

2021/22

ORHC COVID-19 SAFETY PROTOCOLS



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Please Note: all the information, policies, processes, and procedures contained within this document may be subject to exception and change without notice depending on situation and circumstance.

2021/22 ORHC COVID-19 SAFETY PROTOCOLS

On behalf of the Oakville Rangers Hockey Club, Welcome back to the 2021-2022 hockey season!

The Oakville Rangers Hockey Club safety protocols have been developed in conjunction with the Ontario Hockey Federation Return to Hockey Framework as well as current Ontario Roadmap to Reopen, Ontario Vaccination Protocols and Halton Region Public Health regulations.

The primary focus of the ORHC Safety Protocols is a return to traditional hockey structure while ensuring the safety and well being of our players. Our goal is to avoid any interruptions to our programming while respecting Provincial and Municipal Government protocols related to indoor league play.

It is important that we all continue to do our part to be patient and vigilant while working together towards the return to normal hockey. Please always be considerate of others and show courtesy to rink staff at all times.

Welcome back to Rangers hockey! We are so appreciative of your support and commitment to the Rangers organization and can't wait to get this season started!

Have fun and be safe!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Melissa Wolk". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Melissa" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Wolk".

Melissa Wolk,
Director of Operations,
Oakville Rangers Hockey Club

MANDATORY VACCINATION FOR ORHC PARTICIPANTS

As per the direction of our hockey governing bodies (the Ontario Hockey Federation and the Ontario Minor Hockey Association) as well as the Town of Oakville, all ORHC Directors and Staff, team officials, spectators, timekeepers, on-ice officials, instructors, in-arena employees of the ORHC and players who were born in or before 2009 are required to be fully vaccinated (by October 31, 2021) unless the individual has a valid medical reason or has an approved exemption under the Ontario Human Rights Code. At the present time, players who were born in or after 2010 are not eligible to be vaccinated and are therefore exempt from this policy.

As per the Ontario Ministry of Health, an individual is defined as fully immunized ≥ 14 days after receiving their second dose of a two-dose COVID-19 vaccine series or their first dose of a one-dose COVID-19 vaccine series as approved by Health Canada

ORHC participants, as noted above, will be required to submit a "Vaccine Declaration Form" via the ORHC online portal at <https://moha.sportskeeper.org/fillable/covid19/>

This process will be comparable to current ORHC processes for administering the Criminal Offence Declaration requirement and the Rowans Law requirement.

The declaration form will require participants to submit the following information:

- Hockey Canada ID (HCID) (this number can be found on your Registration Receipt for the 2021/22 season)
- Full Name
- Date of birth
- Status with the ORHC (player, coach, on-ice official, etc.)
- Date of their first and second vaccination dosages
- Agreement and acknowledgement to the below statement: *By completing this form, I am confirming that I have received the two necessary COVID-19 vaccination dosages in order to be considered immunized as defined by the Ontario Ministry of Health. I further confirm that the information that I have provided within this document is truthful and accurate.*

In the event that a positive Covid-19 case is identified within the ORHC, all participants associated with the identified case will be required to submit proof of COVID-19 vaccination. At present time, proof of vaccination is the submission of the vaccine receipts for each of the two dosages received.

If a person is found to have submitted a false declaration, that person will be subject to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion from the Oakville Rangers Hockey Club with no fees refunded.

HEALTH AND SAFETY GUIDELINES FOR RETURNING TO HOCKEY

In accordance with the Ontario Hockey Federation Return to Hockey Framework, the Oakville Rangers currently reside in OHF Stage 3 which is equivalent to Step 3 of the Ontario Roadmap to Reopen.

OHF STAGE	ONTARIO GOV. STAGE	OUTLINE	PLAYER CONTACT	# OF PARTICIPANTS	STRUCTURE	TRAVEL
STAGE 1	Step 1	No programming allowed.				
STAGE 2	Step 2	No programming allowed				
STAGE 3	Step 3	Traditional Hockey Regular Practice and games Bench is considered field play Dressing room use minimized, masks and distancing Coaches must wear masks on the Bench	Full contact allowed	Max participants (players & coaches) on-ice in accordance with PHU, municipality or facility; if more restrictive than Ontario government Step 3 which is based on building fire code	MHA/ Leagues/ Teams Regular Programming	Within Canada unless approved otherwise by your Member, on application
STAGE 4	Step 3 Exit	Masking required except when in participation of sport programming. Coaches must wear mask on the Bench	Full contact allowed	Based on PHU, municipality or facility requirements	MHA/ Leagues/ Teams Regular Programming	Within Canada unless approved otherwise by your Member, on application
<p style="color: #800000;">If crossing Public Health Unit boundaries or municipal boundaries, teams must comply with the regulations of the Public Health Unit or Municipality they are participating in. Minor Hockey Associations are responsible to inform incoming Teams of the requirements within the facilities the game is being played.</p>						

Based on current OHF Stage 3 guidelines and Halton Region Public Health regulations, the below health and safety guidelines are to be adhered to for all hockey related ORHC activities:

