

FAQs - GMHI Return to Play

Please note that all questions re: second adults apply only to age groups for which adults are permitted to attend (U13 and below).

Q: Who made all these rules we have to follow?

A: GMHI's Return to Play Protocols are based on a combination of OHF, ORFA, YMCA and public health policies.

Q: When do adults have to wear masks?

A: Any adult who is not on the ice surface must wear a mask at all times. Team staff are permitted to take off their masks when they step on the ice, but must replace their masks before leaving the ice surface.

Q: I have to leave the spectating area 10 minutes before the players leave the ice. Can I continue to watch from ice-level at the east end?

A: No. All adults must be in the dressing room from ten minutes before the end of the ice time until they are leaving the building with their player(s). The next user is permitted into the facility five minutes after the current users are to vacate the spectating area. There should be no crossover of spectators. This is the only way we can make the most of our ice times. If adults do not want to go to the dressing room ten minutes before the end of the ice time, they are permitted to leave the facility and wait for their player outside the facility.

Q: Why are some teams allowed one adult per player in the facility and others not?

A: The YMCA informed us that they would prefer no adults be in the facility. Younger players (U13 and younger) who need assistance get dressed/undressed require an adult to be present. We will be reviewing this arrangement by the end of October.

Q: Other facilities/organizations have different rules. Why?

A: We are following protocols set out by OHF, ORFA, YMCA and public health authorities in order to keep our players on the ice. We are confident that in the case of an audit, we are in full compliance. We are only responsible for our own members at our own facility.

Q: I am an on-ice staff. Are we allowed to have a second adult attend?

A: No. Because on-ice staff are available to tie players' skates and are on the same timeline, a second adult is not necessary. In the event of an injury to an on-ice staff's child, that staff may leave the ice.

Q: I am an on-ice volunteer who may be called away during our icetime. Are we allowed to have a second adult attend?

A: No. If there is a potential need for you to leave, please leave an emergency contact number for remaining staff (or arrange for remaining staff to care for your child), or take your child with you.

Q: I am a screener. Are we allowed a second adult to attend?

A: Yes. A second adult may be necessary to help get the player ready at the same time the screener is doing his/her job.

Q: We have two players back-to-back. Can both parents be in the facility?

A: Yes. One parent per player is allowed in the facility. One parent should attend one child's ice time and the other parent should attend the other child's ice time. Families should not stay in the facility for both ice times to watch each other, unless both parents are screeners/team staff. If only one parent is available for back-to-back ice times, that parent may stay for both, but must vacate the spectator area with the rest of the adults at the given time, and sign in for both ice times.

Q: Why are we only allowed one adult per player?

A: Facility capacity has been set at 47. If we permitted more than one adult, teams would be presented with the new problem of having to allow some visitors but turn away others. Limiting visitors to one adult per player prevents this from becoming a problem, and keeps the workload of our volunteers at a manageable level.

Q: We have twins. Are both parents allowed in the facility?

A: Yes. One parent per player is allowed in the facility, but please do not bring extra siblings into the facility (i.e., if the only way both parents can attend is to bring the siblings, it is not a necessity for both parents to be there).

Q: I share custody of a player with a team staff or screener. Can both of us be in the facility?

A: Sometimes. If custody is shared, and you would otherwise take your child to the arena, please take your child to the arena and care for them while the team staff attends to their responsibilities. The non-staff parent must check in with and care for the player (they cannot just come to watch).

Q: Can two adults switch part way through an ice time so we can both watch some of the practice/game?

A: No. The purpose of the one adult rule is to limit the number of contacts in the building per ice time. If more than one adult would like to attend, consider taking turns bringing your player.

Q: I have players over the age of 12 who are on the ice back-to-back. Can I bring both with me (the player over 12 is unable to get him/herself to the arena)?

A: Yes.

Q: I am an on-ice staff, and have children on the ice back-to-back. Can one child sit in the spectating area while the other child and I are on the ice?

A: Maybe. If the other child is 12+ years old, and would otherwise be permitted in the facility on their own, they may sit in the spectator area, in view of the on-ice parent at all times. If the other child is under the age of 12, they should be assigned to another adult or staff (e.g., screener) if other parents are not permitted in the facility for the given age group.