



Owen Sound Girls Hockey

Return to Hockey Plan

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Goal: Our goal for this season is to provide programming that allows players to have fun, develop hockey skills and compete in a safe environment. We will follow the safety guidelines outlined by the OWHA (Ontario Women's Hockey Association) Return to Hockey requirements, City of Owen Sound and Public Health Grey Bruce. Our teams are registered to play in the WOAA and the OWHL loops.

1. OWHA Guidelines:

The OWHA is currently operating within Step Three of Ontario's Roadmap to Re-open plan.

If at some point in the season Ontario should institute more restricting public health measures, we will modify our programming accordingly.

OWHA RETURN TO HOCKEY REQUIREMENTS IN STEP THREE OF ONTARIO'S ROADMAP TO REOPEN:

- Pre-screening
- Contact tracing
- Physical Distancing
- Masks

NEW OWHA PERMISSIONS FOR AREAS IN STEP 3:

- Indoor activities are permitted within requirements.
- Physical distancing and masks are required at all times off ice.
- Players masks are optional while on-ice.

- Team staff (off-ice) & non-players must wear masks at all times.
- Masks must meet standards and cover the nose, mouth and chin.
- Practices with Scrimmages are permitted without modified regulations.
- Player groups may be mixed – no limit of 50 in an extended group.
- Access to benches is permitted within facility requirements.
- Access to dressing rooms is permitted with masks, physical distancing, and screened monitors if facility allows.
- Spectators permitted within facility requirements.
- Time to arrive and depart facility within facility requirements.

OWHA Vaccination Policy: This policy applies to the OWHA and its Members. The OWHA requires that all affected persons be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 in accordance with this policy as a condition of participating in any sanctioned activities during the 2021-22 hockey season. At present, this policy does not apply to players born after 2009 but may be subject to change at any time. To read the full policy on the OWHA website, click [HERE](#).

2. OSGH COVID-19 PROTOCOL: based on City of Owen Sound Sports and Recreation COVID 19 conditions of use (See Appendix 1)

A) Screening Measures:

On-Site Health Screening: All participants (players, staff, and adult supervisors) coming to an OSGH practice, game, or off-ice activity will need to fill out the following on-line COVID screener (which is supplied by the City of Owen Sound) immediately before coming to the event:

[Screening Form - eSolutions \(esolg.ca\)](https://esolutions.ca)

A team official (or designate) will stop each participant at the door and ask if they have completed the electronic COVID screener.

- B)** If a participant answers “yes” to any questions on the screener they should not come to the OSGH/OWHA sanctioned event. They will be encouraged to follow public health guidelines before they can return to an OSGH/ OWHA sanctioned event.
- C)** Participants will arrive no earlier than 30 minutes prior to the ice time.
- D)** Participants will follow all traffic flow markers in the arena to facilitate physical distancing.

- E)** Face coverings are required for all people entering the facility. Masks must meet standards and cover the nose, mouth and chin. The players are required to wear masks in the dressing room. When players are ready to access the ice, they may take their mask off before putting on their helmets.
- F)** All participants and spectators must follow physical distancing guidelines at all times while in the facility.
- G)** OSGH will have access to two dressing rooms per ice time. All players and den moms/volunteers must practice physical distancing while in the dressing rooms. Rink side bleachers are available for additional space if required to accommodate physical distancing.
- H)** Washrooms within dressing rooms are available for use.
- I)** Under Step Three OWHA guidelines, practices and games are permitted without modified regulations.
- J)** Use of the score clock and sound system are both available.
- K)** Maximum of 40 people are permitted on the ice (including instructors/goalies/participants).
- L)** Each participant under the age of 18 is allowed only one person to accompany them to the arena.
- M)** All participants must exit the building 20 minutes following their rental. This will allow staff the necessary time to disinfect prior to the next rental.
- N)** Showers are available to all teams, under the condition that all individuals exit the building 20 minutes following the rental.
- O)** There is absolutely no sharing of food or drinks – each player is required to have an individual water bottle properly labelled. These bottles must be spaced 2 meters apart and properly sanitized after each practice.
- P)** Spitting and blowing the nose without a tissue is prohibited.
- Q)** Wash your hands frequently with soap and water. Use an alcohol-based sanitizer if soap and water are not available.
- R)** All equipment/training aids brought onto the ice must be cleaned/disinfected after each use.
- S)** For the safety of users and facility staff, all OSGH members are expected to adhere to all requirements of the Owen Sound COVID-19 Conditions of Use.
- T)** When traveling to other centres to play games, OSGH members are expected to adhere to all of the requirements of the arenas in those centres.

