



Omaha Hockey Club  
Board of Director Memorandum

August 25, 2020

Association Members,

As the OHC coaches, volunteers, and the Board make preparations for the upcoming 2020-2021 hockey season, the Board recognizes that this season is very likely going to be a season in flux due to COVID-19. The Board, as with many other institutions, businesses, and sports groups must prepare with our memberships' safety as the highest priority. Given the rate of recent COVID cases rising in our region and the current Center for Disease Control and Prevention analysis that suggest rates will continue to rise, the Board is making the following recommendations to its membership.

First, we strongly recommend and encourage our membership, volunteers, and spectators follow current recommendations by the CDC, the local ordinances (including the City of Omaha), and the rinks themselves. Current CDC recommendations would include:

1. Wearing a mask that covers the nose and mouth when in the rink, lobby areas, and locker rooms.
  - a. OHC membership and spectators are highly encouraged to wear a mask when:
    - i. entering the rink.
    - ii. in the locker rooms
    - iii. in the lobby, or other public areas (including in the stands), and
    - iv. when they return from the ice to the locker rooms
  - b. OHC players and coaches do not have to wear masks while on the bench or on the ice, although they may if an individual feels it's necessary
2. Maintain six-feet between yourself and others as much as possible
3. Wash hands as often as possible
4. Use hand sanitizer when hand-washing is not available
5. One parent in the locker to assist their player when getting ready (mostly applies to IP children under 10, Mite (U8), and Squirt (U10) levels).

Second, the Board recognizes that there will likely be a situation in which a Member or player is in direct contact or a Member or player tests positive for COVID-19. To ensure the safety and health of others in the OHC Membership as well as the greater hockey community, the OHC Board is making the following recommendations:

1. If an individual and anyone that came in contact with that individual, we ask that they quarantine for 10 days or get tested and produce a negative test.
  - a. If a participant produces a negative test they may be allowed back on the ice.
2. If an individual player, coach, volunteer, or spectator is on quarantine at work or school, or is experiencing symptoms of COVID-19, we strongly encourage these individuals to stay at home and follow the recommendations provided by their employer, school, or licensed physician.



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3. Coaches and the Board have discretion to remove individuals from participating and attending OHC sanctioned events.
4. The Board will appoint current Board Members to a specialized committee to aid coaches, players, volunteers, and spectators on decisions related to COVID-19. The committee will be served by three of the ten member Board to increase response time for the Membership when questions or concerns arise related to the COVID-19 pandemic.
5. If there is a significant number of a team that is quarantined, we may have to suspend activities for that team or teams until there are enough participants to start back up. Please understand that if this happens there will not be any refunds issued because most of the costs are sunk cost that will be incurred whether we have to quarantine a single participant or a team. There could be instances where a team may have to be pulled out of a tournament and there is potential that we would not get a refund from the tournament director.
6. When traveling we are encouraging all participants (coaches, players, parents, spectators) to follow the guidelines we outlined above. In addition, we ask that the Membership when traveling be aware of the local ordinances and guidelines in the destination city. When in hotels on trips we will ask all coaches and team managers to do their best to encourage compliance to these recommendations for the participants in the common areas when the team is together.

The Board asks its Membership to be transparent and report any positive tests and possible exposures to, again, ensure the safety and health of the Membership and to also prevent a cancellation in the hockey season due to a large outbreak of COVID-19. **Be extra cautious this year.** If you or your player has a temperature near or over 100 F, please stay home. If you or your player has a cough and a fever, please stay home. If you or your player experience taste loss, please stay home and get tested.

The Board is asking for the Membership's cooperation in compliance to these recommendations. Without these preventative measures in place it may accelerate the spread of COVID-19 which may contribute to another early cancellations which we all experienced in March 2020. We, the Board, are hopeful that we can come together as one hockey community to help contain the spread, and flatten the curve by following these recommendations. Please follow the above recommendations and all posts at the rink.

Kind Regards,

The Omaha Hockey Club Board of Directors