

bet-at-home



ICE Hockey League

GAME BOOK - Season 2021/2022

APPENDIX | COVID-19

Guidelines & Recommendations

Update: December 1st, 2021

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 Bundes-Sport GmbH
Bundesministerium
für Kultur,
Bürgerliche Dienste und Sport

NOTIFICATION | CONTACT PERSONS IN REGARD TO COVID-19

In order to enable a smooth process in the current tense Covid-19 situation - with new cases of infection every day - we ask you / you only to contact the following two contacts on the part of the league organization in connection with the Covid-19 issue (positive cases, suspected cases, Fit 2 Play etc.):

- Lyle Seitz | lyle.seitz@ice.hockey | +43 699 1389 3994
- Katharina Wiesenberger | kathi.wiesenberger@ice.hockey | +43 699 1722 3887

It is imperative that either of these 2 people are notified immediately when a positive case arises from testing.

Further Contacts:

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To whom it may concern!

The current situation, in regard to the COVID-19 pandemic, makes it necessary to supplement and extend the existing rules for the game operation of the ICE Hockey League. The present document is an integral part of the official ICE Hockey League Game Book and has been prepared in accordance with the following rules and regulations:

- Return to Play Concept of ICE Hockey League
- IIHF requirements for game operations in connection with the COVID-19 pandemic
- Regulation of the Austrian Federal Government, local Government, Authorities and the respective international Governments
- Official procedure for SARS-CoV-2 contact persons: Contact tracing

This document has been drafted by the league organization in consultation with the Sports Committee, the Doctors Committee and the Disciplinary Board of the ICE Hockey League.

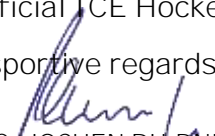
As the championship of the ICE Hockey League is played based on the cooperation agreement with the Austrian Ice Hockey Federation, the regulations shown and described in the appendix are valid for the Austrian federal territory. Should different regulations or requirements be valid in the countries of the international ICE Hockey League clubs, it is the responsibility of the respective international club to inform the league and the other clubs participating in the competition. The same applies to all league clubs for matters which, due to local official regulations, are subject to different regulations than those described in this document.

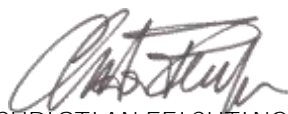
The COVID-19 Special Commission, consisting of the Vice President of Sports, the Director of Hockey Operations and the Justice Commission, is responsible for the interpretation, adaptation and resolution of all matters relating to the safeguarding of the game operation of the ICE Hockey League, whether described in this document or not. Appeals against decisions of the Commission may be lodged with the "Permanently Neutral Arbitration Court", whereby an appeal does not have a **suspensive effect, but can be granted by the "Permanently Neutral Arbitration Court"** upon request of the appellant.

Additional to the printed version all documents can be downloaded from www.gamebook.at.

Any additions or changes will be published on www.gamebook.at after a notification to the official ICE Hockey League mailing list.

With sportive regards


KR MAG JOCHEN PILLNER-STEINBURG
PRESIDENT | ICE Hockey League


CHRISTIAN FEICHTINGER
MANAGING DIRECTOR | ICE Hockey League

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Note: this is a dynamic document subject to change at any time based on new and update scientific evidence related to COVID-19. By organizing and/or participating at ICE Hockey League games, you agree to not only follow the rules & recommendations in this document, but also any changes thereto.

Applicability:

- *These recommendations are applicable for all event participants except spectators, including but not limited to, players, team staff, officials, event technical officials, medical personal, volunteers/event workforce and media.*
- *Attendance of spectators should be dealt by local authorities or event organizers in accordance with current public health and security regulations/guidance.*

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APPENDIX | COVID-19 - GUIDELINES & RECOMMENDATIONS

§ 1. Objectives

- (1) To protect the health of everyone involved in ICE Hockey League game operations and to minimize the risk to an acceptable remaining risk.
- (2) To provide an umbrella concept for 13 participating clubs, from 5 involved countries, who are bound to their national/local rules & regulations.
- (3) To allow ICE Hockey League club ice hockey to return to play and continuation of play.
- (4) Inform all parties involved about prevention measures and for all ICE Hockey League **event participants, except spectators' patrons, to adhere** to the described measures within this memo.
- (5) Every participant involved in the operation of the game will partake in their respective personal responsibility to adhere to the prevention measures.

