

## **CHICAGO BLUES COVID-19 POLICIES**

The Chicago Blues is committed to providing a safe and healthy environment to all of our players and families. During this pandemic, our primary concern is to mitigate the potential for the transmission of COVID-19 within our Club and the community. To do so, this will require full cooperation from our members, directors and coaches and will also require flexibility as the circumstances surrounding this virus are constantly changing.

Ultimately, even with the most stringent policies in place and our best efforts, we cannot completely eliminate the risk that COVID-19 presents. If you have an underlying health condition or a specific health concern about participating in hockey this season, you should work with your health care provider to determine the best decision for your players and family.

Please review the following policies regarding COVID-19 that will be in effect for the 2020-2021 season. Please be mindful that this is a constantly evolving situation and that changes to this policy may be necessary. In the event any of this information changes, we will notify all members by sending an email to the address listed on your SportsEngine account and we will post a revised policy on our website.

### **Positive Tests - Quarantine - Notification**

- In the event that you, your player, or someone you live with tests positive for COVID-19, you must notify the Club. In addition to informing your assigned director, please email [chicagobluescovid@gmail.com](mailto:chicagobluescovid@gmail.com). All emails sent to this email account will remain confidential and will only be monitored by the Club President and a designated member of the Chicago Blues Board of Directors.
- If a player, director or coach tests positive for COVID-19, that individual must quarantine themselves away from all Blues-related events in compliance with the guidelines set forth by the CDC ([CDC Guidelines](#)). Said player or coach may return when they have received a letter of release from a physician indicating they are cleared to return to sports and recreation.
- If a family member of a player or coach who resides in the same home as the player or coach tests positive for COVID-19, that player or coach must be quarantined until the incubation period has passed and they can provide a negative test/letter of release from a physician after the incubation period.
- If a player, director or coach tests positive, all team members will be notified. Team members then must follow the advice of their respective health care professionals to determine exposure risk and any quarantine requirements. If you were unmasked and within 6 feet of the infected person for more than 15 minutes, you must quarantine and be tested for COVID-19 before returning.

## **Financial Considerations:**

The primary cost for any hockey organization is ice rental and directors' salaries. Once we complete tryouts and assign players to teams, those teams will use the same amount of ice that they would have any other season. The level of instruction and development will be the same as well. By maintaining the amount and high level of training that we have offered in the past, our teams will be in the best position to succeed once we are able to play league games. Until game play begins, teams will practice three times per week and have the Friday skills sessions (approximately every 3 out of 4 weeks).

If we are forced to stop on-ice hockey activities due to a governmental directive or the closure of the Edge Ice Arena, members will be issued a pro-rated refund of amounts actually paid.

Teams will not establish a "slush fund" until we are able to play games.

If your league extends its season due to a delay in start or interruption, the Chicago Blues will incur additional expense for ice rental and instruction. We are still looking into how this will be handled.

### Other Items To Be Aware Of:

- Any money returned as a result of an early termination of the season WILL NOT include fees/costs for your apparel package, jerseys, hockey bags or any spiritwear.
- We will NOT reimburse members for a temporary suspension of activities. This means, for example, that if you or your team is forced to quarantine due to a positive test or if the Edge Ice Arena must temporarily close for a COVID-related reason (*i.e.*, cleaning), you will NOT receive a refund for the period of time that you are not on the ice.

## **At The Rink:**

- EVERYONE inside the Edge Ice Arena that is not ACTIVELY ON THE ICE must wear a mask. This means that if you are a player entering/exiting the building or using the locker room (once access to locker rooms is allowed), you must be wearing a mask.
- Players should come dressed in their equipment before arriving at the Edge Ice Arena until further notice.
- Off-Ice Training will be provided depending on whether it will be allowed. Please consult your team director after tryouts are complete for further information.
- Players should arrive no earlier than 5 minutes before their scheduled event and must leave the premises immediately after their scheduled event is complete.
- Until further notice, parents/guardians/siblings/relatives/spectators are not allowed in the Edge Ice Arena.
- No gatherings are allowed in the lobby before, during, or after scheduled events.
- Do not share towels, water bottles, or other personal items.

- Regularly wash hands and use hand sanitizer before and after practices/games.
- Everyone must follow any additional guidelines and rules established by the Village of Bensenville/Edge Ice Arena. To the extent anything in this policy conflicts with guidelines/rules established by the Village of Bensenville/Edge Ice Arena, the guidelines/rules established by the Village of Bensenville/Edge Ice Arena control. The current guidelines/rules established by the Village of Bensenville/Edge Ice Arena are posted on our website.

**FAILURE TO FOLLOW THESE GUIDELINES WILL RESULT IN THE INABILITY TO PARTICIPATE IN BLUES-RELATED ACTIVITIES AND POSSIBLE SUSPENSION OF BLUES HOCKEY ACTIVITIES.**

**Travel:**

Any team that wishes to participate in any out-of-state activities must receive approval from the Chicago Blues Board of Directors in advance. At this time, we are strongly discouraging any out-of-state travel.

Members will be responsible for coordinating their own travel this year. If teams are able to travel out of state for games, the Chicago Blues will not coordinate any airline travel or busses and/or incur that expense.

**Mandatory Volunteer Safety Coordinator**

Managers will secure a safety coordinator volunteer for each team activity for the year. Each family must volunteer to serve as the safety coordinator for their team on a rotating basis. This is mandatory. A player whose family does not participate in this requirement will not be allowed to participate in Blues-related activities. **Teams will not be permitted to engage in a practice or game if a safety coordinator is not identified and present for each activity.**

Responsibilities of the safety coordinator include:

- Obtaining a locker room key for the team, if necessary (when allowed).
- Making sure players remain socially-distanced with a mask on while they are not on the ice.
- Reminding a coach or assistant coach to check the locker room (when allowed) to make sure that players are masked before and after practice.
- Once spectators are allowed, ensuring that spectators are wearing masks and sitting in the bleachers (not standing around the glass).
- Provide hand sanitizer to the team before and after every practice.

**Our ability to remain on the ice will be directly related to the efforts we put forth to reduce the spread of COVID-19.**

We have spent a great deal of time working as a Board, consulting with our governing bodies, and meeting with representatives from area clubs to develop reasonable policies for this season. We know that this season will not look like previous seasons at the Blues, but our commitment to providing a quality program to our players remains strong. We are thankful for your support and will continue to work hard on behalf of all Chicago Blues Families.

Sincerely,

CHICAGO BLUES BOARD OF DIRECTORS