

**Winnipeg Ball Hockey League**  
**Summer 2020**  
**“Guidelines & Protocols”**  
**Phase 2**



\*These guidelines are subject to change with any new information or updates from either the government or MBHA.

The Winnipeg Ball Hockey league will strive to provide a safe, fun, and fair environment for all participants during these unique times. The Manitoba Ball Hockey Association has given us the green light to resume play.

We have outlined our guidelines & procedures below for the upcoming Summer Ball Hockey season.

All players MUST also complete an electronic waiver when it becomes available online. There will be a link to the form on our [website's](#) front page. No players will be permitted to participate in a game unless this form has been completed.

Team captains are encouraged to inform their players on making sure these guidelines are being followed. Please make sure your team members understand and are willing to follow these guidelines.

The COVID-19 online screening tool is available here:  
<https://sharedhealthmb.ca/covid19/screening-tool/>

Players, or spectators with any symptoms cannot attend any training sessions or competitions and will be asked to self isolate for 14 days before they may return.

# Building Entry

The league **will assign a staff member** to perform the following when players, coaches, staff, and spectators are entering building:

- Players, Staff, and spectators to be screened using the screening tool for symptoms prior to participation each day of the activity and are not allowed to participate if they are ill with COVID-19 symptoms.
- Enter each person to game-sheet (no players will be required to sign in individually)
- Monitor number of players per team to comply with the roster restrictions regulation.
- Monitor number of spectators per participant and make certain there is no overcrowding in the viewing stands. (1 member per participant) This number may vary or be limited depending on individual facility spectator guidelines. This will be outlined prior to the season.

# Equipment

The use of Hockey Sticks and any form of player equipment will be limited to just the individual players. Shared equipment will not be permitted.

# Hygiene, Hand Washing, Touching Face, Laundering

Players must practice proper hygiene, wash hands frequently with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, use alcohol-based hand sanitizer (with at least 60% alcohol), abstain from touching their face (mouth, eyes, or nose), and cover their cough or sneeze with a tissue and throw tissue in the trash. Our Facilities will provide hand washing and hand sanitizer stations at entrance & throughout facility and will schedule mandatory use at various game breaks. All clothing, uniforms and gear must be washed/cleaned/disinfected between each use.

# Dressing Rooms

Enhanced and frequent cleaning and disinfection of Team Dressing rooms will be completed after every game. Showering at the rink will not be permitted. All common items will be removed by staff. No more than 14 players are permitted each team dressing room.

# Rink Entry

Each team will have a designated area to enter and leave the playing surface before and after each game.

# Conclusion of game

**There will be a 20-minute buffer in between game times.** At the conclusion of each game, players will be given 10 minutes to vacate the dressing room & facility - and allow for the next participants to enter.

# Water Bottles

Players will be required to bring their own water bottles to all games to help to reduce transmission risk. Individuals will take their own water bottles home each night for cleaning and sanitation.

# Game Play

- Roster size of each team will be reduced to 13 players and a goalie per game. (This may change in any future phases announced during the season)
- A three second in the key rule will be implemented such as in Basketball. (This rule was used several years ago in Ball Hockey) This will minimize the contact in front of the goaltender.
- Player must refrain from handshakes, high fives, fist/elbow bumps, chest bumps, group celebrations etc.
- Players must practice physical distancing on the bench during gameplay. This will not always apply as there will be some brief exchanges while players are entering and leaving the bench area during game play.
- It will be at the ref's discretion to blow the play down along the boards if they feel there is prolonged engagement which may bring additional players into the fray.

# Player Conduct

We remind all participants that we are still currently in a pandemic. Players must follow specific guidelines regarding unnecessary engagement and contact with opposing players.

The league will be taking all the necessary measures to protect game officials during circumstances involving player engagements and altercations.

The league's goal is to minimize any unnecessary physical contact and verbal engagement that involves close contact with opposing players and officials.

Any situation with two or more players in a VERBAL ALTERCATION will be addressed by the officials in the following manner:

- The referee will blow the whistle with a verbal warning to separate.
- If players refuse to comply, a minor penalty will be called.
- If players persist, misconduct penalties may be enforced.
- Players are reminded to respect physical distancing between them and officials, especially after a whistle. Any player that intentionally does not follow these guidelines will be issued a minor penalty. If this persists, misconduct penalties may be enforced at the referee's discretion.

Any situation with two or more players that involves UNNECESSARY CONTACT will be addressed by the officials in the following manner:

- A minor unsportsmanlike penalty will be assessed immediately.
- If players persist, misconduct penalties may be enforced.

Any fighting or unnecessary rough play will not be tolerated. These actions will be dealt with in a harsh manner by the league committee.