

Tavistock Minor Hockey Ice Time Protocols

The Executive Committee of the Tavistock and District Minor Hockey Association would like to thank everyone in advance for their patience and support as we enact these new protocols that have been put in place as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic.

These protocols have been developed in conjunction with Tavistock and District Recreation Facility management, the Southwestern Public Health Unit, The Province of Ontario, Hockey Canada, and the Ontario Hockey Federation (OHF).

These protocols have been put in place for the safety of our participants, the coaching staff, spectators, and the Arena Staff.


We understand that everyone may not agree with the measures outlined below, however we must insist that they be followed by everyone involved without exception. Failure to adhere to these protocols could result in the TDMHA having their ice time privileges restricted or cancelled by the Facility.

As changes occur, we will keep you apprised of any modification to the protocols.

1. Guiding Principles

- Masks are required for **all** individuals entering the facility.
- A maximum of one spectator per player. A maximum of 50 spectators per ice session.
- Players should arrive no more than 20-25 minutes before their scheduled ice time.
- If possible, come dressed or partially dressed. Dressing Rooms will be available for participants. Participants must adhere to social distancing guidelines (2m/6ft) when dressing and undressing.
- Participants' Masks must remain in place while in the dressing room, until they put on their helmet.
- Participants **must** remain in the Dressing Room until signalled by Arena staff that the ice is ready for occupancy.

2. Before you leave for the Arena

- Hockey Canada recommends that players enter the facility in as much hockey equipment as possible, rather than changing together in dressing rooms where social distancing may be difficult to maintain. When player safety might be compromised by riding in a car seat fully dressed in hockey equipment, the child should leave home partially dressed in their equipment, and should put on the remainder of the equipment after arriving at, but before entering, the facility. *It is important to follow guidelines specific to car seats and seat belts, and it would be recommended to wear only equipment that can be worn safely.* Please click here for more information: <https://www.ohf.on.ca/media/um1pwov/gearing-up-for-the-season-article.pdf>
- Review the  OHF-health-screening-questionnaire (see attached) to self-assess both yourself and your child(ren). If you answer yes to any of the questions, please stay home until you have been symptom free for at least 24 hours.
- Ensure you have all of your child(ren)'s hockey equipment, and that both you and your child(ren) have a mask to wear while inside the facility.
- Bring a water bottle filled at home; Minor Hockey will provide brand new water bottles once team selection is complete. No sharing of water bottles will be permitted.
- A jersey will be provided to each player once team selections have been made. (If you still have a jersey from last season, please bring it with you to return to the TDMHA for laundering and storage). Once new jerseys are distributed each player will keep their jersey with them. Jerseys should be laundered on a regular basis. **PLEASE NOTE: There will only be a limited supply of jerseys available should a player forget their jersey.**
- Players should bring a practice jersey with them for the first three (3) weeks of practice.
- Only one parent/guardian can accompany a player to the arena. If it is necessary to bring siblings to the Arena because of childcare issues; they must always wear a mask (unless under 3 years of age) and remain with you and be under your direct supervision.

3. Arrival at the Arena

- Players should arrive no more than 20-25 minutes before their scheduled ice time.
- Enter the arena through the designated front door, paying attention to the signage and the directional arrows.
- Make sure that everyone in your “party” entering the arena is wearing their mask. Hand sanitizer will be available once you enter the main lobby.
- You will need to check in inside the main entrance and provide a verbal confirmation that each has self-assessed and answered no to each question on the OHF Health Screening Questionnaire.
- Players aged 11 and above (peewee, bantam, midget, juvenile divisions) can give verbal confirmation themselves they have self-assessed before coming to the arena.
- Players aged 10 and under (Initiation, Novice and Atom) will require the accompanying parent/guardian to confirm a negative Health Screening Questionnaire.
- In the case of another adult (other than the parent) accompanying the player into the dressing room; they **must** also provide their contact information to the screener.
- If you are not accompanying your player(s) to the dressing room to assist them, then you can then proceed to the spectator stands. If there are spectators in the stands from the previous tea, then sit on the wooden benches adjacent to the first set of stairs upon exiting the lobby. Once the previous group has vacated the stands you may move to another area of the stands.
- No spectators are permitted to watch from the Arena lobby. If you have special circumstances, please see the Arena staff for guidance/direction.

4. Dressing Room Protocols

Before Ice Session:

- Players are reminded to try and maintain social distancing protocols (2m/6ft) whenever possible while in the dressing room and on the ice.
- Masks must be worn in the dressing room and can only be removed when the player is ready to put on their helmet.
- Players will remain in the dressing room with their coaches until the Arena staff signals for them to proceed to the ice. Under no circumstances are players to leave the dressing room before a practice until signalled by the Arena staff and their coaches.
- If two teams are using the same entrance on to the ice surface then one team will proceed to the ice first, once all players have entered on to the ice surface, then the other team may proceed.

After Ice Session:

- Once the ice session has completed, teams will exit the ice surface in an orderly fashion. If both teams are exiting the ice surface through the same door, then one of the coaches shall “hold” their team back until the other team has exited the ice surface. Then they may exit.
- When returning to the dressing room, once the helmet is removed, you must put your mask back on until you exit the Arena.
- Players are asked to exit the dressing room within 15-20 minutes of their ice session time ending. When exiting the Arena players will use the interior corridor (the hallway immediately adjacent to the dressing rooms). You must exit the Arena with your equipment immediately. *Equipment cannot be dropped in the Arena lobby.*

After Ice Session - Spectators

- If your player is aged 10 or under and needs assistance changing, you can proceed from the stands to the change room following the directional arrows.
- If you have another child playing immediately following this ice session, you may proceed to their dressing room but you must inform the screener, so you can be added to the contact tracing listing.
- Otherwise, you should leave the spectator stands. Exit the arena paying attention to the directional signs. Parents/Guardians may not congregate in the lobby and wait for their child. You will need to meet up with your child in the parking lot or at your vehicle. *Please do not congregate immediately adjacent to the front doors while waiting.*