

BECAUSE WE CARE

THE JUNIOR CRUSADERS APPROACH TO A HEALTHY AND SAFE RETURN TO HOCKEY

Last Updated July 28, 2020

Article I. Background and Document Purpose

The Junior Crusaders Youth Hockey Organization (“Junior Crusaders”) places the health and safety of our players and families above all else. At the same time, we are also committed to providing opportunities to resume hockey activities for those who wish to participate.

During Phase III, Step 1 of the Massachusetts re-opening, the Junior Crusaders will adopt and implement the following health and safety standards (“COVID-19 measures”) to ensure the safety of our all our members and community.

The public health data and guidance on which this document is based can and does change frequently. The most recent version of this document can be found on the Junior Crusaders Youth Hockey organization website, www.jrcrusadershockey.com

Junior Crusaders coaches, staff, volunteers and affiliates will be trained on all aspects of these measures and be held accountable for their compliance. Parents/Guardians and players will also be required to attest to these measures and be held accountable for their responsibilities and the limitations of use required for the safe enjoyment of our activities. It is the responsibility of our parent/guardians and players to ensure that chaperones and spectators whom they are associated with are provided with this same information in advance of attending a Junior Crusaders activity.

Junior Crusaders coaches, staff, volunteers, affiliates, players, parents, guardians, chaperones, and spectators (“participants”) who fail to implement applicable COVID-19 measures may be sanctioned pursuant to ARTICLE XIII – “SUSPENSION, EXPULSION, OTHER DISCIPLINARY MEASURES, AND APPEALS.” Participants are further reminded that in addition to implementing COVID-19 measures, they must still comply with all USA Hockey Guidelines, Mass Hockey Guidelines, as well as federal, state and local laws.

The guidelines in this document are designed to provide a safe environment for sanctioned Junior Crusaders activities, recognizing that our activities take place at facilities operated by entities beyond our control, this document categorizes guidance based on the role of Junior Crusaders participants.

Article II. Adherence to FACILITY COVID-19 Measures

Participants are to familiarize themselves and comply with each facility’s COVID-19 measures in advance of attendance for a scheduled Junior Crusader activity. Facility COVID-19 measures may include, but are not limited to HEALTH SCREENINGS, SOCIAL DISTANCING, FACEMASKS, LIMITS ON OCCUPANCY, USE OF PUBLIC FACILITIES, OPERATIONS INCLUDING ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE PROCEDURES.

Facility COVID-19 Measures for FMC may be found at <https://fmcicesports.com/>

Article III. Social Distancing

- a. Face coverings and social distancing of 6 feet is required for all participants.
- b. Face coverings are required for all **parents, guardians, chaperones, and spectators** at all times inside the facility and outside when appropriate social distancing cannot be maintained.
- c. **Players** are required to wear face covers when entering and exiting the rink. This does not include when participating in physical exertion on the ice. Otherwise, they should wear face coverings while dressing, on the bench, and in the locker rooms (if open), or pre/post practice.
- d. **Coaches** and other on-ice volunteers are required to wear face coverings at all times, with the exception of needing to temporarily remove it to explain or demonstrate, in which a minimum distance of 10 feet should be maintained from all persons.
- e. Participants on the ice must be in cohorts (groups) of NO MORE THAN 25. Up to two Cohorts may use the same sheet of ice provided that adequate social distance and group separation of 20 feet can be maintained. No movement between cohorts is allowed.
- f. Participants must stay in their cohort (group) at all times during the session and may not cross over into other cohorts during the session. However, participants may participate in other cohorts in subsequent sessions or in the future but must always remain in the single cohort every session.
- g. Social distancing on the ice is required: within each cohort there must be at least 6' of distance between each participant. There must also be at least 20' of distance between each cohort. Coaches and on-ice volunteers are responsible to ensure the distancing requirements are adhered to. We understand there may be incidental violation of this requirement but is the responsibility of the coach to organize and manage programs/cohorts to ensure compliance to the greatest extent possible.
- h. If social distancing is not possible in the facility, parents, guardians, chaperones or spectators may be asked to wait outside the facility until an activity is completed.
- i. Benches and/or bleachers are allowed at the individual facilities discretion and only we can be used if they have been thoroughly cleaned before and after every use and six feet of distance is maintained.
- j. Participants must refrain from "handshakes", "high fives", "fist bumps" or any other type of customary contact in order to minimize potential for transmission. Sportsmanship may continue but in a touchless manner.

