

## **MANAGING CONFIRMED OR SUSPECTED COVID-19 CASES**

It is entirely up to parents/guardians with the Cheektowaga Warriors Hockey Organization to allow their children to participate in Cheektowaga Warriors Hockey activities. Therefore, it is also the parents'/guardians' responsibility to determine when it is appropriate to remove their players from play. There are no circumstances where sending your player to a practice or game is more important than their health and the health of their teammates, coaches, and teammates' families. If a player is showing symptoms, keep them out of the Recreation Center/ice rink, and away from other team members. You are responsible for continuously monitoring your player's health, and for being able to identify symptoms that may be related to COVID-19

### **If a Team Has a Player or Coach Test Positive**

In the scenario where a player, coach, or multiple players/coaches of a team test positive for COVID-19, the Cheektowaga Warriors Hockey organization must be immediately notified, and will use the rules for play as set forth by New York State and Erie County Department of Health (ECDOH) to determine the best course of action regarding games, practices, ice times, etc. This course will then be communicated to the teams. Please note, as the situation with a team/player evolves, the course of action is subject to change.

- Per updated health guidelines, the team with which the player/coach is associated may not participate in any hockey-related activities or ice times at the Cheektowaga Recreation Center for a minimum of 10 days from the time of their last exposure to the player/coach who tested positive. This will only happen if that player/coach was determined to be with the team during their contagious period. We will work with ECDOH to determine contagious periods and whether or not a pause is necessary. (For example, if a player comes to practice on a Friday, and gets tested for COVID on Saturday, and gets a positive result thereafter, the team would not be able to utilize the Recreation Center until 10 days have passed from when the individual was last at the Recreation Center.)
- Any confirmed positive COVID-19 test on a team (players/coaches) should be communicated to the Hockey Coordinator as soon as possible, taking care to respect HIPAA privacy rights.
- Team Coach/Manager and/or the Cheektowaga Warriors Hockey Coordinator will be responsible for coordinating with ECDOH, and if deemed necessary by ECDOH, contacting other teams that have been in contact with the team that had a positive COVID-19 test. Be sure to contact ECDOH, prior to contacting any other teams. ECDOH will help determine who should be contacted and informed.
- It is important to keep rosters of who was at practices and games each day, so contact tracing can begin quickly. ECDOH will conduct all contact tracing, if it is deemed necessary by them.
- Once close contacts are determined, those who are considered exposed will follow quarantine guidelines per the ECDOH. Only ECDOH can issue formal quarantine orders, and so they will contact you if you've been deemed a close contact in need of quarantine.
- All other players, coaches and individuals who may have been in contact with and/or are members of the team, but were not considered close contacts, will be advised to monitor for any possible symptoms. They are encouraged to get tested for COVID-19 no sooner than 5 days after the exposure if they see fit, or at the suggestion of a medical professional.

### **Rules Surrounding Family Members Testing Positive**

If a player's family member in the same household has symptoms severe enough that they need to get a COVID test, all players in the same household should stay away from all team activities until the test result is returned.

- If the family member test result is negative the player can return to play.
- If the family member test result is positive (and player lives in the same household) it's assumed to be a close (or household) contact and the player will need to quarantine, which includes staying away from all team activities for at least 10 days from the date of last exposure (which is the first sign of the family member's symptoms). If the family member is unable to properly isolate away from the player within the home, the player will be considered to be continuously exposed and will face a longer quarantine period. All members of the Cheektowaga Warriors Hockey organization will follow the most recent CDC and ECDOH guidelines, and consult medical professionals, to determine when it is safe to return to hockey activities.
- Even if the player is tested and receives a negative result, the Cheektowaga Warriors Hockey organization still assumes they have had close contact with the COVID-positive family member and the player will be required to quarantine for 10 days.
- If the player tests positive, ECDOH will be consulted to determine their possible "return-to-play" date, based on the symptoms and/or the date of exposure. Per ECDOH guidelines:

"Persons with COVID-19 who have symptoms and were directed to care for themselves at home may discontinue isolation under the following conditions:

- At least 10 days\* have passed since symptom onset and
- At least 72 hours have passed since resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications and
- Other symptoms have improved.

Persons infected with SARS-CoV-2 who never develop COVID-19 symptoms may discontinue isolation and other precautions 10 days after the date of their first positive RT-PCR test for SARS-CoV-2 RNA.

*Note that recommendations for discontinuing isolation in persons known to be infected with SARS-CoV-2 could, in some circumstances, appear to conflict with recommendations on when to discontinue quarantine for persons known to have been exposed to SARS-CoV-2. CDC recommends 10 days of quarantine after exposure based on the time it takes to develop illness if infected. Thus, it is possible that a person known to be infected could leave isolation earlier than a person who is quarantined because of the possibility they are infected.*

\*\*Updated 2/24/2021\*\*