



MAHA - COVID-19 / Return to Play Guidelines (updated 02/10/21)

In an effort to keep all participants safe and healthy during the occurrence of COVID-19, Middlebury Amateur Hockey Association (MAHA) and its players, coaches, volunteers, parents, and spectators will follow the procedures and expectations outlined in this document. These guidelines were developed in accordance with the State of Vermont, Vermont State Amateur Hockey Association, Friends of Middlebury Hockey, and the Middlebury Sports Center. MAHA reserves the right to change these guidelines as needed and will do so as updated guidance is available from any of the aforementioned organizations. Please continue to check www.middhockey.com/ from time-to-time for the latest information.

Should you have any questions on these guidelines or MAHA's response to a COVID-19 incident involving any of its participants, please contact MAHA's Player Safety Coordinator, Shane Kean at middplayersafety@gmail.com

State Expectations

- MAHA will follow the State of Vermont Agency of Commerce and Community Development guidelines for recreational sports [VT ACCD guidelines - 9.1 Organized Sports](#) and, as a member association of Vermont State Amateur Hockey Association (VSAHA), guidance provided by VSAHA at [Vermont State Amateur Hockey Association](#)
- These guidelines are subject to change and currently include, but are not limited to:
 - No jamborees or tournaments
 - No checking at all ages during practice and games
 - Masking guidelines - Masks are now required both on and off the ice
 - Travel guidelines
 - Additional guidelines required of host rink

Facility's Expectations

- MSC expects MAHA (like any other group using Memorial Sports Center) to adhere to current state pandemic guidelines during its use of MSC. This includes maintaining contact tracing paperwork and providing rules and direction for all skaters, coaches, volunteers, and spectators entering the facility during MAHA-sponsored events.

- Friends of Middlebury Hockey (FOMH) will provide the following items to support MAHA's adherence to state pandemic guidelines:
 - Sanitizing supplies; consumables and reusables refreshed frequently
 - Physical distancing barriers to separate entry/exit foot traffic
 - Distanced dressing/skate tying stations
 - Increased HVAC air handling/filtration operations to provide increased air turnover
 - Touchless thermometers
 - Hygiene / cleaning stations distributed throughout rink
- MSC will otherwise adhere to [VT ACCD guidelines - 8.1 Close Contact Business](#) governing use of indoor facilities.

MAHA's Expectations

The Basics:

- **Be Smart, Be Safe**
 - If anyone planning to attend a MAHA event (child, parent, coach, or volunteer) is feeling sick, please stay home.
 - If anyone shows up to a MAHA event with a temperature, sickness, or any COVID type symptoms (even without temperature) they will be asked to leave and remain at home until they are symptom free.
- **Masks -**
 - Cloth masks must be worn by everyone (including volunteers and spectators) in MSC and by all MAHA participants when visiting another facility
 - Cloth masks must be worn by players / coaches when on the ice or bench
 - Any player who is not able to where a mask while exercising must provide a note from their doctor to the coach and MAHA Player Safety Coordinator before attending a MAHA event
 - Any player with valid excuse to not wear a mask must be indicated on game sticker / roster provided before game
- **Social Distancing -**
 - Everyone in the rink will maintain a social distance of 6 feet whenever possible (except on the ice).
 - MAHA will minimize contact and ensure distancing where feasible during practices and games. These guidelines include no body checking at 14U.
- **Scheduling / Travel**
 - MAHA teams will play games against VT teams only. Currently under [VT ACCD guidelines - 9.1 Organized Sports](#), competition versus out of state teams is not

permitted even if the opponent is located in a “green” county (as designated by <https://accd.vermont.gov/covid-19/restart/cross-state-travel>)

- Teams travelling to Middlebury must adhere to our rink/association guidelines
- Middlebury teams travelling must adhere to the host rink/association guidelines
- Note that some rinks associations may have guidelines that differ and are potentially stricter than ours, including limits on roster size. Please consult with your Team Coordinator before travelling to an away game so that you are aware of the host rink guidelines.

