



Officials' COVID-19 Precautions 2020-2021

Note: This document highlights Officials' specific information found in the full Hockey Manitoba RTP website and Hockey Canada Points of Focus. For full details, see the top left corner of wpgrefs.com

Arriving at the Arena

- Arenas are required to follow provincial guidelines just as businesses regarding masks, hand hygiene, capacity, and physical distancing. Follow the arena's rules.
- If you are sick, stay home. Do not come to the arena; your assignor will understand.

In the Dressing Room

- Remember, most referee rooms are too small for 4-6 officials to physically distance and can accommodate only 2 physical-distancing people.
- Officials should wear a non-medical facemask until you go on the ice. Put facemasks on when returning to dressing room after game or between periods.
- To promote physical distancing, Time Keepers should not enter the referee room. Complete game sheet in the hallway where physical distancing is easier.
- Mentors and supervisors are encouraged to avoid entering dressing rooms where physical distancing is difficult. Instead, consider using the hallway.
- You are encouraged to exit the dressing room a.s.a.p following your game, giving arena staff time to clean and the officials for the next game time to change while physically distancing. Please shower at home.
- Consider arriving at arena mostly dressed to minimize the amount of time spent in the dressing room.
- Between games or periods, consider waiting in the hallway if physical distancing in the dressing room is difficult.
- Arrive 30 minutes before your game and be ready before the previous game ends allowing you to leave the room while the other game's officials change. This may include arriving at the rink wearing some of your equipment.
- **Assignors & RICs may use posters, found in the top left corner of wpgrefs.com, to communicate these precautions and create "stalls" in the referee room.**

On-the-Ice

- Officials should acknowledge/greet the coaches, but not make physical contact.
- When speaking to captains or coaches, maintain physical distancing.
- Talk to the Time Keeper through the penalty gate rather than the hole to maintain 2- meter physical distance.
- The Time Keeper should wear a mask while working in the penalty bench.
- Players will not shake-hands after the game. Instead, each team will line up on their blue line and raise their sticks in salute.
- Sanitize/Wash your hands before each period.

Game Play

- This is a summary, please see Hockey Canada RTP rules for full information. HC RTP Rules are Found in the top left corner of wpgrefs.com
- In 2020-2021, players need to minimize the amount of time they are within 2 meters of each other. On-ice officials can help reduce the time players are close to each other by:
 - Encouraging/allowing players to practice physically distancing on their side of the circle while waiting for a face-off. Have players line-up at the last moment before a face-off.
 - Quickly stopping play if a puck is not moving along the boards or in front of the net (for more information please see Hockey Canada RTP Rules).
 - Quickly stopping play will help decrease tempers and pushing after the whistle.
 - Strictly enforce Unsportsmanlike Conduct under Rule 9.2a to discourage pushing and engaging after the whistle.
 - “Face washing” another player must be discouraged by assessing, at minimum, a 2+2 for Head Contact.
 - Spitting water or saliva is absolutely discouraged. Use the following procedure:
 - Advise the coach of the offending player, the coach addresses the issue.
 - A team is allowed to receive 2 warnings.
 - On the third instance of the same team spitting a minor penalty under 9.2a Unsportsmanlike Conduct is assessed to the player who spat the third time.
 - On the fourth instance, a misconduct penalty is assessed to the player who spat the fourth time. YOU MUST REPORT THIS MISCONDUCT PENALTY TO YOUR R.I.C. who will then report it to Hockey Winnipeg.
 - Players should serve 10-minute Misconduct penalties in the dressing room or at the gate to the ice to reduce the people in the penalty bench.

REMINDER: This document is a summary of the Hockey Manitoba RTP website and the Hockey Canada Return to Play rules. Please review those documents, with links found in the top left corner of wpgrefs.com.