



To our Jackson Youth Hockey community of players, coaches, parents, and families:

We feel so fortunate coming off an amazing 2020 hockey season that ended safe and successful. The disappointment surrounding the cancellation of Spring Fling was overshadowed by two state champion teams, growth in our player participation and skill, and a summer that was filled with ice hockey. Thank you to all our coaches, players and parents for participating in our success.

As we prepare for the upcoming season, it is clear the continued success of Jackson Youth Hockey will require the support, alignment and participation of all players, parents, coaches, and support staff. There will be more work at each age level to adhere to the state and local guidelines and requirements set forth around COVID-19. More than ever, we will need the entire JYH community to keep our athletes safe and playing the great game of hockey.

The Snow King Sports and Events Center has had an amazing summer providing more ice time for our players than ever before in the history of hockey in Jackson Hole. Hockey has had a VERY successful run in the ice arena while following CDC, State, and local Covid-19 guidelines. The hockey community has had zero reported COVID cases directly from skating and participating at the rink. The positive portion of all this has been following the Guidelines to the letter and providing a safe and healthy environment for our athletes with no direct cases in our community from being on the ice. JYH and CMI have been diligent in our efforts to mitigate and establish a platform that will ensure a safe return to our game this fall and consistently improve our environment for the better.

We are committed to getting our players and coaches back on the ice while mitigating the risks and spread of COVID-19. As always, the safety and health of our players, coaches, families, and volunteers is our number one priority. Our purpose with these guidelines is to protect not only our program participants but our community.

Jackson Youth Hockey (JYH) along with Center Management Inc. (CMI) are working diligently to follow the guidelines set forth by the Wyoming Department of Health, Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), as well as local government officials in creating a hockey season that is continues to develop our athletes in a safe manner. Our goals for having a successful season include meeting requirements or guidelines for physical distancing, size of gatherings, number of people permitted in a facility, wearing of masks, providing a clean environment, etc. The information in this document is not intended or implied to be a substitute for professional medical advice, diagnosis, or treatment. The knowledge and circumstances around COVID-19 are changing constantly and, as such, JYH will continue review and evolve protocols are more information and guidelines become available.

We will need the help and support of EVERY family to implement these policies as it cannot be left solely to the coaches, players, and team managers. "Participants" is used below to indicate all program members - players, coaches, team managers, volunteers, and families.

CURRENT Covid-19 GUIDELINES

Jackson Youth Hockey (JYH) Practices & Activities Guidelines

- Teamsnap app will be mandatory at all age levels and teams to assist in attendance records.
- Participants will indicate their planned attendance to each activity in TeamSnap.
- An updated roster of all participants (TeamSnap) will be maintained and used for an RSVP and attendance system to help with practice planning and to facilitate and enable contact tracing if COVID-19 is detected in a participant. A designated team activity leader will record attendance of all participants at each practice session and activity.
- Each team should designate an adult responsible for maintaining team compliance with government and health department policies and guidelines.
- Players at all age levels will arrive at the rink dressed for the ice. Squirts and Mites will arrive with skates on and skate guards.
- Players should arrive 10 minutes prior to practice ready to skate.
- Players should leave rink asap after practice is complete.
- Temperatures of all players and coaches will be taken upon arrival at the rink.
- Upon arrival at the rink, segregated areas will be adhered to for the arriving and exiting teams to maintain social distancing.
- Locker rooms will have limited occupancy to maintain social distance.
- Participants are asked to not attend activities if in the prior fourteen days she/he or any household member exhibits signs/symptoms indicative of COVID-19 infection. Symptoms of COVID-19 can include fever (>100.4) or feverishness, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, chills or shaking chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, and new loss of taste or smell.
- Coaches, players, and their families may not participate in any JYH organized activity if they have been in contact with someone with COVID-19 in the last 14 days.
- Players or coaches with immune deficiencies or other elevated risk factors should not attend any organized training sessions.
- Only one parent per player allowed inside rink. Parents should limit their time inside the rink as much as possible.
- No more than 25 persons (including players & coaches) allowed on the ice. This allows for 6' distancing during drills.
- Close contact is currently prohibited on the ice. Practices and drills that do not involve close contact between participants can occur. Players and coaches must maintain 6' social distance at all times while on the ice.
- Practices will be conducted using cohorts of players, with the same players always working out together. This ensures more limited exposure if someone develops an infection. Only players and coaches on specific teams may play together. No mixing of teams once designated at any given practice.
- All participants should bring a full personal use water bottle. No sharing of equipment or food will be allowed.
- Each participant will carry a mask of their own. Cloth face coverings should be worn by participants whenever 6 feet of separation cannot be maintained off the ice.
- Before any physical contact is made (i.e., to render first aid or assist with an equipment malfunction), a face covering must be in place and hands sanitized.
- CMI and JYH are strictly prohibiting spitting anywhere in or around a rink or team sanctioned activities
- Parents not registered as coaches will stay in designated areas marked within the rink. Rather than approach coaches during practice, parents are asked to communicate questions and comments to team managers before or after practice.

