



December 28th, 2020

Today we are excited to announce that Governor Walz, has not only lifted the pause on practices as announced earlier, but games as well for youth and high school sports. Games can commence on the 14th of January. The announcement also included updates to the return to play guidelines found in the attached links:

Minnesota's Stay Safe Plan - <https://mn.gov/covid19/stay-safe/stay-safe-plan/index.jsp>

MDH Guidance for Sports – <https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/sportsguide.pdf>

- Cloth face coverings will be required for all participants during all organized sport activities. Official MDH guidance on the type of face coverings permitted is available here and additional guidance regarding face covering use in sports from the American Academy of Pediatrics can be found here.
- No spectators will be allowed, with the exceptions of age (Mite/8U players and younger), medical condition and Disabled Hockey groups. Participants in these groups may have a maximum of one parent, guardian or support person.
- Pod sizes for practices are limited to 25 participants per pod, including coaches, for indoor and outdoor activities. There is a limit of two pods per session.

More information will be forthcoming from MDH related to protocols and mitigation in games. The MSHSL will also putting out a document this week related to our specific league policies on return to participate. Please make sure you communicate with your athletic director on specific school policies as they may be getting information specific to you and your school programs.

We want to thank everyone for their support and patience during this difficult time and as we move forward as a sport we want to encourage all coaches to continue to lead and practice safe Covid protocols and strongly encourage the reporting of symptoms, so we can continue to stop the spread and keep all our coaches and athletes safe!

Stay Safe and Healthy,
Mike MacMillan
MHCA Executive Director
Jon Ammerman
MHCA President
Mike Taylor
MHCA President Elect