

Date: September 9, 2021

To: Huron and Perth Area Hockey Associations

Re: 2021/2022 Hockey Season Vaccination Requirements Announcement

The Ontario Minor Hockey Association recently announced requirement of all age eligible participants to be vaccinated for the upcoming 2021/2022 season on September 3rd. In their policy document, they highlight the requirement for coaches, trainers, volunteers, and officials to also need to be fully vaccinated.

Per OMHA, "Fully Vaccinated" means fourteen (14) days after an individual has received a completed series of an Accepted COVID-19 Vaccine. "Participant" means any person registered to the OMHA through any Association or Team, **including the parents or legal guardians of any minor aged participant**. Spectators are not included in the OMHA policy as requiring vaccination but may require vaccine certification to enter facilities based on facility specific policies and procedures.

Children born after 2009 are currently not eligible to be vaccinated. Youth involved in recreational activities, however, may need the support of a parent or guardian in preparing for their recreational event (tying skates etc).

Given the limited space dressing rooms provide, and the vulnerability of those as yet unvaccinated youth, it is the strong recommendation of Huron Perth Public Health that only fully vaccinated parents/guardians access recreational dressing room spaces where occupied by unvaccinated youth from any other household. As a point of clarification, this would classify parents entering a dressing room regardless of age group of the participant, as a "participant" themselves, thereby elevating safety by creating safe spaces. Any vaccine-eligible person who is unvaccinated (without a letter stating a contraindication to a vaccine) may not enter the dressing rooms.

Finally, as a reminder, all other public health requirements as outlined in legislation must still be followed regardless of vaccination status (such as hand washing, physical distancing and mask use). For your information, HPPH will be sharing updated recommendations with Sports Facilities.

We appreciate your executive teams efforts in complying with the recommendations in efforts of putting together a successful full year of hockey for our youth.

Sincerely,



Dr Miriam Klassen
Medical Officer of Health & CEO

Endorsed by HPA-OHT Physician Advisory Committee:

Dr Kim Gilmour	Dr Brad Ross	Dr Vanessa Kustec	Dr Andrew Prout
Dr Nadine Potvin	Dr Neeraj Patel	Dr Phil Schieldrop	Dr Stephen Vander Klippe
Dr Rob Annis	Dr Tamra Steinman	Dr Deborah Josephson	Dr Kevin Lefebvre
Dr Shanil Narayan	Dr Alex Peel	Dr Tristan Walker	Dr Kathleen Broad

Encl.