Water Polo! The COVID-19 pandemic is still around us, so here is the latest news from Sask Health Authorities (SHA) and how they will affect Water Polo in Saskatchewan (WPS).

Saskatchewan Government is at this point not reinstating COVID-19 protocols (including vaccine requirement), so it is assumed that special measures should be taken at a local level or by individuals.

Following the SHA approach, WPS will not implement a provincial protocol but will encourage clubs to work with and follow local measures taken by cities and/or school boards.

WPS would like to remind all the participants to remain cautious and aware of the risks still existing with the COVID-19 pandemic. Business, facilities, and clubs might still maintain some restrictions and members should follow them.

Individuals 12 years and older are strongly advised to get vaccinated and maintain some measures, such as:

- Face mask might be worn while on deck by athletes and staff wishing to do so
- Physical distance while on deck might be maintained by athletes and staff wishing to do so
- Public access to pool deck might be restricted by facilities/cities wishing to do so

Water Polo in Saskatchewan will stay in the Step 4 of our Return to Sport Plan. Please refer to our website and WPS Return to Sport Plan for more information.

Members can expect more specific information in regards to their child's program to be sent from their clubs.

In the meantime, WPS would ask its members to follow the next guidelines as they are still good practice at this time:

1. Daily Monitoring

Daily monitoring of participants is under **the participants (for 18 and older) or parents (for 17 and under) responsibility.**

All members must answer 'NO' to all the following questions prior to attending any training session:

- Do I have any of the symptoms: cough, shortness of breath, chest pain, difficult breathing, fever, chills, repeated shaking with chills, abnormal muscle pain, headache, sore throat, painful swallowing, runny nose, new loss of taste or smell, gastrointestinal illness?
- Have I been in contact with or cared for someone with COVID-19?
- Have I returned from a trip outside the country within the last 2 weeks?

If a member has responded "yes" to any of the above question then he/she must not attend training and are advised to contact the Saskatchewan Health Authority Health line by calling 811 for further advisement.

Members **MUST** then contact their club to inform them of the situation and their protocol.

2. Daily Tracking

Daily tracking will be done by the club/program keeping attendance at each practice. This is a requirement from Sask Health Authority in order for them to do their contact tracing in case of a positive case found within our sport. Attendance records will be kept for a minimum of 30 days by the club.

3. Outbreak

In the case that a member is linked to an outbreak, **they will be asked to not attend training for 48 hours** (unless otherwise advised by SHA authorities), which the estimated time is taken for SHA to contact persons exposed to a positive COVID-19 case. If after 48 hours the member has not been contacted and NO symptoms are present, they may return to training.

In this situation again members **MUST** inform their club of the situation and keep them updated of the situation.

4. Physical distancing and protective masks guidelines



Physical distancing and protective masks are not mandatory by WPS but might be required by your local club, facility or city/town.

However if a member wish to continue with one or both of these measure, they should feel comfortable to do so.

WPS is supporting clubs to add further requirements if they judge the necessity of it.

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