

Return To Play and Covid-19 Guidelines for 2020/2021 Season

Mandatory for all Players, Parents, Spectators
and Coaches

Parents-Please review this deck in its entirety
with your player

For questions contact Kevin Bendickson at
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USA Hockey Return To Play Links

- Review these links on USA Hockey Website
- These will answer many questions you may have
- <https://www.usahockey.com/playersafety>
- <https://www.usahockey.com/page/show/5902638-covid-19-updates>

Winter Club Return To Play Protocols

- Maximum 35 people (until further notice) on the ice, including skaters, Coaches and Referees
- Masks/Or facial coverings will be required by all players, coaches and referees. "Gaiter" style facial coverings are acceptable
- All Players will come to the rink dressed other than skates, gloves and helmet.
- There will be no use of locker rooms at this time, the lobby/bleachers will be used only for putting on skates, gloves and helmets.
- Players will not move chairs and must maintain distancing space.
- There will be no spectators allowed during, evaluations, practices or games per USM policy and North Shore Health Department recommendations until further notice. Once Cahill opens, we will send out expectations and protocols for that rink.
- Milwaukee Winter Club will cannot be responsible for exposure to anyone for Covid-19. As is with other risks of playing hockey, this is a risk that each participant bears responsibility for. MWC, as provided in this presentation, is taking all necessary steps to ensure player safety in accordance with USA Hockey, WAHA and our other local governing bodies.

Arrival to the Rink-USM

- Arrive no earlier than **15 minutes** prior to your scheduled ice time, this is critical to follow as the rink attendants sanitize the previously used areas between each ice time. You will not be allowed to enter the rink prior to 15 minutes before your ice time.
- Enter through the main entrance, players must come fully dressed, except for skates, gloves and helmet may be put on once inside the arena.
- Goalies can fully dress into their gear at the rink, but must have all-under garments on upon arrival-there will be no use of restrooms or locker rooms for changing purposes
- Upon entering each player/coach/visitor must fill out a health/play readiness check form and have their temperatures taken-please have these forms prefilled at home whenever possible. Atoms and Mites will not need to complete the health screening; however parents will be subject to temperature checks.
- Rink Managers have the right to refuse players/coaches/parents entrance based on your health screening and temperature at the time of arrival.
- No spectators will be allowed at practice or in-house games until further notice at USM.
- Parents will be allowed into the facility to tie skates for younger players (squirts and under) and then must leave the facility immediately out the North exit doors near the tennis courts.

Face Coverings and Masks/Water Bottles

- Masks must always be worn in the lobby and on the ice by all players and coaches until further notice. We recognize that wearing masks during high exertion activities can pose health risks. Water must be taken on the bench if helmets are going to be removed to do so.
- If and when spectators will be allowed, they must wear masks throughout their time in the building.
- Masks must cover nose and mouth and must be cleaned prior to each visit to the rink. It is recommended to carry a back-up mask in your bag.
- **Each Player must bring their own water bottle to the rink-Coaches will not be supplying water/bottles this year. Ensure your players name is on the bottle.**

Locker Rooms/Restrooms-USM

- There will be no access to Locker Rooms until further notice
- The rink manager will tell each group where to go to put on skates and prepare for their ice-time.
- There are 2 staging areas in the rink with spacing set up for physical/social distancing
 1. The Bleachers
 2. The Lobby
- The restrooms are open, but only one person will be allowed into the restroom at a time-There is to be no changing allowed in the restrooms or locker rooms.

After Play/Exiting the Ring

- Players/Coaches are to undress and exit the rink as **quickly as possible**. Remove skates, gloves and helmets and exit the rink, do not fully undress. Ensure kids **DO NOT fully undress. Remove Gloves, Helmet (put on mask) remove skates and exit the rink.**
- There is to be no congregating and all players must maintain their 6 foot spacing-coaches will be responsible to ensure spacing is maintained by all players while on the rink and in the arena.
- When Gloves, helmet and skates are removed, gather gear and exit the doors on the North side of the rink, exiting near the tennis courts

Rules for Pettit National Ice Center

Pettit and its staff are required to follow the rules of the Milwaukee Health Department. ONLY PLAYERS AND COACHES WILL BE ALLOWED INTO THE ARENA. We are working as a club to only schedule Peewee and Bantam games at the Pettit for this reason

- Continuation of only players and coaches on the rosters provided in advance to the Center being allowed into the Center. Temperatures, at this point, will continue to be checked at entry.
- Masks are ON, 100% of the time during entry, in the locker rooms, and when exiting the building.
- if a player or coach is not feeling well, per symptoms listed on front door of Center, STAY HOME. Don't think it doesn't matter, because it does and could have a significant, negative impact.
- Timing for entry of players will continue to be proscribed 30 minutes before the start of their ice time.

Rules for Pettit National Ice Center-Cont.

