

Greetings NTHC Families!

Yesterday, Governor Pritzker announced new guidelines that affect High School hockey. On behalf of the NTHC Board of Directors, and the entire coaching staff, we are still looking forward to seeing your boys on the ice when tryouts start next month! In the meantime we are working with USA Hockey, AHAI, the SHL, the IHSHL, doctors, legal advisors, and others to create a safe environment for the players both on and off the ice. As things stand now, we are on schedule to begin tryouts on **Sat., August 22nd** as originally planned. In addition, it is our understanding that Bob Melton, Hockey Director, will start his pre-season conditioning clinics as planned on **Sat., August 8th**.

Once teams are announced, they will initially be participating in team practices and skills sessions. Our skilled and seasoned coaches will ensure that they are being challenged and will continue to improve. Currently, we do expect them to be able to play in league games at some point, and these practices and skills sessions will ensure that they will be ready to go when that happens. The fees that are collected by the NTHC are used to pay the superb coaching staff and ice costs. Future installments may be adjusted based on how the season progresses.

Please know that the safety of our players and coaches is the top priority of this organization. We will work within the guidelines provided by the State of Illinois, AHAI, and the individual leagues to get them back on the ice safely. As soon as our procedures are set, we will communicate them to you. Below you will find links to three articles that AHAI has been using as guidance to make their decisions. Included is an article that outlines actions that we can all be taking to help prevent the spread of COVID-19.

In addition, the NTHC Board has decided to keep registration for the 2020-2021 season open until **Mon., August 10th**. There will be no all-club season kick off meeting this year. All information will be emailed and posted on the NTHC web site (www.newtrierhockey.com). **Please note: ALL returning players will need to bring both game jerseys to all tryouts.**

This is a fluid situation so please check the NTHC web site for updates and information. If you have questions, please email Britt Trukenbrod, President (wbtruk@msn.com) or you can reply to this email to email Michelle Paul, Registrar.

Thanks for your support. Stay safe and well.

Links to AHAI Articles:

- <https://ahaienews.com/actions-to-combat-a-resurgence-of-covid-19/>
- <https://ahaienews.files.wordpress.com/2020/06/youthsports-guidelines-ph4-updated-1-1.pdf>
- <https://dceocovid19resources.com/assets/Restore-Illinois/businessguidelines4/indooroutdoorrec.pdf>

If you would like to urge the Governor to change hockey's classification as a high risk sport, you can sign the following petition:

<https://www.change.org/p/j-b-pritzker-reduce-the-risk-level-of-youth-hockey-in-illinois>