HEALTH AND SAFETY GUIDELINES FOR RETURNING TO HOCKEY

ENVIRONMENT AND EXPECTATIONS

- Entry into the building is permitted for fully vaccinated participants (parents/spectators/players)
- only, no more than 30-minutes prior to their on-ice session and must vacate within 20 minutes of the end of their on-ice session.
- All participants are required to scan a QR Code which will conduct a COVID-19 screening assessment at the entrance of all Town Facilities.
- Staff will be present to ensure entry is not permitted prior to 30 minutes before the ice time and that capacity limits and social distancing requirements are being adhered to.
- Dressing rooms will be usable and at full capacity (shower facilities are available but players must vacate within 20 minutes of their ice time ending).
- Masks must be worn inside the building at all-times, subject to public health guidelines. Mask use is not mandatory while on ice.
- Parent/guardians may view from designated spectator spaces
- No more than 50 skaters total on the ice, including on-ice officials and instructors.
- Town staff will sanitize benches, high touch-point areas and dressing rooms between games.

EQUIPMENT

- The sharing of water bottles is prohibited. Players are encouraged to mark their individual water bottle.
- The sharing of hockey equipment is prohibited unless it is goaltender equipment at the house league level which has been properly cleaned and disinfected
- While on the ice, players and Team Officials must always leave their helmet and gloves on.
- Coaches and Bench staff are required to wear a mask or face covering while on the bench.

TEAM AND DRESSING ROOM PROTOCOLS

- Teams may congregate and use a single dressing room
- As players are not able to enter the facility prior to 30 minutes before their designated ice time, the outdoor fields surrounding the perimeter of the arenas may be utilized for warm up. Do not attempt to warm up in parking lots at any time.
- Shower facilities are available but players must still vacate the premises within 20 minutes of their ice time ending.

COMMUNICATION

- ORHC COVID-19 Safety Protocols for the 2021/22 season will be publicly available on the ORHC website and directly available to membership via email communication.
- Communications materials will also be distributed through ORHC social media channels.

PROTECTIVE MEASURES

- As per By-Law No. 47-20, every person must wear a non-medical mask/face covering when inside an enclosed public space in the Region of Halton.
- Masks should be made of breathable material, comfortable and they should fit snugly without gaps.
- All persons must abide by all Public Health recommendations including physical distancing, hand hygiene, and respiratory etiquette.
- When not wearing a face covering, athletes/staff will maintain at least 2 metres physical distancing.

SCREENING AND REGISTRY PROTOCOLS

Members are expected to comply with all applicable Government, OHF, and OMHA rules, including but not limited to:

- Region of Halton Temporary By-Law No. 47-20
- Hockey Canada Safety Guidelines
- OHF Return to Hockey Framework
- OMHA Return to Hockey Information
- OMHA Vaccination Policy
- Town of Oakville Vaccination Policy

ORHC PARTICIPANT TRACKING

- All ORHC participants will be registered to a specific team roster with a coinciding schedule for the season. This will be the means for tracking participants for contact management purposes.
- Facility managers will be given the ORHC master schedule for their facility along with the coinciding team rosters and contact information.
- All House League Programming at U10 and above will take place at Glen Abbey Arena.
- Upon arrival at any Town of Oakville facility, participants will be required to scan a QR code using their smart phone to complete a COVID-19 screening assessment.
- ORHC Game Day staff will be on-site to ensure all ORHC participants scan the QR code and that participants are associated with the designated team roster and schedule.

SCREENING

- As an additional screening measure, prior to attending arenas or team functions, every ORHC Participant must do the [Self-Assessment for COVID-19](https://covid-19.ontario.ca/) (<https://covid-19.ontario.ca/>) on the Ontario Ministry of Health website
- Parents/Guardians will be responsible for actively screening their child(ren) at home every day prior to arriving to the rink. It is your sole responsibility to ensure your child(ren) are healthy, symptom-free, and able to energetically participate.
- If a player is showing any signs of COVID-19 they are not to attend their on-ice session.

POSITIVE COVID-19 TEST RESULT

- If a player tests positive for COVID-19, they are required to first contact Halton Public Health for guidance and assessment.
- The player will self isolate for a 10 period
- At the completion of the 10 day isolation period, the player may return to play if:
 - They are asymptomatic of traditional COVID-19 symptoms for more than 24 hours
 - Have a temperature of 37.5 degrees or lower (no fever) without the assistance of medication
- A negative COVID-19 test is no longer required to return to play as it has been found that a player may test positive for COVID-19 up to 90 days after initial positive test.

FALL REP TRYOUT SPECIFIC PROTOCOLS

CAPACITY AND SCREENING PROTOCOLS

- Tryouts and Prep Skates will be capped at a maximum of 45 players
- A list of tryout participants including contact information will be sent to the facility manager along with the master tryout schedule for ORHC programming at their facility.
- All ORHC Tryout participants must register online prior to tryouts. There will be no “walk-ins” permitted.
- Only registered tryout participants will be permitted into the facility 20 minutes prior to the start of the team tryout.
- Upon entry into the facility and completion of the QR Code screening, tryout participants will proceed to the check in table for their team tryout.
- The participant’s registration and contact information will be verified by tryout staff at the table.
- The first 10 participants who arrive will be assigned to one of the three dressing rooms. The next 10 will be assigned to the second dressing room and so on.
- Once tryout participants have dressed and gotten onto the ice, spectators to a maximum of 50 will be permitted to enter the designated spectator area.