- Locker rooms will be allocated with two (2) locker rooms per team, requiring a maximum of ten (10) players per locker room, keeping social distance of 6' apart and MASKS On 100% of the time in the locker room. COVID coordinators as designated by each youth team, per guidelines from USA Hockey, are responsible for enforcement of the number of players per locker room, spacing and Masks On whenever in the building.
- We have recognized that Masks On for intense cardiovascular activities on the ice is a health and safety risk, so we allow the masks off on the ice for those specific activities. Please remind coaches that players should be sufficiently spaced on the ice for talking to the group and when players are waiting in queues
- As the Pettit Center cleaning staff is exceptionally busy with its attention on sanitizing throughout the building, we respectfully request that teams be helpful by picking up their trash and keeping the locker rooms picked up when they leave. Thank you..
- Spectators still are NOT allowed in the building for practices or games, given the cap of 250 persons in the building, as set by the City of Milwaukee Health Dept.

MWC Practice Best Practices

- Players will be assigned to pods for practice. They must stay in these pods throughout the duration of practice. Coaches must ensure the pods are maintained. Players will stay in these same pods until further notice for all practices.
- Pods will be assigned based on skill level to ensure proper development/competitiveness during practices
- Players cannot congregate with other pods or other players during transitions from station to station
- Practices will be mainly skill based/small area game drills run in player pods
- A player cannot attend a practice that he/she is not assigned to if they miss a practice.
- Again each player must have their own Water Bottle for Practice and Games, the drinking fountains are off, but bottle fillers are available at the rink.
- Each Player/Coach must wear a mask while not on the Ice.

MWC in-house Game Best Practices

- Teams will be assigned during evaluations for In-House teams and the teams will be level set throughout the club for competitive play.
- Players must come to games dressed with the exception of helmets, gloves and skates.
- Coaches must wear a mask while on the bench and in the arena.
- Players must maintain as much distance on the bench as possible-coaches will need to manage this and try to keep players distances 6 feet. This should be possible since teams will be 10-12.
- Until further notice coaches will not be able to substitute players from other teams if they are short players. You will be able to use players from the opposing team that is scheduled for that game. Exceptions may be made for goalies with the approval of your level coordinator.

Covid-19 Symptom check

- If a player arrives or has any of these symptoms, they may not participate in any Winter Club activities for at least 10 days

- Been Exposed to Covid-19 in the past 14 days
- Sore throat
- Shortness of breath/difficulty breathing
- Fever >100.4F
- Chills
- Headache
- Sinus congestion or pain
- Persistent or productive cough
- Joint aches or soreness (not related to hockey)
- Vomiting and or diarrhea
- Rash
- Loss of taste and or smell

Again anyone having any of these symptoms may not participate in any Winter Club activities for at least 10 days or have written medical clearance from your physician

- **Again upon arrival to the rink you will need to complete a symptom check form and have your temperature taken**

Testing Positive for Covid-19/or having contact with a Positive person

- **If a player or coach tests positive for Covid-19 please contact your Head Coach or Level Coordinator**
 - The Level Coordinator will then contact Kevin Bendickson
 - Kevin will stay in contact with the North Shore Health Department and coordinate any other measures, contact tracing and communicate what is needed with the Level Coordinator for the player/coach that tests positive-Other members of the affected players team may also be contacted by the North Shore Health Department. Kevin will also notify USM HR and Nurse of a positive test and measures taken.
 - The Level Coordinator will notify all members of the team/teams of the positive test/keeping the name of the person confidential. Only your Coach, Level Coordinator and Kevin will know the names of the affected individual. To protect HIPPA rights there is no need for anyone outside of WinterClub leadership to know the names of affected individuals.
 - The Player/Coach that tests positive will not be allowed to return to play for at least 10 days and will need to provide a release from a physician or the North Shore Health Department to the club. If this document is provided to the coach or level coordinator, it must then be sent Kevin.
 - We will also provide to the affected teams/members any other information that needs to be shared per the North Shore Health Departments instructions.

Best Practices to Keep in Mind

- Do not come to any Winter Club activities if you have any of the symptoms of Covid-19 listed by the CDC. If you are sick notify your coach immediately and stay home for 10 days or until you can get a release from your doctor
- Do Not come to practice if you have been in contact with someone that has recently tested positive for Covid-19. Based on CDC recommendations you must wait 14 days to return to play, from the date of last contact with the individual
- Masks are required while in the Ice Rink and on the ice for all players, coaches, referees. Spectators will be required to wear masks once and if this is allowed.
- Ensure you practice social distancing and stay on your spot marked on bleachers/benches and chairs while getting ready to go onto the ice
- Drop children off and wait in your car or run errands etc. during games or practices. No spectators will be allowed to stay in the arena, Peewees and Bantams there is not need for parents to enter at all. There will be coaches there to tie skates if needed.
- Ensure all players have their own water bottle (with name on it), sanitizer, masks and all required gear.
- Carpooling should not be allowed to practice or games as this could expedite the spread of Covid-19 throughout the club.
- No spectators will be allowed in the rink until further notice, this includes during evaluations, practices and games.

Live Barn-Watch Games and Practices from anywhere live and on VOD.

- Since you will not be able to watch hockey inside the arena at USM you can invest in a LiveBarn Subscription. LiveBarn looks to be coming soon to the Pettit according to their site.
- Cost is \$17.95 per month or \$179.40 if you chose an annual billing period subscription.
- You can view practices and games played at USM as well as nearly 60 other venues across the state.
- Its available on App Store, Google Play store and Web. If you have a WebOS on your TV you can play at home through your TV as well.