



Herb Brooks National Hockey Center at St. Cloud State University

COVID-19 Facility Policies Effective Jan. 14, 2021



This guidance is subject to change pending updates from MDH and local governing bodies.

GENERAL EXPECTATIONS

This guidance outlines the practical application of prevention strategies to reduce the spread of COVID-19 among sports activities within the Herb Brooks National Hockey Center (HBNHC). The guidance applies to HBNHC user groups where participants are organized by entities, associations, clubs, or organizations, providing registration of participants and oversight on a regular basis for a defined period of time.

Each organization/association shall have a plan in place for returning to the rink. Organizations and associations must follow the guidelines set forth by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) and its COVID-19 Sports Guidance for Youth and Adults, as well as local government officials.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

- We encourage all user groups to help minimize the spread of COVID-19 by doing the following:
 - Stay 6 feet from others
 - Wash your hands
 - Wear a mask
 - Stay home when sick
- Players or coaches with any risk factors or illnesses should not participate in any on-ice activity. Any players, coaches, or spectators exhibiting symptoms or signs of an illness should not be in the facility at any point.
- Participants should utilize the Minnesota Symptom Screener Guide prior to any on-ice activity. These screens should be monitored by each organization or association.
- Each organization/association shall maintain accurate rosters of teams or pods and be prepared to support local public health contact tracing efforts.
- **All persons are required to wear masks at all times within the HBNHC.**
 - Players are required to wear masks during ON-ICE practice and game play.
 - Coaches are required to wear masks while on the field of play.
 - Persons whom are not wearing a mask will be denied entry into the HBNHC.
- **All persons are required to complete the Minnesota State COVID-19 Self-Assessment prior to arriving at the HBNHC.**
 - https://mnsu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_1HAgGHJbBzcyDCI
- Each organization/association must have a response plan for any positive cases with the team or association. If a case of COVID-19 is reported to you and is a part of your organization or team, report the case to the Minnesota Department of Health at health.sports.covid19@state.mn.us and local health officials. MDH or local public health will work with you to identify close contacts and do follow-up with your team.

PRACTICES

Pod Sizes

- Two (2) pods of 25 people*
 - Each pod limited to half ice.
 - No intermixing of pods.
 - Pod sizes for non-game settings include skaters, coaches and on-ice helpers.
- One (1) pod of 25 people
 - Pod is allowed to use full ice.
 - Pod sizes for non-game settings include skaters, coaches and on-ice helpers.

*The HBNHC reserves the right to limit bookings according to facility availability.

Facility Access

- Players and coaches can enter the HBNHC no more than 10 minutes prior to the start of their on-ice activities.
 - Goalies will be allowed 15 minutes prior to on-ice activities.
- Players and coaches must exit the HBNHC within 10 minutes of the end of their on-ice activities.
- One (1) spectator per player will be allowed in the arena.
- There may be circumstances in which a parent or guardian must also bring in young siblings. This will be allowed but should be limited.
- Dryland activities inside the HBNHC are prohibited.

Locker Rooms

- Players will put skates on in designated areas of the arena
- All players are strongly encouraged to arrive at the arena fully dressed, with the exception of skates, helmet, and gloves. Goalies are encouraged to arrive half dressed.
- Equipment bags are strongly discouraged in the facility with the exception of goalies.
- Use of restroom and shower facilities within locker rooms will not be available.

Field of Play

- Use of player benches, penalty boxes, and scorer's table are prohibited during non-game settings.
- Players should bring their own labeled water bottle to the rink. Players should not plan on refilling while at the rink.
- Coaches will be required to bring their own pucks.
- Coaches will be responsible for ensuring players are maintaining physical distance while on the ice.
- Players should not leave the ice during practice unless absolutely necessary.

GAMES, SCRIMMAGES, AND TOURNAMENTS

Bench Capacity

- Eighteen (18) skaters and three (3) coaches

Facility Access

- Players and coaches can enter the HBNHC no more than 10 minutes prior to the start of their on-ice activities.
 - Goalies will be allowed 15 minutes prior to the start of on-ice activities.
- Players and coaches must exit the HBNHC within 10 minutes of the end of their on-ice activities.
- A maximum of two (2) spectators per player are allowed for games.
 - HBNHC Main Rink Spectator Capacity: **150 persons**
 - HBNHC Practice Rink Spectator Capacity: **150 persons**
 - Spectators must follow physical distancing guidelines outlined by the HBNHC.
 - Masks are required while in the HBNHC.
 - Spectators are allowed in the HBNHC at game time and are asked to leave immediately following the conclusion of the game.
 - Gathering before and after game times is prohibited.
- Dryland activities inside the HBNHC are prohibited.