3. OSGH OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE:

- One OSGH executive member (Covid Committee Chair) and a volunteer from each team will make up the OSGH Oversight Committee. The team volunteer will ensure each participant is completing the online covid screener before attending the OSGH/OWHA sanctioned event. They will delegate this task to another parent volunteer when they are unable to attend.
- If a participant answers YES to any of the Covid screener questions, the participant must stop participation in hockey activities. The team volunteer will notify the OSGH Covid Committee chair. They will contact the family to ensure safe return to hockey protocol is understood and followed.

B) Protocol if someone becomes unwell/shows signs of COVID-19 during a game/practice:

The following protocol has been developed by the OWHA:

- If a player becomes unwell with symptoms of COVID-19, that individual must immediately stop participation in hockey activities. They should put on their mask immediately.
- The individual shall be sent home and instructed to follow public health guidelines regarding self-isolation and testing
- The facility should be informed in order to determine if any areas need to be closed off and/or require additional cleaning/disinfecting
- An OSGH Committee Chair should be informed of the situation and should contact the individual or their parent/guardian to ensure safe return to hockey protocol is understood and followed.

C) Protocol if an individual is tested for COVID-19

- If a player has been required to have a test for COVID-19, they must not participate in hockey activities while waiting for the results of the test and not until a negative test result is received **and** they have been free of symptoms for 24 hours.

D) Protocol if an individual tests positive for COVID-19

- If an individual tests positive for COVID-19, **public health will work with us to ascertain contact information regarding close contacts without disclosing personal health information.**
- The COVID-19 Oversight Group will work where requested with the facility and public health officials to assist in contact tracing. The Session Participation records from the on-line screener may be used to assist public health officials in informing other members who may have been in close contact with the individual.
- OSGH will inform OWHA of a positive COVID-19 diagnosis by e- mailing team@owha.on.ca

E) Protocol of Return to hockey activities following illness if NO test performed:

- If no test was performed, or the COVID-19 test was negative, the individual may only return to hockey activities once they no longer have any symptoms of COVID-19 for 24 hours.

F) Protocol of Return to hockey activities following COVID-19

- Following a positive COVID-19 test, an individual must follow all public health guidelines regarding return to activities.

G) Modification/Restriction/Postponing or Cancellation of Hockey Development Activities:

- Based on the evolving COVID-19 pandemic, OSGH will follow public health, municipal/provincial government, and OWHA recommendations regarding modifying/restricting/postponing or canceling activities
- OSGH members will be informed as soon as possible of any modifications/restrictions or cancellations
- OSGH will keep any modifications and restrictions in place until advised that it is safe to resume activities by public health, government, or sport officials.
- OSGH Covid-19 cancellation policy: Refunds will be available in the event that OWHA hockey programming is cancelled in the interest of public health. Refunds will be pro-rated against the amount of ice time already used plus insurance fees.

4. OSGH COVID-19 Communication Plan

A) Reporting protocol to OSGH members:

- i) OSGH will ensure up to date contact information for all association/team members is on file
- ii) OSGH will email and post OSGH Return to Hockey protocol on our website and answer any questions/concerns by email or phone.
- iii) The OSGH Covid-19 Oversight Committee will post any changes relating to Return to Hockey stages on the OSGH website. An email will be sent to all participants referring them to the OSGH website article.
- iv) Communications will remain on OSGH website for future reference by OSGH members
- v) OSGH COVID-19 Oversight Group will follow up with any individuals who become unwell with symptoms of COVID-19 during hockey activities.

APPENDIX 1: City of Owen Sound Sports and Recreation COVID-19 Conditions of Use

[COVID-19-Conditions-of-Use---Halls---Fillable-Form.pdf \(owensound.ca\)](#)

