



Date: Jan 4, 2022

To: Simons Valley Hockey Association

Re: Health and Safety Update

Good Evening

I hope this finds everyone well rested and healthy after the holiday season and ready for the push to get through the remainder of the season. On December 31st Hockey Calgary sent out an Information Bulletin outlining their plans for the season moving forward. This document outlined new game cancellation policies and reiterated that masking guidelines will be strictly enforced. We are still in a fluid situation with Covid-19 with approx. 13 000 new cases over the last four days just announced today. In Alberta we have a positivity rate of 33% and that is for the tests we know about which leads us to expect that number is actually higher. To hopefully get this season and Esso Minor Hockey Week completed it is going to take an enormous effort from all of us.

Moving forward, it is imperative that **any** known cases are reported to your team manager or Health & Safety Coordinator. We need to make our teams aware that any positive case gets reported to one of you on the team and then up to the Health and Safety Group. These numbers and dates of contact will dramatically affect what the next steps are. We can not stress enough how important it is to get on these situations early.

When it comes to masks the Hockey Calgary bulletin is clear. SVHA is 100% on board that there is to be a zero tolerance approach when it comes to wearing masks. Please ensure that all masking guidelines are followed at all times. Players must be wearing masks as they enter the building, during pre-game warm ups and in the dressing rooms right up until helmets go on just as they are headed onto the ice. The number of people in the dressing rooms also needs to be limited, so siblings will no longer be permitted in dressing rooms at any time moving forward. For parents of the younger age groups, we would ask that you leave the dressing room as soon as possible after your child is dressed.

Tightening this up will go a long way to hopefully reducing any possible transmissions. Moving forward, there is zero tolerance for those that are choosing to not follow current health and safety guidelines. Failure to follow health and safety guidelines puts ice permits in jeopardy and risks the season for the entire association.

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As a reminder to SVHA regarding when players, coaches and parents can return to the rink according to AHS policies please see below:

Isolation helps prevent the spread of COVID-19 by reducing the number of people you could infect if you have symptoms or test positive by staying home and avoiding others. Effective January 3, Albertans are legally required to isolate as outlined below:

Fully vaccinated (2 doses or 1 dose Janssen): Isolate for 5 days from the start of symptoms or until they resolve, whichever is longer, if symptoms are not related to a pre-existing condition. For 5 days following isolation, wear a mask at all times when around others outside of home.

Not fully vaccinated (1 dose or less): Isolate for 10 days from the start of symptoms or until they resolve, whichever is longer, if symptoms are not related to a pre-existing condition.

If you test negative and have symptoms, you should still stay home and away from others until symptoms resolve.

Thank you for all of your diligence throughout this season. If we continue to work together, we will be able to have a strong finish to this season.

Yours in hockey,

Jeff Walker

Director of Safety & Conduct / Director of U15

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