

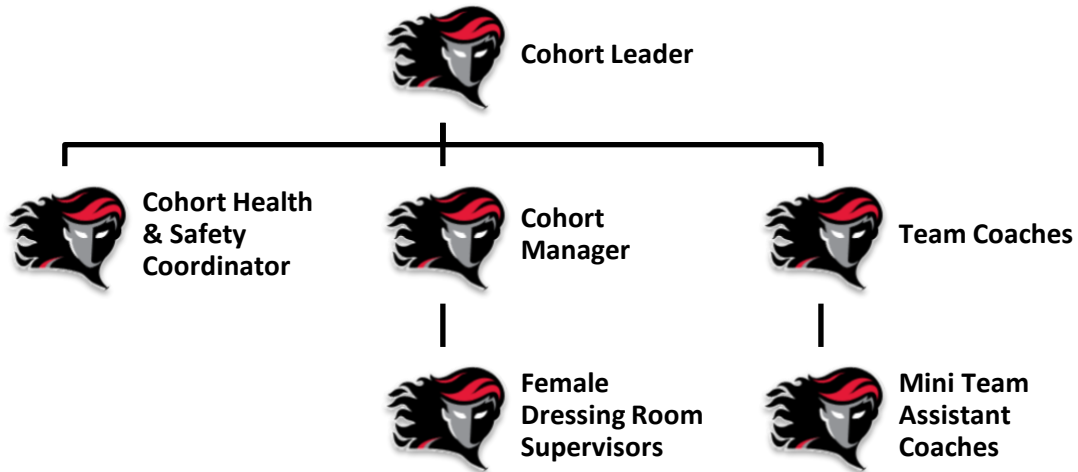


Welcome GHC Cohort Health & Safety Coordinators!

Thank you for volunteering as Cohort Health & Safety Coordinator for your daughter's hockey season!

We would like to first personally thank you for taking on this role. The GHC Board of Directors has made it our mission to be the association that leads from the front when it comes to returning to play and dealing with the health and safety of our players. This position is probably the most important role on the Cohort this year as we navigate all of the guidelines in place to deal with COVID-19. Your role as the Cohort Health & Safety Coordinator will be to assist us in making sure that GHC is the leader among all of the minor hockey associations in achieving this goal. The actions we take now and each day will go a long way to ensuring that we can have a successful year that lasts until the spring!

1. Cohort Structure (You are one big team!)



2. Virtual Orientation Session

All Cohort Managers and Cohort Health & Safety Coordinators are required to attend a Virtual Orientation Session on **Wednesday, October 7, 2019 @ 7:00 pm** (Zoom link to be provided).

3. Roles and Responsibilities

As the Cohort Health & Safety Coordinator your most important role will be creating a COVID-19 safety culture within the team. Equally important to this will be to disseminate information to families from the GHC Chief Safety Officer, ensuring that GHC's expectations of its members in



following all COVID-19 guidelines are being met and reporting any possible COVID-19 exposures to the required stakeholders.

Please know that you will have the support of your Age Group Coordinator and a qualified medical practitioner with whom you can contact for your age group. As the Cohort Health & Safety Coordinator you are not required to attend every event, but must assign duties to an individual in your absence. This would preferably be the team manager or one of the coaches.

