

Nanaimo Minor Hockey players, members and families

Hello, I'm Dave Zielinski and I've been appointed by the board as the new NMHA Risk & Safety Manager and 2nd Vice President. I have replaced David van Deventer, who served on the board in this role for the past 6 years. We are thankful for all his hard work, dedication to the game, and we wish him well on his move down island.

I am sure we can all agree that last season was difficult for most of us due to the challenges of Covid. The board would like to thank everyone for their understanding, patience and the support for our volunteers who managed to keep our kids safe and, on the ice, while most hockey families across Canada did not have this opportunity. And while we all strive to move forward, we're still not in the clear yet.

The following questions are being asked every day:

1. **Are parents allowed in the rinks?** Yes, and please continue to practice social distancing inside and outside all facilities.
2. **Are mask required in the dressing rooms?** Yes, VIAHA has mandated that all players, team officials and parents must wear masks at all times while in the dressing rooms. (effective immediately as per VIAHA email from Jim Humphrey on August 23, 2021)
3. **Are mask required in the rinks?** No, however, wearing a mask is recommended
4. **Is proof of vaccination required?** No
5. **Are parents allowed in the dressing rooms?** Yes and required to wear masks, however, only one parent in the dressing room per child to assist with getting dressed. Once your child is ready, please leave the dressing room and do not gather outside the room. Unless you are a volunteer, there is no reason for you and your families to be in or gathering by the dressing rooms.

All NMHA players, volunteers and families are expected to follow the rules of other minor hockey associations when playing at their facilities. Please continue to be safe, respect others, lead by example and let's have some fun as we get back into hockey!

The City of Nanaimo has forwarded the following information, please read:

The City of Nanaimo continues to follow directives of the PHO, Worksafe BC, ViaSport and the British Columbia Recreation and Parks Association. The City of Nanaimo is operating under a communicable disease plan as required under Worksafe BC legislation. A communicable disease plan is intended to maintain the health and safety of employees and the public by limiting and

controlling the exposure to communicable diseases such as COVID-19 and influenza. This plan can include the following information: wearing mask, staying home if sick, supporting vaccinations and proper hand hygiene.

The City of Nanaimo does not require community organizations to provide a communicable disease plan in order to rent recreation facilities but it is recommended that organizations consider creating a communicable disease a plan to ensure the health and safety of volunteers, staff and participants who attend the activity, program or event.

Private organizations renting City of Nanaimo recreation facilities can implement further safety protocols over and above what is required by the City although the organizer of the event is solely responsible for the enforcement and oversight of any additional safety protocols they choose to implement. The safety protocols would only apply to the space that is rented by the organizer of the program/event such as: an arena, meeting room, gymnasium or field and does not apply to other users in the facility or City staff. User groups are encouraged to check with their provincial sports organization to seek further information regarding additional safety protocols for programs and events.

Helpful resources

Communicable Disease Plan <https://www.worksafebc.com/en> BC's Restart Plan <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/covid-19/info/restart#plan>

FAQ's:

Does the City require customers (program participants or facility user groups) to provide proof of vaccinations?

No, the City of Nanaimo does not require customers to provide proof of vaccination. The City of Nanaimo is aware and respects the privacy and humans rights laws surrounding this topic. Community user groups renting City of Nanaimo recreation facilities are encouraged to look into this before requesting proof of vaccination as a requirement for people attending a program, activity or event.

Does the City of Nanaimo require mask use in indoor recreation facilities?

Mask use is recommended and not mandatory. Wearing a mask is recommended in indoor public spaces for people 12 and up who are not fully immunized.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the rink!

Thank you

Dave Zielinski

NMHA - Risk & Safety | 2nd Vice President

To promote sportsmanship, fair competition, development and safety for minor hockey players of all skill levels.

On Sat, Aug 21, 2021 at 9:36 AM Dave Zielinski <davezielinski.nmha@gmail.com> wrote:
Hi Vicky

Please share the following message with our membership on my behalf, thank you.

Players, volunteers and hockey families

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