Rink Access

Games/Practice Attendance

- Player/coaches/volunteers only
- Game staff -
 - 1 in scorer’s box + 1 in each penalty box
 - From time to time, additional volunteers may be asked by the Coach or Team Coordinator to assist with game prep and/or management.
- Spectators - Per current FOMH guidelines, no fans or spectators will be allowed in the building during MAHA activities.
- In all instances, attendees of indoor MAHA events will be limited to the total occupancy limits set forth in [VT ACCD guidelines - 8.1 Close Contact Business](#)

Entry / Exit

- Entry / Exit - no earlier than 15 minutes prior to skate and no later than 10 minutes after
- Enter through right side of double doors at front entrance
 - screen with coach on entry
 - proceed directly to the dressing / skate tying area outside the entrance to the locker rooms
- Exit through left side of double doors at front entrance
 - exit rink immediately after getting off ice / undressing
 - expectation that this is < 10 minutes

Dressing Area

- Players should arrive at rink mostly dressed in their equipment to minimize the amount of time preparing to get on the ice
- Practice
 - Locker room use is limited to the restrooms only
 - Upon entering rink, dress / tie skates in designated area outside entrance to locker rooms (benches available for player use)
 - pack up/store bag before getting on ice

- enter ice through far door past 2nd set of locker rooms
- exit ice through near door adjacent to 1st set of locker rooms
- grab bag and proceed to designated dressing area closest to roll up door (benches available for player use)
- Game day process
 - Locker room use is limited to the restrooms only
 - Each team will be assigned to one of the designated areas at the west end of the rink
 - Teams/groups playing prior will be required to exit the facility before allowing the next group / teams into the building.
 - Sufficient time will be built into the game schedule such that this turnover is feasible
 - Teams will be asked to adhere to the entry / exit guidelines above

Screening / Tracing

The screening process at all practices/games for players and coaches will include:

- Coaches will be responsible for taking attendance and screening all participants upon entering the rink using the MAHA Daily Screening Log.
- Coordinators will be responsible for ensuring attendance/screening logs are kept and made available to MAHA Player Safety Coordinator (Records will be held for 30 days)
- Rosters
 - game rosters indicating accurate attendance will be provided by home and visiting teams before each game
 - any player who has been excused from wearing a mask must be indicated on game sticker / roster provided before game

Confirmed cases

- In the event of a confirmed COVID-19 test in our immediate community (e.g. any player, coach or volunteer) or in our supporting community (e.g. anyone who has been in contact with our immediate community within the last 14 days) contact the MAHA Player Safety Coordinator immediately.
- Any positive cases will be logged and tracked in accordance with the guidelines per the Vermont Department of Health.
- MAHA will consult with the Vermont Department of Health and local health officials, and be prepared to communicate to players, coaches, officials – anyone – who had close contact with the symptomatic person, alerting them to a positive test, if one occurs. MAHA will do its best to maintain the confidentiality of anyone with a positive test, while making sure that all mandatory requirements are met.

- MAHA will notify MSC of the positive test.
- The Player Safety Coordinator will work with team managers and the MAHA Board to conduct appropriate notification of a positive test.
 - Notification will be made to any opponents or teams that came into contact with the infected player over the previous 14 days.
 - Notification will be made to any opponents or teams scheduled to skate with the player's team in the forthcoming 14 days.
 - Team activities will be paused until the MAHA Board can consult with local health officials and/or the Vermont Department of Health on additional testing or requirements before returning to play.
- Players, siblings, and household members are expected to follow the **Vermont Department of Health Quarantine Guidance** on when to return.

Rink Services

Bathrooms

- Locker room restrooms will be available for 1 person at a time
- Players should plan to bring their own clearly marked water bottles (Water fountains will not be available)
- Upstairs closed

Concessions

- Concessions will not be available until further notice

Upstairs common area

- Off-limits

Volunteer Requirements

- In addition to the normal Safe Sport training and background screening processes, completion of COVID Workplace Training is required for all MAHA volunteers prior to functioning as a volunteer.
- This requirement includes Board Members, Coaches, Level Coordinators, Team Managers, and Safety Representatives.
- Training is available at the Vermont Department of Labor [website](#).