



September 24, 2021

Dear FMHA Families,

We know all of you were so excited to be able to register your children to play hockey this season with the hopes that we would not expect any disruptions. Unfortunately, as per the most recent temporary measures that the Government of Alberta put into place on September 16, we now have to modify our program slightly to adhere to the guidelines of our facilities. We have received our expected procedures from both our Facilities, and as such are asking our families to adhere and follow as below for each facility. Because we do operate out of 2 facilities we need to ensure that we are following proper protocol as laid out at each arena.

Blackie Arena has chosen to not go the route of a Restriction Exemption Program (REP) and will go the route of Mandatory Restrictions that were put in place September 16 as outlined below:

- Youth (under 18) sport, fitness and performance activities (Sept 16)
 - **Indoor group classes, training, and competitions are permitted, but participants are required to:**
 - **screen for symptoms**
 - **maintain 2 meters distancing, except youth while engaged in physical activity**
 - **wear a mask, except youth while engaged in physical activity**
 - **Spectator attendance is restricted to 1/3 fire code capacity, attendees are limited to a single household or 2 close contact if living alone and must be masked and maintain 2 meters physical distancing.**
 - Outdoor activities can continue with no restrictions.

The capacity for the Blackie Arena is set at 400 spectators and will be allocated 50/50 between home and visiting teams. They will have markers set up similar to last year asking families to enter in the main doors and exit thru the doors down the dressing room hallway.

Bob Snodgrass Recreational Centre has chosen to implement a REP and such forth the following will apply from September 24 onward. We have spoken with the facility and they are giving us



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some leniencies for this weekend because of the time lines for our final evaluation weekend. You will be able to escort your child into the facility regardless of status but you may not be able to stay and watch. Our evaluators and on/off-ice volunteers for this weekend will also still have access to the facility.

1. Masking and distancing requirements

Face masks must be worn at all times unless engaged in physical activity or by other exception noted in AHS Order 43-2021

The Town and its Recreation staff strongly recommend continued physical distancing where possible

2. Entering the Bob Snodgrass Recreation Centre

Following AHS public health orders, the following entry requirements will apply each time you visit the BSRC; the Town will not store any medical records. All documentation must meet AHS standards outlined in AHS Order 42-2021

- Enter via the East Lobby Entrance only (3rd St SE side of the building)
- **Anyone under the age of 18 participating in a sport is exempt from these requirements.**
- Spectators aged 12+ are required to meet the AHS defined entry requirements below:
 - Show proof of vaccination – OR –
 - Show an original Medical Exemption letter from an authorized health professional – OR –
 - If participants do not have proof of vaccination, you may show proof of a negative, privately paid-for test result from a sample taken within the prior 72 hours

3. User Groups accessing BSRC

All user groups are required to participate in the REP program

All user groups must have a written REP plan in place

User groups will be required to ensure entry requirements of their participants meet the above standards (noted in #2, above).

User groups will need to confirm all AHS requirements have been met

All user group participants must be prepared to provide proof of entry requirements



Refer to <https://highriver.ca/news/rep-rec-centre-sept24> for the full details from the Town.

What does this mean for FMHA families?

- All of our children are still allowed to play whether they have proof of vaccination or not.
- All of our bench staff, on-ice, and off-ice volunteers will need to adhere to any AHS requirements set in place when attending said facility by any of the 3 means available (proof of vaccination, medical exemption letter, or negative privately paid for test). We will not be asking for or collecting any of this information but expect that per the guidelines laid out that you will provide it to the facilities in order to gain entry.
- Spectators will also need to adhere to any AHS requirements set in place at said facilities.
- We will do our best to work within our means to ensure all our players have access to the facilities even if parents/guardians do not by means of looking for volunteers with the teams to escort your player to their designated spots and returning to parents after activities. We will not be asking for any of this information but rather looking for those to volunteer this information if they are comfortable to assist in the above task.
- A reminder to all families as well that any guidelines will need to be adhered to also when playing in other facilities as set forth by those communities.

We understand that for some families that you may not be comfortable with what is laid out here and that you may choose to withdraw your child from play for the season. If that is the case you would be entitled to a partial refund per our Refund policy as stated in our Rules and Regulations. If this is the route you opt with please email president@foothillsminorhockey.com with this intent and it will be taken care of.

This is also a fluid time as these are intended to be temporary measures therefore we will advise of any updates as they may arise. We ask for your patience and compassion as we move through this time and that you also are respecting our facilities.

Regards,
Foothills Minor Hockey Board Members