

Boys & Girls Club Return to Play Hockey Covid-19 Protocols

The Berkshire Rattlers, Berkshire Black Bears, and Berkshire Bruins along with the Boys & Girls Club of the Berkshires are looking forward to hitting the ice to play the game we all love! Our first priority is to ensure the safety of all of our players, coaches, and families which cannot be achieved without solid teamwork and cooperation. We realize that this will present many challenges, some of which we have identified, and others that will become clear as we begin the season. Patience and communication will be paramount. We acknowledge that many organizations have tried to push a return to play and test limits, this is not our goal. Our goal is to provide children the opportunity to be on the ice and develop their skills through station-based practices. If or when things change, we will adjust accordingly. Below are the guiding principles to help achieve a safe and healthy hockey season. TOGETHER FOR HOCKEY we stand!

1. Players will arrive at the rink dressed carrying skates and helmets. No bags will be allowed (exception will be made for goalies). Players and guardians will enter and exit from the side door at the cohort scheduled time.
2. There will be 20 minutes in between sessions with 10 minutes to prepare for being on the ice. A coach will meet players at the bottom of the stairs.
3. Players will be asked to present a completed screening form upon arrival for each ice session. This must be completed in advance and provided in hard copy to the BGC staff member when the player arrives at the bottom of the stairs. Players without a form upon entry will not be allowed to participate in the session.
4. Players will be assigned a seat for the season. This seat location is where they should go when they arrive. They will complete preparation for practice and remain seated until directed to enter the ice. Players should not leave their seat and queue at the doors for the ice. They should remain seated and wait for the coach's directions.
5. Only one chaperone per player and no siblings at this time.
6. Chaperones and others cannot stand behind the glass. All spectators will be asked to wear masks and maintain social distance in the bleachers marked areas.
7. **FACE COVERINGS:** Players, coaches and officials are required to wear face coverings at all times. This includes during play. Acceptable face coverings should follow the guidance issued by the CDC. Further review of various products has led to clarified guidance indicating the plastic shield style products do not comply with the CDC guidance for face coverings. At this time, the CCM "Game On" mask has been deemed acceptable and can be used to comply with the face covering requirement.
8. Areas will be wiped down and sanitized in between sessions.
9. Each player will bring his/her own water bottle filled and clearly marked.
10. Two exhaust fans and all doors will remain open.
11. If you, your child or family member are not feeling well STAY HOME.
12. Each cohort will identify a cohort guardian leader to help assist in compliance.
13. No food in the rink.
14. If parents are running late or not able to make practice they need to let coaches know because the doors will be locked.
15. In order to ensure the safety of the Boys & Girls Club of the Berkshires and all those

who participate in its many programs we are not allowing players from states other than Berkshire County, Massachusetts to participate at this time. Additionally, players who are participating in the Boys and Girls Club hockey program will not be allowed to participate in any other hockey program and hockey training sessions outside of Berkshire County.

16. USA/MA Hockey and the The Boys and Girls Club of the Berkshires will be the guiding entities for compliance.

