



HOCKEY CALGARY

INFORMATION BULLETIN

Date: August 26, 2021 #21-09
To: HC Members & Member Associations
From: Kevin Kobelka – Executive Director
CC: HC Board, HC Governors

SUBJECT: Hockey Calgary Mask Requirement Effective August 27, 2021

Hockey Calgary and our member Associations have been eagerly awaiting the beginning of the 2021-22 season and have been actively preparing since the 20-21 season was cut short in February of this past year. Registration for the upcoming season has been well received and we are on pace to have enrollment slightly above the numbers we had last year.

Currently we have numerous participants who have been skating regularly in preparation for the upcoming season. We have been fortunate to have little or no restrictions since arenas were opened in the late spring/early summer and we were hopeful that we could begin the season in a similar fashion. Unfortunately, in recent weeks we have once again witnessed exponential growth in Covid-19 cases across Calgary and the remainder of the province.

Hockey Calgary and our Board of Directors have been monitoring the situation and the decisions being made in the different business and educational sectors of the province. We want to ensure that we put the safety of the athletes, coaches, officials, and volunteers at the forefront as we prepare to play a 'traditional hockey season'. **As such the decision has been made to implement a 'Mask Requirement' for all athletes, coaches, officials, and volunteers who participate in Hockey Calgary and our 'Member Association' programs effective August 27, 2021.** This requirement will be in effect until September 27, 2021, at which time we will reassess and determine a path forward from there (please see topline details on the following page).

Thank you in advance for your support of this requirement, as an organization we are hopeful that some early restrictions will enable us to keep the kids on the ice and active, enabling us to complete a full season in 2021-22. To see Hockey Calgary's full Return to Play document please [click here](#).

Regards.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Kevin Kobelka'.

Kevin Kobelka
Executive Director



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Mask Requirement Effective August 27, 2021

After careful consideration and taking into account increases in COVID-19 cases and the vaccination rates for youth aged 12-19, Hockey Calgary in partnership with our member Associations will be implementing a mask requirement for all players, coaches, and team officials effective August 27, 2021. This requirement follows the action taken by both the Calgary Board of Education and the Calgary Catholic School District to mandate the use masks in all schools. **This requirement will be in place until September 27th, at which time we will review to determine a path forward.**

Details are as follows:

- **PLAYERS** – Players are required to wear masks upon entering the arena and in dressing room area. Players should remove their masks only immediately prior to putting on their helmet and entering onto the ice surface.
- **COACHES & BENCH STAFF** – All coaches and team staff are required to wear a mask at all times while off the ice. This includes the dressing room area, and the player's bench. Coaches are permitted on ice without a mask when distancing from players, but must wear a mask on the ice when in close contact (inside 2 metres) of any player, coach, and/or official.
- **VOLUNTEERS** – All volunteers and minor officials are required to wear a mask in and around the direct playing area, in the timekeeper/penalty box area, and when in close contact with any player, coach or official.
- **OFFICIALS** – All Officials are required to wear a mask upon entering the arena, and in the dressing room area. Officials should remove their masks only immediately prior to putting on their helmet and entering onto the ice surface.
- **FANS (PARENTS)** – Masks are required in the dressing room area, player's bench, penalty boxes, and timekeeper's box. In all other areas of the facility spectators **MUST** follow the protocols as laid out by the individual facilities. Please note at time of writing all 'City Operated' facilities require masks to enter the facility. Hockey Calgary strongly recommends that all spectators wear masks while attending all HC sanctioned events.

[Mask Guidance](#)

- **Note: These requirements are in effect regardless of vaccination status.**