



NYKHA COVID-19 POLICIES AND PROTOCOLS

Throughout the pandemic, the North York Knights Hockey Association (NYKHA) has been guided by our Federal and Provincial governments as well as the City of Toronto and Provincial Public Health Agencies, Hockey Canada and the GTHL [Game Plan 2.0](#) policy. In addition, we will regularly consult with Toronto Public Health and Provincial Public Health, Hockey Canada and the GTHL to stay abreast of all health and legal issues related to the pandemic.

The health and safety of our NYKHA community is paramount to our operations and remains our main priority. Our objective is to operate the NYKHA hockey programs in the safest manner possible. In order to do so, we believe a safe environment can best be achieved with a fully vaccinated NYKHA community. The safety of everyone participating or attending any NYKHA program is the essential purpose of this policy.

NYKHA COVID-19 VACCINATION POLICY

Effective Saturday, October 16th, 2021, ALL North York Knights Hockey Association staff, volunteers, players, parents, caregivers, siblings and any other persons accessing arena facilities during any NYKHA hockey programs (hereinafter collectively the “NYKHA Community”), who are eligible to be vaccinated from COVID-19 MUST either:

- have shown proof of full vaccination to the NYKHA, as is defined by the NYKHA; or
- have been granted an accommodation by the GTHL pursuant to the process prescribed below, and be in compliance with the terms of accommodation,

in order to be permitted access into the arena facilities.

The policy will apply until further notice, though the NYKHA will conduct a re-assessment of risks within six months of implementation and at least every six months thereafter.

NOTES:

1. At the time of this policy, Children under the age of 12 (2010 birth year or after) are not presently eligible to be vaccinated against COVID-19 in Ontario. This COVID-19 Vaccination Policy will apply to them if, and when they should become eligible to be vaccinated against COVID-19 in Ontario. The NYKHA shall consider alternative controls to address the risk of access by these persons.
2. Proof of full vaccination may evolve over time to include boosters and/or additional vaccination doses as may be recommended to individuals subsequent to the date of this policy. The NYKHA reserves the right to change or update the requirements to demonstrate the “full vaccination” requirement.
3. Upon any change of eligibility for a vaccine or a booster for any part of the NYKHA Community, the NYKHA shall provide a reasonable amount of time for such vaccine or booster to be administered before restricting access in accordance with NYKHA policy.
4. Those not covered under the NYKHA Vaccination Policy include: City of Toronto facility staff, outside contractors hired by the City of Toronto or other staff not affiliated with the NYKHA, such as service or delivery trades and emergency services. The NYKHA will follow the direction of the City of Toronto staff to consider alternative controls to address the risk of access by these persons.

NYKHA ACCOMODATION POLICY

The NYKHA shall comply with the provisions of the Ontario Human Rights Code by offering accommodation to any person in the NYKHA Community who requires accommodation on the basis of a substantiated medical reason or creed/religion. An accommodation to the COVID-19 Vaccination Policy can be applied for using the [GTHL Vaccination Accommodation Request Form](#). This form must be accompanied by an explanation of the need for such accommodation and any available proof of same.

If granted by the GTHL, the NYKHA reserves the right to impose terms of the accommodation that maintain the protection of the NYKHA Community which is the essential purpose of the COVID-19 Vaccination Policy.

Any affected person who is unable to be vaccinated for substantiated medical reasons and/or on grounds protected under the Ontario Human Rights Code may request an accommodation. By submitting the [GTHL form](#), you acknowledge that you are seeking an accommodation to the GTHL's COVID-19 vaccination requirement.

- Requests for accommodation will be considered upon completion and presentation of this form to the GTHL.
- Individuals with an approved accommodation will be notified in writing using the email address provided by them in the GTHL form.
- Decisions will be made in accordance with the GTHL's Vaccination Policy (see the GTHL's Game Plan 2.0). In the event a request is denied, individuals are permitted to reapply if new documentation and/or information becomes available.
- If you have a previously-approved accommodation from another organization, you must still submit the GTHL form if you wish to be considered for a COVID-19 vaccination accommodation.
- Participants under the age of 18 must have their parent or legal guardian sign the declaration on their behalf.

CONTACT TRACING AND PROACTIVE SCREENING OF COVID-19 SYMPTOMS

As per the directive of the GTHL, the NYKHA will screen all participants, volunteers and officials and those accessing arena facilities for any NYKHA programs, including those who are vaccinated, for COVID-19 symptoms and other risk factors before they will be allowed to enter the arena facilities.

Active screening is conducted to ensure that no person enters the arena facility unless it is confirmed they have completed the GTHL screening questionnaire, and the result of that screening has indicated that they are allowed to enter the facility.

The NYKHA will use a screening App that will send a questionnaire prior to a scheduled NYKHA program, requiring a confirmation of a lack of Covid-19 symptoms and risk factors to be allowed access to the arena facility. Monitoring for a completed screening form will be conducted at the access of the facility and by the coaching staff prior to the start of a program. The questions in this tool have been defined by the **Provincial and City of Toronto Public Health**. Using the TeamSnap (TeamSnap) online tool to answer the questions is required. The NYKHA will only be notified if an individual has not met all the criteria on the questionnaire.

This screening cannot diagnose you. If you have medical questions, consult a health care provider. Follow the direction of your local public health unit over the advice in this tool.

Records of the names of all program participants will be maintained for 30 days, as per GTHL guidelines, for the purposes of **contact tracing** and will only be accessed in case of a positive test of a participant or volunteer who may have had contact with others in the program.

MASKS AND SOCIAL DISTANCING GUIDELINES

Masks will be required to be properly worn for anyone entering the arena facility to participate in an NYKHA program – and must remain in place while inside the facility. This will include dressing rooms and prior to entering and exiting the ice. Anyone participating in the program

will not require a mask on the ice surface. Every effort will be made to maintain social distancing on the ice.

Social distancing guidelines should be followed inside the facility as per the City of Toronto directive for indoor recreational facilities.

PROTECTION OF PERSONAL AND HEALTH INFORMATION

All personal information requested by the GTHL to prove the need for an accommodation will be securely stored in the GTHL's records and will not be used for any other purpose than to review the accommodation request.

All personal information requested by the NYKHA to prove full vaccination status, or for health screening purposes, will be securely stored in the NYKHA's records and will not be used for any other purpose than to determine eligibility to access the facility for NYKHA programs.

Approved by North York Knights Hockey Association Board of Directors