



## BMHA Protocols - Frequently Asked Questions (Sept. 9, 2021)

Further to the [BMHA Protocols released August 24, 2021](#), we have compiled a list of questions we have received from the membership to provide some background into the protocols we have put in place for BMHA.

*Why are BMHA's protocols different than the PHO, Hockey Canada, viaSport, BC Hockey, PCAHA or the City of Burnaby's?*

- BMHA is required to follow the requirements of all governing bodies as a minimum standard.
- While BMHA cannot loosen requirements, BMHA can tighten requirements.

*Why is BMHA not permitting spectators?*

- The consensus and reasoning to proceed without spectators is as follows:
  1. A precedence was set early when BC Hockey announced there would be no spectators at Zone tryouts although there's been conflicting information since on whether or not this was enforced. PCAHA also announced there would be no spectators for tryouts of the Female Development Program. Discussion also ensued by the Risk Managers of PCAHA Member Associations, and a number of associations implemented a no spectator rule as well.
  2. The rationale is that there is a lack of information on vaccination requirements and BMHA will need to get clarification on this before creating and or asking volunteers to implement any type of validation process. We look forward to direction from governing bodies
  3. Based on feedback from players, coaches, volunteers and evaluators last year, having tryouts without spectators created a more relaxed and positive experience for players which yielded improved performance during the evaluation process.
- What if my child is U11 or younger and needs help tying skates?
  - o A single parent or guardian will be allowed to enter the rink to help players tie skates. This parent or guardian must then leave the arena prior to the ice time starting.

*Will BMHA require two dose vaccination?*

- The Provincial Health Order has provided an exemption to Youth/Minor Sport for the vaccine proof of requirement starting Sept.13. However, clarification is required from governing bodies if this applies to players only or if it includes officials/volunteers, and or spectators.
- As there is a large portion of BMHA players who are under the eligible age for vaccination, BMHA will look to implement additional measures to keep these players safe.
- BMHA is seeking guidance from governing bodies regarding protocols, such as how to authenticate vaccination records. BMHA will then need determine how to implement this at the association level. Our goal is to announce any requirements after September 13th (PHO announcement date) but before September 30th.

*Why are coaches required to wear masks on the field of play?*

- Until we receive further clarification from the governing bodies regarding vaccination requirements, we are asking coaches and on-ice volunteers to wear masks as a precautionary measure.

*Do we need to complete the Health Check on TeamSnap?*

- The Health Check is not required, but unfortunately we cannot remove the feature from TeamSnap.

Thank you for your inquiries and continue cooperation in keeping BMHA families safe!