- Whenever possible, players should use the restroom at home prior to leaving for the rink to limit bathroom use at the rink.
- Different households must physically distance from other households while watching events. Face coverings must be worn in situations where social distancing is not possible.
- JYH will notify their county health department regarding any event athletes, coaches, event staff, media, spectators, and vendors if JYH learns of suspected or confirmed cases of COVID-19 at a practice or event.

Rink Operations – Center Management Inc (CMI) and Jackson Youth Hockey (JYH) will:

- Maintain compliance with city, county, state, and federal guidelines at all times.
- Maintain compliance with CDC guidelines at all times.
- Maintain compliance with the USA Rink Association, USA Figure Skating and USA Hockey "Returning to the Rinks" document dated May 4, 2020.
- Identify and secure PPE for staff.
- Train staff on how to interact with customers that are not observing new social conventions, coughing, not social distancing etc.
- Have on hand and use EPA registered disinfectants.
- Identify and hire necessary staff at appropriate staffing levels to maintain hygienic operations.
- Provide updated EEOC and Family First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) policies in writing to employees.
- Update and document call off and sick leave policies for staff.
- Develop a staff training plan that is documented in writing and available to all staff.
- Identify, document, and regularly disinfect all high touch locker rooms, equipment and fixtures – recommend minimum of hourly.
- Have signage on all entry doors, locker room doors with reminders for safe practices.
- Have hand sanitizer at all entry/exit doors fully stocked at all times.
- Establish and document protocol for entry and exit to/from the facility including clear signage.
- Shall have building entry/exit pathways and protocol clearly marked.
- Document policies and have clear signage posted for spectators and public concessions, restrooms, stands, lobbies.
- Document policies for participants - locker rooms, changing areas, benches, score box etc. posted with clear signage.
- Have clear floor markings for maintaining proper social distancing and traffic flow.
- Mark players benches, penalty boxes, score box etc. where sitting is permitted.
- Have documented protocol for sanitizing rental skates.

At Home Guidelines

- If at any time before or during our season a player or coach is diagnosed with COVID-19 or has had known exposure to someone who has been diagnosed with COVID-19, that information MUST BE communicated to JYH (Head Coach and Executive Director Eric Ballard) as promptly as possible.
- We expect all participants to self-monitor. Before practice he/she should take his/her own temperature and check for any COVID-19 symptoms.
- Wash your hands with soap and water or hand sanitizer thoroughly prior to arriving at practices and activities.
- Fill water bottles at home and wash regularly.
- Carpooling to practices and activities is not recommended. Only members of the same family should travel in a vehicle together.

Positive COVID-19 test

- If a team participant has a positive COVID test, JYH will work with local health officials to determine the appropriate level of participation in activities. If allowed to participate, practice and game availability will be determined in conjunction with local health officials.

Given the changing pandemic environment, these guidelines may change at any time. Additional guidelines will follow as the COVID-19 pandemic continues to evolve. The scenarios listed above are a very general guide of the seemingly infinite possibilities and combinations thereof.

Finally, JYH acknowledges and supports the decisions of players, families, and coaches who are uncomfortable participating for any reason.

It is going to be a great season - We look forward to a safe and successful hockey season!

Guidance for our protocols were developed to align with the following bodies:

Wyoming Department of Health Guidance for Youth Sports

<https://health.wyo.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/WDH-COVID-19-Guidance-for-Youth-Sports-8.1.2020.pdf>

Teton County COVID-19 Public Health Guidance

<http://www.tetoncountyywy.gov/2114/COVID-19-Public-Health-Guidance>

Wyoming High School Activities Association

<http://www.whsaa.org/whsaainformation/covid19/WHSAASmartStartFallSportsGuidelines.pdf>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/social-distancing.html>

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/disinfecting-building-facility-H.pdf>

USA Hockey Returning to the Rinks

<https://www.usahockey.com/page/show/4965656-resources>

Regards,

Eric Ballard – JYH Executive Director

JYH Board of Directors:

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