



September 10th, 2020

As we prepare to begin our season, we want to share the information we have received from the Town of Hampton Leisure Department regarding our arena and the guidelines for the upcoming season. It is imperative that all players and parents follow the rules as outlined below and although as parents we love watching our children play hockey, the most important part is that our children will be getting back onto the ice.

You will notice that the facilities in our district, KV, Saint John, Sussex, Charlotte County, St. Stephen and Grand Manan, each facility has their own unique operational plan based on the number of people they can have in the building and staffing levels required to provide necessary cleaning procedures to comply with the NB Public Health and Provincial guidelines. The guidelines for the Hampton Community Centre will look different than the Sussex Arena, the Qplex etc. In time, Hockey New Brunswick will have a database for each facility and their operational plans so we will know what to expect when we visit another facility.

Operational plans are fluid documents and are subject to change in the future based on guidelines from NB Public Health and the Provincial government directives.

It is your responsibility to educate yourself and your families with these guidelines. Review them regularly and keep up to date on changes by following our website, our facebook page and with communications from the HMHA Executive and Board members and team liaison. "Being unfamiliar with the guidelines will not be an excuse for non-compliance.

At this time the following rules are in place by the Town of Hampton and Hampton Minor Hockey:

1. There are no spectators permitted in the arena. This will be reviewed periodically throughout the season.
2. There is a designated entrance, front main door, and a designated exit (side of building doors). Proper signage will be in place.
3. There is no loitering in the arena, lobby, mezzanine or locker rooms.
4. Washrooms are restricted to one person at a time.
5. No outside food or beverages are permitted in the arena. The exception is the player can bring a water bottle, filled from home, and which must be clearly labeled. No sharing of water bottles.
6. Canteen is closed until further notice.

7. Contact tracing information will be collected upon entering the facility and the person must pass covid 19 screening.
8. Players will have access to the rink 15 minutes before scheduled ice time and have 15 minutes to vacate the rink after the ice time has finished.
9. U7 and U9 groups must arrive at the rink fully dressed with skate guards. Skate guards must be clearly labeled with the child's name. The exception will be for children dressing as goalies, they will have access to the locker room for dressing and undressing. One parent, no siblings, will be permitted access to the dressing room to dress the child and must leave the facility immediately after the child is dressed.
10. U11-U18 groups should come as prepared as possible. If the player cannot dress/undress in the allotted time they will be required to dress prior to being permitted access to the rink.
11. Dressing rooms- maximum 6-9 persons in each room, depending on which room is used. This includes coaches, on ice helpers and players. Benches in the locker rooms will be appropriately marked for physical distancing. Showers are not available.
12. Each group on the ice must have a "Team Liaison" or "Host" whose responsibility is Covid-10 screening for all entering the facility, maintain attendance record for contact tracing and direct players to their appropriate location, ensure traffic keeps moving in the lobby area. The host will also ensure the users have exited the building 15 minutes after the ice time has finished. This person will also need to be familiar with the Operational Plan of HMHA and have access to the plan if requested by a Public Health representative.
13. Promptness for player drop off and pick up will be required. There will not be early admittance into the arena. If a player is running late to practice, they must make arrangements with the team host to be granted access to the arena. The lobby is no longer available for players to wait for their drive after ice time. All persons must be out of the arena for sanitization, and to prepare for the next group of ice users.
14. Coaches will require a mask in the locker room when assisting players in the locker room, on the bench, attending to an injured player or anytime a 2 metre distance cannot be maintained.
15. Players will be required to wear a mask when entering and exiting the facility where there is not enough room to maintain 6' of the required social distancing.
16. There is no spitting in the arena.
17. All equipment used by coaches on ice must be sanitized before and after use.
18. If a player has been sent home from school due to illness(Covid 19 symptoms), or missed school due to illness (Covid 19 symptoms), they are not permitted to attend their scheduled ice time. They must be well enough to attend school in order to attend hockey practice. They must pass the covid screening questions at the main entrance.
19. No off-ice warm ups will be permitted in the building.
20. **Compliance is not optional.** Non-compliance by players and/or parents can lead to the team/group losing access to the facility.

Our start date on the ice will be October 1st. We will begin our season in Phase 1 of the HNB Return to Hockey guidelines. What does this mean?

1. Registered players will be grouped based on their skill level and divided to maximize the number allowable number of skaters on the ice at one time. These numbers are based on the Return to Hockey Guidelines.. **These are not the teams they will be rostered to for the season.** There will be no player movement from one group to another during this phase.
2. Coaches and on ice helpers will be allocated to these groups for these ice times. **This does not mean the adults on the ice with the group will be the coaches/on ice helpers for your child.**
3. Ice time will be based on skill development only.
4. Maximum 25 players and 6 coaches on the ice.
5. There will be no games, no scrimmages. On-ice physical distancing must be followed.

Approximately mid October (subject to change) we will move to Phase 2 which means:

1. Rep Tryout process will begin.
2. Teams and coaches will be selected.
3. Focus on ice will be still on skill development, competition drills and small area games.
4. Limited player contact in drills.
5. Maximum 36 players and 8 coaches on the ice.
6. Modified games in practice (3 on 3, 4 on 4) once teams are decided.
7. There is no travel outside of our Association

Phase 3 (date to be determined and will be determined by HNB)

1. Regular practice structure and game play with travel restrictions
2. Regular player contact on ice.
3. No limitations on the number of players/coaches on the ice.
4. Games will be permitted with travel restrictions. We will bubble with another association for games.
5. HNB anticipates this stage to last 2-3 weeks. If this phase lasts longer, HNB will look at the travel restrictions and make changes accordingly.

More information regarding HNB Return to Hockey can be found here :[Return to Hockey](#)