



COVID-19 | Ice Hockey Modifications

General Game Requirements

- Face Masks are required at all times in the facility and at all times while playing; Gaiters are permissible but must be multi-ply
- Before, during and after the contest, players, coaches, game officials, team personnel and game administration officials should wash and sanitize their hands as often as possible
- At conclusion of contests, coaches and players will manage social distancing while departing benches
- No cheerleading teams are permitted at ice hockey games

Team Benches and Personnel

- Everyone must have their own beverage container that is not shared; Container must be labeled for each participant
- Non-essential personnel at ice level and near participants throughout the contest must be limited.
- Limit bench personnel to no more than 3 coaches and one athletic trainer; allow for social distancing of 6 feet or greater, teams must develop additional area(s) beyond the provided team bench for players to spread out for water breaks, social distancing, and other needs. Team benches must expand to areas in the rink that allow players to use additional seating allocated for players and coaches (only) to adhere to the 6 feet spacing guidelines.
- Disinfect equipment and uniform after use.
- Hockey equipment bags must adhere to specified protocols listed under Personal Items and Gym Bag protocols listed in the Ice Hockey Sport Modifications. Most important are predetermined storage/placement locations within each facility for personal items and supplies.

Locker Rooms

- Adhere to established EEA guidelines for locker rooms EEA document page 10. "Locker rooms are closed and can only be accessed for toileting. Participants must wear-in/wear-out clothes or dress in the parking lot or other designated area."

Game Officials

- Must wear a mask at all times per EEA document page 6.
- Electronic whistles are required
- Should plan to arrive at the facility dressed in uniform per EEA document page 12.

- If available, dressing facilities for game officials must be large enough for them to use social-distancing protocols and must be thoroughly cleaned and sanitized prior to arrival
- Gloves are permissible
- Do not share uniforms, towels, apparel, and equipment
- Must bring their own water bottles.
- Game officials must bring their own water bottles.

Game Modifications and Management

- Limitations on total players - 20 players per team total, down from 22. Rink design respective of social distancing may dictate total players that may participate in a contest.
- Captains must maintain social distancing of 6 feet when talking or conferring with a game official
- Game officials will maintain social distancing of 6 feet during the pre-game meeting with captains and head coaches.
- Warmup 5-7 minutes – During warm-up, all players must always maintain appropriate social distancing of 6 feet; no team/group gathering prior to, during or after warm-up; teams will maintain social distancing during warmups on each side of the ice; during warmups players will remain on the half of the ice they will defend
- Suspend pregame protocol of shaking hands during introductions/pregame meeting
- Penalty Box:
 - One person in the penalty box at a time, if another player must be in a designated “auxiliary box/location”, they must be social distanced either outside the penalty box or in the bench area as close to the penalty box as possible; when possible the second and or subsequent penalized players must move to the penalty box upon the exit of the previously penalized player
 - In the case that the penalty box is on the opposite side of the rink from the bench, the second and subsequent players penalized will serve it in a designated “auxiliary box/location” on the team bench/bench area and CANNOT come off the bench until the penalty is over
- Players lined up opposing each other must be 6 feet apart and face in the direction of the faceoff location
- Players preparing for the faceoff must setup 6 feet apart; referees will call-in participants for the puck drop
- Scrum:
 - Only one defensive and one offensive player are permitted in any scrum along the boards; a third participant in any scrum will cause an immediate stoppage of play (whistle) by the official
 - Officials will have the authority to stop play (whistle) if a scrum (in any area of the ice) is prolonged greater than 5 seconds
- Suspend postgame protocol of shaking hands