

Harwood Youth Hockey Return to Rink Plan

In conjunction with the Vermont State Amateur Hockey Association, VSAHA, State Government and partners in USA Hockey, we will be following their guidelines to help to ensure a safe and practical hockey experience for the 2020/2021 season.

Further, "It is imperative that our members follow these guidelines and rules in order to keep our rinks open, keep our kids on the ice and to keep our communities safe,". It is also important to note that "all guidance and regulations implemented by the State of Vermont may supersede any rules or guidelines offered by VSAHA"

This document is not intended or implied to be a substitute for professional medical advice, diagnosis or treatment. We must adhere to guidelines set by the CDC, VT ACCD, and VDH. The knowledge and circumstances around COVID-19 are changing constantly; therefore, we will continue to update this plan as circumstances change.

While we are all continuing to work together to create a safe environment for our teams, each PARENT and PLAYER must make the decision to return to play based on their personal comfort level.

2020-2021 Season Outline

Expectations:

- Follow the [Vermont Recreational Sport Guidelines in section 9.1](#) and the [restart plan](#) previously mentioned. The guidance includes, but is not limited to, the following:
 - No jamborees or tournaments.
 - No out of state travel
 - No checking at all ages during practice and games.
 - Follow masking guidelines (updated guidance will be coming out shortly)
 - Occupancy guidelines - rinks have the right to lower their capacity allowance as they see fit
- VT Player Safety Coordinator and our association Player Safety Coordinator will assist in the event that COVID contact tracing is required, more information below.
- Travel to out of state approved counties only (refer to the VT Cross State travel guidance). HYHA currently does not intend to participate in out of state travel.
- Teams are expected to adhere to host rink/arena guidelines.

Processes for Families:

- If you are not feeling well or showing any symptoms of sickness please stay away.
- Facial coverings **MUST** be worn at all times, **even when players/coaches are on ice.**
- 6' Social Distancing must be adhered to at all times (except on the ice.)
- Mandatory health screening form needs to be **completed before** entering the arena. waiver: <https://www.webwaiver.com/sign/icecenter/icecenter-liability>
- No entry will be permitted if you have any symptoms (cough, shortness of breath, fever > 100.4, chills, muscle pain, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell.)
- Locker rooms and showers are **NOT** available at this time.
- Skaters should come dressed and can put their skates on in the lobby or in the community room. Please do your part to stay distanced while getting dressed.
- Chairs and benches will be available with 6 feet distance.
- Public bathrooms will be available.
- All skaters must vacate the arena 15 minutes after scheduled ice time.
- **No Parents or spectators allowed at this time.** Parents can go in and help their player get their skates tied...**but then must leave the facility.**

Guidelines for Managing Confirmed COVID-19 Cases:

- Player Safety Coordinator, Amy Wells-Deslaurier, will be responsible for responding to COVID-19 concerns and will help coordinate with association members and local health authorities regarding positive COVID-19 cases.
- Confirmation of contact information will be maintained in order to aid with contact tracing protocols as specified by the VDH.
<https://www.webwaiver.com/sign/icecenter/icecenter-contact-tracing>
- Team Check-In sheets will be completed by one designated team parent or certified volunteer before **every** practice, game or HYHA event and maintained in Ice Center folder.
- We will work with each Host rink to establish an area for people who become symptomatic while there.
- We will consult with VDH and local health officials and be prepared to communicate to any players, coaches, officials and volunteers who had close contact with that person, notifying them of a positive test. **We will do our best to maintain the confidentiality of anyone with a positive test, while making sure that all mandatory requirements are met.**
- We will notify the arena of the positive test and have the areas used by the sick person, within the last 24 hours, closed off and not used until they have been cleaned and disinfected.
- Any positive cases will be logged and tracked in accordance with Vermont Health Department guidelines.
- Families should contact the Player Safety Coordinator as soon as a player, someone in their household, or someone they have been exposed to, has had a confirmed COVID-19 test.
- Player Safety Coordinator will work with Team Managers to conduct appropriate notification of a positive test within their team.
 - Notification will be made to any opponents or teams that practiced with the infected player over the previous 14 days.
 - Notification will be made to any opponents or teams scheduled to practice with the player's team over the upcoming 14 days.
 - Team activities will be paused until our Player Safety coordinator can consult with local health officials and/or the Vermont Department of Health on additional testing or requirements before returning to play
- Consult with VDH and local health officials and be prepared to communicate to any players, coaches, officials and volunteers who had close contact with that player notifying them of a positive test. Maintain the confidentiality of anyone with a positive test

- Any positive cases should be logged and tracked in accordance with Vermont Health Department guidelines.
- Players, siblings and household members are expected to follow the [VDH Quarantine Guidance](#) on when to return. This VDH link will help clarify when to start/stop quarantine for the following potential scenarios:
 - Scenario 1: Close contact with someone who has COVID-19—will not have further close contact
 - Scenario 2: Close contact with someone who has COVID-19—live with the person but can avoid further close contact
 - Scenario 3. Under quarantine and had additional close contact with someone who has COVID-19
 - Scenario 4: Live with someone who has COVID-19 and cannot avoid continued close contact

References:

- [VT ACCD - 9.1 Sports/Organized Sports Including Youth Leagues, Adult Leagues, Practices, Games, and Tournaments](#)
- [VT ACCD - Restart Plan: Recreational Sports Programs and Leagues](#)
- [VT Cross State travel guidance](#)
- [Vermont Department of Health COVID-19 page](#)
- [Vermont Agency of Education School Guidance](#)
- [VDH Quarantine Guidance](#)

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