

**Policies & Procedures  
of the  
Vancouver Thunderbird  
Minor Hockey Association**

*P-24*

**COVID-19 IMPACT  
POLICY**

Date Revised:	August 2021	Revision No.	2
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## **P-24: COVID-19 Impact Policy**

1. The purpose of this policy is to provide a singular reference point for required deviations from standard Vancouver Thunderbird policies in the 2021-22 season as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Atypical levels of flexibility may be required in order to provide programming options for our players to remain compliant with viaSport, health authority and facility requirements.
2. This policy will:
  - 2.1. be paramount and will govern in the event of any conflict or inconsistency with other Vancouver Thunderbird policies in force prior to this policy; and
  - 2.2. be subject to future revisions if necessary as new information is provided from sport governing bodies, health authorities and facilities.

### **3. COVID-19 Vaccinations**

- 3.1 Vancouver Thunderbirds encourages eligible staff, team officials and players who have not been vaccinated to do so now in accordance with BC Centre for Disease Control and Provincial Government guidelines.
- 3.2 It is possible that our health authority, governing bodies or our venues may require eligible staff, team officials and/or players to show proof of COVID-19 vaccination in order to be permitted to participate in hockey or other team activities or to access our various arenas or other venues. Similar requirements may also apply to spectators.

### **4. Registration Fee Policies and Refunds**

- 3.1 Any refunds requested if a player decides to no longer play hockey with Vancouver Thunderbirds this season will be subject to the current refund policy schedule in *P3 – Registration Policy, Section 7*.
- 3.2 If the season is canceled or is otherwise materially interrupted at any point after the season program commences, participants will receive a partial refund as approved by the Board. It is expected that any such partial refund will take into account costs incurred to date and any non-recoverable costs (such as, by way of example only, Hockey Canada insurance, BC Hockey or PCAHA player fees, non-refundable ice rentals).
- 3.3 If any camp or clinic is canceled prior to the commencement of the camp or clinic, all fees collected in respect of such camp or clinic will be 100% refunded. Note that Vancouver Hockey School programming will be subject to their own refund policies that will be communicated when those programs are offered.
- 3.4 If any camp or clinic is canceled or is otherwise materially interrupted at any point after the camp or clinic commences, participants will receive a partial refund as approved by the Board. It is expected that any such partial refund will take into account costs incurred

to date and any non-recoverable costs (such as, by way of example only, insurance, non-refundable ice rentals).

- 3.5 Any exceptional circumstances not covered under this Policy can be submitted to the Board for consideration.

#### **4 GENERAL HOCKEY OPERATIONS**

- 4.1 All parents, players and team officials are required to complete, sign and return (electronically or hard copy) to Vancouver Thunderbirds a COVID-19 Participant Form (attached at Exhibit 1).
- 4.2 Team sizes may be dictated by venue restrictions or viaSport/sport governing body guidelines and recommendations.
- 4.3 The use of affiliate players may be restricted or altered by sport governing bodies.
- 4.4 Rule modifications, changes to game play and tournament participation will follow Hockey Canada, BC Hockey and/or PCAHA adjustments.

#### **5 DRESSING ROOM & TWO DEEP POLICY**

- 5.1 Usage of dressing room or alternative dressing areas will be subject to venue protocols. Vancouver Thunderbird teams will be required to follow the existing two deep policy as closely as possible with two adults providing supervision at all times within the venues.

#### **6 COVID-19 RETURN TO PLAY POLICY**

- 6.1 The steps outlined below have been adopted after consultation with Hockey Canada, BC Hockey and local health contacts.
- 6.2 It is expected that players and team staff will experience symptoms of Covid-19; be contacted about a possible exposure; or contract Covid-19 themselves. As a result, a clear understanding of the steps involved in the return to hockey is required.
- 6.3 Players are required to complete and pass a health check (on Team Snap or in a form otherwise provided by Vancouver Thunderbirds) before being permitted to attend any Vancouver Thunderbird or team event/activity.
- 6.4 If a player or team staff member is showing symptoms of Covid-19, including any cold or flu symptoms, they must not attend any Vancouver Thunderbird event and must take a Covid-19 test.
- 6.4.1 If the Covid-19 test is positive, they need to stay home for at least 10 days (or such other period of time as mandated by public health authority) from the start of symptoms – public health instructions must be followed. If they receive instruction from public health that they need to stay home for longer or shorter than 10 days, they are required
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to inform their group/team HCSP and the Executive Director and remain in communication.