Article IV. Hygiene Protocols

- a. All participants must properly sanitize hands prior to and immediately after each session. It is the responsibility of each participant to have a sanitizer of 60%+ alcohol for this purpose.
- b. Shared personal equipment, such as but not limited to quick change goalie gear, should be minimized. A schedule must be created to track and avoid the frequency of sharing.
- c. Shared personal equipment must be disinfected before each use by the assigned individual using a product from the list of disinfectants meeting EPA criteria for use against Covid-19.

- d. Gloves should be used in the handling of all shared equipment such as but not limited to pucks, cones, and tires. It is highly recommended that one coach or volunteer be designated to handle shared equipment to minimize frequency of touches.
- e. No shared food or drink may be provided during any activities for participants or spectators except by concessions and food service providers following the Safety Standards for Restaurants.
- f. Players should bring their own water bottles and should only drink from their own containers. Participants should expect that facility water fountains and bottle fill stations are closed.

Article V. Health Screenings and Requirements to Participate

- a. All participants are required to complete a questionnaire / certification found on the Junior Crusaders website at www.jrcrusadershockey.com prior to the start of their first scheduled activity. This questionnaire is intended to prevent anyone with symptoms or potential exposure from participating and must be answered fully and honestly. Any changes to answers given during the course of participation will require an immediate notification to the activity organizer and the SafeSport Director, and they must refrain from returning for 14 days or until they have a documented negative COVID-19 test result.
- b. All participants must conduct self-monitoring for symptoms every day before attending a Junior Crusaders activity. In order to participate in Junior Crusaders activities all participants must show no signs or symptoms of COVID-19 for 14 days. Current list of symptoms is available here: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>
- c. Participants who exhibit symptoms as defined by the CDC or who believe they may have been exposed should contact their doctor and self-quarantine for 14 days or provide a documented negative COVID-19 test result to resume participation.
- d. Participants who develop symptoms of COVID-19 during the activity, should promptly inform the coach or organizer and must be removed from the activity and instructed to return home. They should contact their doctor and self-quarantine for 14 days or provide a documented negative COVID-19 test result to resume participation.
- e. Screening questions maybe used by coaches, staff, or volunteers to ensure that all participants have no signs or symptoms of COVID-19 for 14 days prior to the activity. Failure to comply or showing signs/symptoms of COVID-10 will prevent participation in the activity and those persons will be asked to leave and immediately contact their doctor. Self-quarantine for 14 days or a documented negative COVID-19 test result will be required to resume participation.

Article VI. Facility Arrival and Departures

- a. All participants must familiarize and adheres to facility COVID-19 measures, policies, and procedures. These may vary from facility to facility.
- b. Players should come to the rink ready. Everything on except, gloves, skates and helmet. Those may be put on inside and then removed after the activity. The remainder of equipment should be put in outside or prior to arrival. The more we can minimize dressing

- inside the rink the lower the risk of transmission will be and the more time players will have to be on the ice.
- c. Participants should not expect to arrive early and cannot stay after. Please plan on arriving no later than 15 minutes prior to your scheduled activity and waiting in vehicle until instructed to enter the facility.
 - d. Maintain social distance (6') at all times during this pre-session including queuing up to enter the facility or ice. When the session ends, immediately exit the ice, remove only gloves, skates, and helmet then return to your vehicle through marked exits.

Article VII. Responsibilities of Coaches and Organizers

- a. Follow all guidelines and creating a safe environment for participants.
- b. Educate all participants and spectators on the applicable protocols for the relevant activity, protocols for entering/leaving the facility, and any other hygiene requirements.
- c. Recording and maintaining the name of each participant and contact information to assist with contact tracing if necessary.
- d. Adhering to and administering ARTICLE V for health screenings and requirements to participate.
- e. Help facility ensure that participants are not congregating in common areas or parking lots following practices or events.
- f. Consider other mitigating measures to reduce the likelihood of respiratory particular transmission

Article VIII. Suspected and Confirmed Cases

- a. Participant notifies coach and SafeSport Director of suspected or confirmed case of Covid-19
- b. In accordance with local Health Department recommendations, SafeSport Director to cooperate with local Health Departments to notify all Facilities used within last 14 days, and notify all teams in contact within last 14 days.
- c. Participant must be symptom free for 14 days or have documentation of a negative test results to resume participation.