- Be familiar with AHS COVID-19 guidelines and adhere to them.
- Communicate with your team on requirements specific to the return to hockey for GHC.
- Be familiar with facility requirements specific to the prevention of COVID-19.
- Prior to starting hockey activities be aware of playing facilities guidelines with respect to:
 - Physical distancing.
 - Restrictions specific to the number of people allowed in public areas.
 - Areas that may not be accessible in the facility - main lobby, dressing rooms, observation areas, showers, washrooms, etc.
 - If dressing rooms are not available, have a common area to put on skates or remove skate guards with marked physical distanced seating.
 - General facility rules specific to practicing good hygiene.
- Relay information to coaches, managers, players and parents.
- Ensure that all participants complete the Team Snap “Health Check” prior to attending on ice activities including coaches.
- Ensure players are evenly spread among available dressing rooms in coordination with dressing room moms and making sure masks are worn by everyone.
- Safety messaging on being prepared to arrive at rink as dressed as possible ready to go.
- Work with the coaching staff and managers on any health-related issues with teams and be prepared to advise the safety advisor responsible for your age group.
- Ensure the health and safety of the players and help to create a safe and welcoming environment.
- Educate parents and players on the need for each player to have their own water bottle labelled with their names and to fill them prior to arrival. Players should take their water bottles home and wash them before the next session.
- Emphasize to players the importance of washing their hands regularly with soap and water or hand sanitizer
- Emphasize to players the importance of keeping their equipment clean.
- Work with coaches to support physical distancing, hygiene and return to play after illness.
- Encourage parents to socially distance while at the rink and model good health and safety behaviour.
- Encourage participants to minimize their time in or around the facility. Have participants put on their shoes or skate guards so that they can leave quickly. Remind players and parents to follow physical distancing guidelines when leaving.



- Work with the age group Health and Safety Leads in identifying any possible safety issues or concerns raised by members so that they can be addressed quickly.

4. What to do in the event of a positive COVID-19 test in the Cohort

If there is one thing that we need to emphasize in this area is just how important privacy is when it comes to someone's medical information. Your discretion in this area is of the utmost importance in the event a positive case of COVID-19 comes to your attention. Each Cohort Health & Safety Coordinator will have direct access to a trained medical professional familiar in dealing with such matters. In the event that you are informed of a positive case on your team please follow this pathway.

- If a player becomes ill or shows symptoms while on the ice they must be removed immediately and isolated from other players, the player must be picked up from the rink and not allowed to use public transport. The facility must be advised of the player's movements and contacts in the facility.
- If the player tests positive for COVID-19 and the family advise the Team Health and Safety Coordinator you need to advise your age group Health and Safety Leads
- Health and Safety Lead for U7-U11 is Jeff Walker.
- Health and Safety Lead for U13-U18 is Stu Bridle (403-991-4845)
- Both Leads can be reached by emailing GHchealthandsafety@gmail.com. Please identify what age group you are with as Stu and Jeff both monitor this account.
- Health and Safety Lead will make the appropriate contacts if required.
- No one other than the Health and Safety Leads will contact anyone outside of GHC.

If a case of COVID-19 is identified within a cohort, GHC will be taking direction from Hockey Calgary and AHS on what the next steps are moving forward. As an organization we will communicate as appropriate information about any possible cases within a cohort while adhering to all privacy laws and guidelines set out by AHS. It is imperative that anyone who is asked to isolate must follow that public health order and not return to on ice activities until that isolation period is complete or until they are given permission to do so by Alberta Health.

5. Communication

We are committed to making this as easy as possible for everyone involved and are here for you to answer questions. As we go through this we are going to learn things that we may not have thought of and as a group we can assist one another by asking questions and sharing experiences. We will create an FAQ document with questions and answers we already have and add questions as they role in to make it easier for you to address the questions that you will undoubtedly getting.

If you don't know something please do not guess but ask the question. This will ensure that we are all making appropriate decisions within the guidelines set out by all of our partners and stakeholders.



6. Moving Forward

As we approach the beginning of the Development Phase we hope that the guidelines we have put in place will allow us to quickly move towards something that will more closely resemble what a regular hockey season looks like. This is going to take everyone's efforts and good decision making. GHC will provide updates to the membership as we get them and update guidelines and messaging as required. Dealing with COVID-19 remains a very fluid situation but with your help we will position ourselves to respond and change quickly while keeping our players safe and healthy.

This will be a very different year, but our mission remains the same: To provide individual growth, team development, and the opportunity to play female hockey at the appropriate age and skill levels within a safe, healthy and fun environment.

We wish you the very best hockey season.

Warm regards,

Stu Bridle

Chief Safety Officer
Girls Hockey Calgary Association (GHC)

Jeff Walker

Health & Safety Coordinator
Girls Hockey Calgary Association (GHC)