- 6.4.2 If the Covid-19 test is negative, they need to stay home until they are 100% symptom free. Parents will be required to provide to their group/team HCSP and the Executive Director the notification from the BC Health Authority of a negative test or a physician's note authorizing the player to resume hockey activities in order to return to play.
- 6.5 If a player or team staff member has been told to self-isolate because of contact with Covid-19, they must not attend any Vancouver Thunderbird event and must notify their group/team HCSP that they have been told to self-isolate and:
- 6.5.1 If they do not have symptoms of Covid-19, they may return to play after 14 days of the exposure (or such other period of time as mandated by public health authority). They do not require a note to return to play but must inform their group/team HCSP and the Executive Director of the start date as well as the period of time public health authority has mandated that they self-isolate. If symptoms occur at any point in the self-isolation period, including any cold or flu symptoms, they must take a Covid-19 test.
- 6.5.1.1 If the Covid-19 test is positive, they must remain home on self-isolation for at least 10 more days or such other period of time as mandated by public health authority) from when symptoms start – public health instructions must be followed. If they receive instruction from public health that they need to stay home for longer or shorter than 10 days, they are required to inform their group/team HCSP and the Executive Director and remain in communication.
- 6.5.1.2 If Covid-19 test is negative, they must remain home until the full completion of the 14 day self-isolation order (or such other period of time as mandated by public health authority). If symptoms still remain at that time, they are not to return to play until they are 100% symptom free.
- 6.5 If more than one player or team staff member on a team tests positive for Covid-19 within any ten (10) day period, then all members of that team will not be permitted to partake in any team or other Vancouver Thunderbird activities (including practices, skill sessions and games) for at least two (2) full days after the second case of Covid-19 is confirmed. This minimum two (2) day period is to provide adequate time for public health authorities to evaluate the situation and provide instructions for any return to play, which will be communicated to the team by their group/team HCSP and/or the Executive Director.

**EXHIBIT 1  
COVID-19 PARTICIPANT FORM**

Vancouver Thunderbirds are requiring all TBird players and their families to submit a Participant Agreement form acknowledging that they have read and agree to the following:

Please review the items with all family members who may attend a TBird hockey activity this season. We ask each family submits one form.

All participants of Vancouver Thunderbirds Hockey activities agree to abide by the following points when entering facilities and/or participating in club activities:

- I/we agree to symptom screening checks, and will let my club know if I/we have experienced any of the symptoms in the last 14 days.
- I/we agree to stay home if feeling sick, and agree to follow public health authority directions if I/we have been told by public health to self-isolate because of contact with Covid-19.
- I/we agree to sanitize my hands upon entering and exiting the facility, with soap or sanitizer.
- I/we agree to continue to follow masking and social distancing protocols of staying at least 2m away from others in all areas required.
- I/we agree to abide by all of my club's COVID-19 policies and guidelines.
- I/we agree to not share any equipment before, during or after practice times, including water bottles.
- I/we understand that if I do not abide by the aforementioned policies/guidelines, that we may be asked to leave the program/ice time with no refund, if applicable.
- I/we acknowledge that continued abuse of the policies and/or guidelines may result in suspension from the Association.
- I/we acknowledge that there are risks associated with entering the public facilities and/or participating in association activities, and that the measures taken by the association and participants, including those set out above and under the Return to Hockey Protocols, will not entirely eliminate those risks.
- I/we agree to abide by any and all future safety protocol should new requirements be implemented and/or adjusted throughout the season.

1.  
Please list the names of all Thunderbird players in your family.

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2.  
Please list names of all parents/guardians.

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3.  
Please type name of parent/guardian completing this form.