**Social Distancing and Covid-19 Prevention Policy**

**Purpose**

To clearly define the expectations of all Tavistock District Minor Hockey Association (TDMHA) members regarding social distancing and Covid-19 prevention strategies and ensure that we are able to continue our return to play in a fair, safe and consistent manner.

**Definitions**

**Contact Tracing**

Contact tracing is the process of identifying, assessing, and managing people who have been exposed to a disease to prevent onward transmission. When systematically applied, contact tracing will break the chains of transmission of COVID-19 and is an essential public health tool for controlling the virus.

**Social Distancing**

Social distancing is the practice of maintaining a greater than usual physical distance (such as six feet or more) from other people or of avoiding direct contact with people or objects in public places during the outbreak of a contagious disease in order to minimize exposure and reduce the transmission of infection.

**COVID-19**

COVID-19 is a disease caused by a new strain of coronavirus. 'CO' stands for corona, 'VI' for virus, and 'D' for disease. Formerly, this disease was referred to as '2019 novel coronavirus' or '2019-nCoV

**Procedures**

1. All players will complete a health check in advance of each scheduled ice time using a screening tool provided by TDMHA. (This may be completed by their accompanying parent in cases of young players.)
2. All players will arrive no more than 20 minutes in advance of their scheduled practice/game time
3. All spectators will always wear face masks covering nose and mouth while inside the facility.
4. All spectators will proceed directly to the stands, as this area is the only suitable area for maintaining social distancing. No spectators will be permitted to remain in the lobby area or any hallways or throughways.
5. All coaches or designate, will verify that the players have completed their health check before permitting the players in the dressing room.
6. Dressing rooms will always be limited to 10 people, as this is the maximum allowed in the space for the purposes of social distancing.
7. Whenever possible, players, coaches and spectators must wear face masks. Unless medically unable, coaches will always wear face masks inside the facility. A player is permitted to remove their face mask when putting on their helmet. When a player removes their helmet for any reason, their face mask should be immediately replaced, and properly covering nose and mouth at all times.

**Additional Expectations and Possible Repercussions**

1. Anyone that is feeling unwell is expected to stay at home and refrain from attending any or all TDMHA held events.
2. For all persons in attendance from visiting centers, sign-in will be required for the purposes of potential contact tracing. Any persons not provided on team rosters in advance will also be required to sign in. Entrance for all persons not originating from the TDMHA membership, will be subject to the sign in and this will be monitored for compliance.
3. There are marked pathways within the arena for the purposes of controlling the flow of traffic and minimizing close contact with respect to social distancing guidelines. These pathways are always to be followed and should not become congested by individuals loitering in restricted areas.
4. Anyone found to be in violation of this or other policies may be subject to disciplinary action, which, after sufficient warning, may result in ejection from the facility or access being barred indefinitely.

All COVID-19 prevention activities are meant to reduce the risk of contracting and/or spreading the virus and all these activities are subject to change with legislation, public health input and/or further instruction from the OMHF. We encourage all TDMHA members and our surrounding community to stay up to date with information provided by local authorities and when in doubt to act with caution.