

CLEANING ICE HOCKEY GEAR

By Jason & Logan Foist (NMAHA)



Found this somewhere online and generally we do this at the end of each season (March) each year. Also recommended if you get “loaner” gear from us at any point before or during the season!

A note that Helmets & Skates should not be soaked, but cleaned by hand and thoroughly air-dried.

1. Get your gear that needs to be washed, but not in your washer (foot socks, hockey socks, jocks/jills, neck guards & jerseys can be washed in your washer, but still hung to dry):
 - Shoulder Pads
 - Elbow Pads
 - Gloves
 - Breezers (Hockey Pants)
 - Shin Guards
2. Fill your tub with the hottest water your water heater can produce – “jet” tubs work the best (and this will clean out those pipes too) but are not required.
3. Put in 1/3 Cup of Oxy Clean and then a “splash” of Vinegar:



4. Add in the gear, ensuring it is submerged – use a broom stick or old hockey stick



5. Turn on the “jets” or continue stirring/submerging the gear for about 3 ½ minutes – flip over the shoulder pads & breezers. It should soak for around 7-minutes TOTAL.



6. Drain the tub and refill with warm-to-hot water or just rinse the gear off ensuring to remove all soap & dirt. If you refill & stir, the water should be **MUCH** cleaner!



7. Once rinsed, drain the tub and/or take the wet gear & with most of the water shaken or drained off, put them in a laundry basket



8. Hang outside to dry – preferably in the sun if possible – we use our portable clothesline from our camper. Can also hang in the garage or somewhere similar to completely dry.



9. Once completely dry, put the gear back into your hockey bag & you're ready for our Gear Exchange (late-September) or, if it all still fits at the end of the summer, you're all set for the new season!

This by no means is the only way to clean hockey gear but is one of the more efficient ways we've found and have used for several seasons now. The process takes maybe 30-minutes to get it soaked/cleaned, and then several hours to air dry depending on your local conditions.

Highly-recommended for any gear, but especially any borrowed gear as we get a lot of donated & exchanged gear each season and simply don't have the capacity to clean it this way – really only ensuring it is serviceable/useable & sprayed with a bit of Lysol® or something comparable.