Locker Rooms

- Players will put skates on in designated areas of the arena
- All players are strongly encouraged to arrive at the arena fully dressed, with the exception of skates, helmet, and gloves. Goalies are encouraged to arrive half dressed.
- Equipment bags are strongly discouraged in the facility with the exception of goalies.
- Use of restroom and shower facilities within locker rooms will not be available.

Field of Play

- Players should bring their own labeled water bottle to the rink. Players should not plan on refilling while at the rink.
- Coaches will be required to bring their own pucks.
- Coaches will be responsible for implementing a system that maximizes physical distance between players on the bench during game play, stoppages intermissions, etc. Space outside the bench area (next to bench) should be utilized whenever possible.
- There should be no pregame or postgame handshakes. Teams should honor each other after the game with a stick salute.
 - There should be no pregame or postgame huddles or post goal celebration gatherings on the ice.
- There will be no resurfacing of the ice during games (between periods).
- The scorer's/announcer's/penalty box should be staffed by no more than two persons, preferably from the same household, and should be staffed by the home team. If they are not from the same household, they should maintain social distancing at all times. Masks must be worn by off ice officials at all times.

OPEN SKATE

Pod Size

- **One (1) pod of 25 people per rink**

Facility Access

- Skaters can enter the HBNHC at the doors east of the Herb Brooks Statue no more than 15 minutes prior to the start of the open skate session.
- All skaters must sign in with the Rink Attendant prior to the ice session, and supply full name, phone number, and email for contact tracing purposes.
- Skaters must exit the HBNHC within 10 minutes of the end of their on-ice activities.
- One (1) parent/guardian per skater will be allowed in the arena.

Skate Changing

- Skaters will put skates on in designated areas of the arena.
- Equipment bags are strongly discouraged in the facility.

Ice Surface

- Skaters are required to wear masks at all times.
- Skaters will be responsible for ensuring they are maintaining physical distance while on the ice.
- Skaters must follow HBNHC Open Skate Code of Conduct at all times.
- No Food or Beverage allowed on the ice surface.
- HBNHC Supervisors/Skate Attendants are present during open skate sessions.

OPEN HOCKEY

Pod Size

- One (1) pod of 25 people

Facility Access

- Players can enter the HBNHC at the doors east of the Herb Brooks Statue no more than 10 minutes prior to the start of their on-ice activities.
 - Goalies will be allowed 15 minutes prior to on-ice activities.
- All players must sign in at the Pro Shop prior to the ice session, and supply full name, phone number, and email for contact tracing purposes.
- Players must exit the HBNHC within 10 minutes of the end of their on-ice activities.
- One (1) spectator per player will be allowed in the arena.

Locker Rooms

- Players will put skates on in designated areas of the arena
- All players are strongly encouraged to arrive at the arena fully dressed, with the exception of skates, helmet, and gloves. Goalies are encouraged to arrive half dressed.
- Equipment bags are strongly discouraged in the facility with the exception of goalies.
- Use of restroom and shower facilities within locker rooms will not be available.

Field of Play

- Players are required to wear masks while ON-ICE.

- Use of penalty boxes, and scorer's table are prohibited.
- Participants should bring their own labeled water bottle to the rink.
- Participants will be responsible for ensuring they are maintaining physical distance while on the ice.
- Participants should not leave the ice during session unless absolutely necessary.

CLEANING

- The HBNHC will implement the cleaning recommendations provided by the CDC and MDH with a focus on high touch areas.
 - Areas include:
 - Door handles, light switches, countertops, restroom fixtures and stalls, and elevators.
- Locker rooms will be cleaned and sanitized between each user group, including a wipe down of doors, benches, and stalls.
 - Locker rooms will be disinfected on a nightly basis.
- Game Play Format:
 - Benches, Penalty Boxes, Scorer's tables will be sanitized between each user group.

REFERENCES AND ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE

- St. Cloud State University – Bring Huskies Home Emergency Preparedness: <https://www.stcloudstate.edu/emergency/covid19/campus-visitors/default.aspx>
- Stay Safe Guidance for Organized Sports: <https://staysafe.mn.gov/industry-guidance/organized-sports.jsp>
- MN Hockey Phase 5 Return to Play Rules & Guidelines: <https://www.minnesotahockey.org/covid19>