



# Simons Valley Hockey Association COVID-19 Safety Protocols

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UPDATED: September 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2020

Simons Valley Hockey Association is open and ready to hit the ice!

While we are all excited for the season, I think we all understand that this year is going to look different than previous years due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. That doesn't mean it won't be awesome, but it will require some additional attention to details and safety protocols for all of us.

Simons Valley Hockey Association takes the health and safety of our participants very seriously. With this in mind, SVHA has worked closely with Hockey Calgary and our facilities to understand each organizations' specific rules regarding the COVID-19 pandemic and how they will affect our membership. Each facility will have rules specific to their location due to their size, staffing, layout and other activities taking place in the facility.

On August 27, 2020 we received the final briefing of rules, regulations and safety protocol from VIVO. VIVO has been working diligently to adapt their guidelines based on local and national consultation with other facilities to work for their facility and ultimately for SVHA. On the same day, we received the updated Return to Play program from Hockey Calgary. Now, we're bringing the most recent information to you. Please note that these processes and policies are subject to change at any given time.

## THE PROTOCOLS & THE SEASON

SVHA must adhere first to the rules of the facility (following AHS guidelines) and then to the rules of Hockey Calgary.

It is important to note that very few of the rules and regulation were developed by SVHA. We are, however, responsible for managing the adherence to the rules by members of our association and we will do so diligently, to ensure our reputation remains solid with our partners.

We have no doubt that our membership will understand and respect both the rules and the facility staff and SVHA representatives who are put in place to enforce them, as the consequences of not doing so, puts the entire association at risk of being shut down by VIVO and/or Hockey Calgary. We have already seen an example of this in another jurisdiction and want our kids to have as wonderful a season, as unusual as it may be, as possible. There will be a zero-tolerance policy for anyone who demonstrates anything to contrary.

First and foremost, SVHA families are a part of the greater Hockey Calgary hockey family. This means we adhere to the protocols and format outlined by the Return-To-Play document created by them. We strongly encourage you to review this document, if you haven't already. It will answer the majority of the questions you'll have about the format of the upcoming season including how the league will operate, team cohorts, phases of the play, symptom screens, what to do if a player becomes ill, etc.

**Hockey Calgary Return-to-Play:**

[https://www.hockeycalgary.ca/assets/file/Operations/covid/Return\\_to\\_Play\\_-\\_Community\\_Aug\\_27\\_UPDATE.pdf](https://www.hockeycalgary.ca/assets/file/Operations/covid/Return_to_Play_-_Community_Aug_27_UPDATE.pdf)

## OUR ARENA PARTNERS

Over the past number of weeks, the various arenas have released the rules specific to their facility. On August 28<sup>th</sup> members of the SVHA board did a walk-through with our primary facility, Vivo for Healthier Generations, to get even more details. Below we have provided both a quick glance overview of the most important high-level information and a link to the details for each venue. Please take some time to review these in the coming days before the season begins.

***YOU MAY NOT ENTER A FACILITY UNTIL 15 MINUTES BEFORE YOUR ICE TIME. THIS POLICY WILL BE STRICTLY ENFORCED.***

***Vivo for Healthier Generations:***

**<https://www.Vivo.ca/about-Vivo/news/reopening-faqs/>**

- As this is our primary facility – **ADDITIONAL DETAILS ARE PROVIDED IN THE NOTES BELOW**
- Masks required at all times (except while on ice)
- No spectators/guardians allowed (U11, U9 & U7 exception, see below)
- You may only enter the facility 15 minutes before your ice time

***Don Hartman Northeast Sportsplex:***

**<https://www.nesportsplex.com/>**

- Masks required at all times (except while on ice)
- One spectator per skater allowed to a maximum of 25 per team, but must maintain social distance while in the building.
- You may only enter the facility 15 minutes before your ice time

## Murray Copot & City of Calgary Arenas:

<https://www.calgary.ca/csps/recreation/arenas/covid-19-health-and-safety-arenas.html>

- Masks required at all times (except while on ice)
- Spectators allowed, but must maintain social distance
- You may only enter the facility 15 minutes before your ice time

## SVHA AND/OR VIVO SPECIFIC DETAILS

Below you'll find some SVHA and facility-specific relevant to our return, and some answers to questions that have come in from families to-date. Note that these points are subject to change and are currently in-place during Stage 2. As we update this information, the date at the top of this document will change. Please ensure you are reading the most recent version.

### Applies to everyone...

- No spectators/guardians permitted (U11, U9 & U7 exception, see below)
- No participant, guardian or coach should attend any team event or arrive at the facility if feeling sick or exhibiting any symptoms defined by Alberta Health Services
- If you are permitted to enter the facility, you may only enter at the same time as your player, you cannot come late. Re-entry and/or switching parents halfway through is not permitted.
- Every person must complete a symptom screen prior to arriving at the facility and will not be able to enter or participate until the screen is completed
- Symptom screens will be performed via an easy to use tool within TeamSnap, more information will be provided shortly
- Masks are required for every person entering the facility. Masks must remain on at all times unless you are on the ice participating in the on-ice activity.
- Social distancing (2 metres) must be maintained at all time within the facility. The only exception to this is during gameplay on-ice. This includes, for example, dressing rooms, hallways, player benches, on-ice line-ups during practice, etc. Vivo has added stickers and markings to the floor to remind guests of the distancing policy and to show you where to stand
- All participants must sanitize their hands upon entry. A hand sanitizer station is located in the Vivo lobby
- The bleachers are closed and not available to use as seating or a standing area in Vivo
- The shooting wall is closed in the lobby as people aren't allowed to congregate
- **Food and water bottles are permitted for athletes only. Parents, please enjoy your beverages before or after your arena visit**
- No more than 30 participants (players and coaches) are allowed on an ice surface at any time

## Applies Specifically to Players/Parents/Guardians...

- Players will need to come to the rink fully dressed in their hockey gear, with the exception of their helmet and skates, unless their skate guards provide adequate protection. Players will need to wear masks when entering the facility and can only remove their masks when putting on their helmet in the dressing room
- Players ARE NOT PERMITTED to enter the facility more than 15 minutes ahead of their ice time. If you arrive early, you will not be permitted entry. Once entering the facility, the player needs to proceed directly to their pre-assigned dressing room and stall
- Masks will need to be put back on once a player has removed their helmet after their ice time
- When entering the dressing room players will sit in their pre-assigned and numbered stall
- There is room in the dressing rooms (stalls) for up to 12 players
- One guardian per family is allowed in the facility for players in the U11, U9 and U7 divisions. These guardians can enter the dressing room to assist their player with tying their skates and putting on their helmet. (this varies by facility)
- U13 guardians may enter to assist with skates and helmets, but must leave the facility immediately after providing assistance before the ice time
- As a U11, U9 or U7 guardian you should only be in the dressing room for the few minutes needed to tie skates and assist with the helmet. Once you are done, you'll walk out the back door of the dressing with your player and any and all belongings. Your player will then proceed to their corresponding (numbered) seat rink-side, where they will leave their bag and will await notice from a coach that they can enter the ice
- As the one U11, U9 or U7 guardian you are able to stay rink-side to be there for your player. You must, however, stand in a marked spot by the rink, socially distanced from the other parents.
- If your player (of any age/division) has a medical condition that requires you be in the facility during their ice-time, a doctor's note must be provided to the Director of Safety and Conduct.
- After all players have their skates on and have left the dressing room with their bags for their practice, the dressing room will be immediately locked by the facility for sanitization.
- Dressing room showers are not available for use
- Dressing room washrooms are not available for use. Please use lobby washrooms if needed
- The water bottle filler in the lobby is available for use but the drinking fountain is not available
- Once the ice time has started and the dressing room is locked for sanitization, the players will need to use the lobby washroom if needed during their ice time
- VIVO has created an isolation room. This clearly marked room is available for any player that starts to feel sick during their ice time. Players must be accompanied by either their guardian or TWO adults maintaining social distance while in the isolation room

## Applies to Coaches...

- Up to three coaches are allowed in the dressing room, either in a stall (if not all 12 are taken by players) or in the standing area. Ideally, only one coach supervisor will be in the dressing room if there are 12 players. These coaches must maintain 2M distance from each other and the players
- Coaches must wear masks at all time unless they are on the ice, for example coaches must wear masks while coaching on the bench.
- It is your duty as a coach to enforce all of the return-to-play rules and regulations
- Please read the Hockey Calgary guidelines to understand the COVID-specific details of your role and your involvement with your cohort team

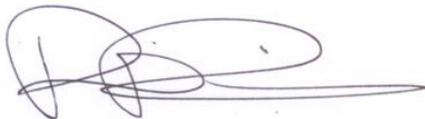
## CONCLUSION

I know this is a lot of information to digest, but we want you to have as much information as you can before the season begins. As it rolls out and the weeks go on, we believe it will become routine. There will inevitably be some bumps in the road, but we are determined to work together with our member families, the players, the coaches and our partner venues to make this most unusual season, one to remember - not just for its peculiarity!

Let's remember, we are all on the same team – GO STORM!

Please let me know if you have any questions about the information contained within this document. I'm available all season long to answer any questions you may have.

Let's have a safe and fun season!

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Robb Price', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

**Robb Price**

SVHA - Director of Safety and Conduct

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