§ 2. General Principles

- (1) National/local laws and the home **club's own COVID-19** protection concept apply.
- (2) All ICE Hockey League clubs will adhere to the ICE Hockey League Constitution, Statutes & By-Laws and Rules and Regulations (www.gamebook.at) as the official rules and guidelines, unless otherwise stated in the ICE Hockey League COVID-19 Appendix.
- (3) The ICE Hockey League's **COVID-19** guidelines & recommendations apply if local standards do not exceed the ICE Hockey League guidelines.
- (4) The responsibility for correct implementation of national/local laws, the **club's own protection concept and the ICE Hockey League's COVID-19** guidelines & recommendations lies with the home club (the event organizer).
- (5) Each participating club is obliged to name a responsible COVID-19 contact person to the ICE Hockey League for the duration of the 2021/22 season.

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- COVID-19 Responsible Club Contact (Officer)
Responsible for implementation of prevention measures in training and game operations, contact with authorities and for ICE Hockey League operations.

And/Or

- COVID-19 Responsible Medical Staff Member
Responsible for the implementation of medical measures, particularly in connection with persons of the on-ice team. Must travel with the team to the away games.

**If another person other than the team doctor, than both the club contact person (officer) and team doctor shall be named.*

- (6) Each participating club must provide its own COVID-19 protection concept (**based on national/local laws and the national league's guidelines, in cooperation with its arena operator**) to the ICE Hockey League prior to the ICE Hockey League season start or when the respective government regulations change (via e-mail to office@ice.hockey).
- The concept shall include relevant information about game operations, but also cover the areas of spectators, ticketing, security, catering.
- (7) Each club is obliged to inform the ICE Hockey League Management (office@ice.hockey), its opponent and game officials about the local rules & regulations.
- (8) By organizing and/or participating at ICE Hockey League games clubs agree to follow the ICE Hockey League COVID-19 guidelines.
- (9) The ICE Hockey League COVID-19 guidelines & recommendations apply for all event participants, except spectators (including, but not limited to: players, coaches, team staff, game officials, club staff, arena staff, ICE Hockey League, medical personnel, security, volunteers, broadcasting staff and media).
- (10) Rules of national/local authorities apply for the attendance of spectators in accordance with current public health and security regulations/guidance.
- (11) Every ICE Hockey League participant that takes part in the game at his/her own risk. Is aware of the risks of increased spreading of the virus through the playing of this sport. In the case of children and adolescents, the legal

guardians must evaluate the risk and decide whether their children should participate.

- (12) All participating players and team staff must sign a liability waiver and release acknowledging that he/she is participating in the ICE Hockey League at his/her own risk and waives all recourse against the ICE Hockey League and/or the host should he/she contract COVID-19 while participating in the ICE Hockey League. All players 18 years of age or younger must have a legal guardian signature.

§ 3. Hygiene Recommendations

§ 3.1. General Hygiene Rules

- (1) The most important and effective measures for personal protection as well as for the protection of others are proper hand hygiene, correct cough etiquette and to practice social distancing (keeping the legal minimum distance).
- (2) Washing hands regularly is important, especially
- before and after food preparation
 - before eating
 - after using the bathroom
 - whenever hands are dirty
 - before and after each workout, practice, or game
- (3) It is recommended to wash hands with warm water and soap for at least 30 seconds.
- (4) Additionally, hand disinfectants should be used regularly (if the hands are visibly dirty, they must be washed).
- (5) If national/local regulations require to wear a face mask, it must always be worn.

§ 3.2. ICE Hockey League Hygiene Policy

- (1) All participants at ICE Hockey League games are required to practice social distancing (keeping the legal minimum distance).
- (2) Where social distancing is not possible, all participants **must** wear face masks (obligatory in red zone). The game host must ensure the availability of sufficient disposable masks for all participants of the game (including, but not limited to, away team, game officials, arena staff etc.).
- (3) At ice-rink level (including, but not limited to, the area around the ice rink and the locker room area) all participants **must** wear a face mask (mouth and nose protection-MNP) at all times (obligatory in red zone).
- (4) All participants must follow proper hand hygiene protocols. Each host must provide soap/water and hand sanitizer stations within the arenas. Hand sanitizers shall be available at all entrances throughout the venues.
- (5) No hand shaking or spitting is allowed by any participants. Event organizers shall make the participants aware with respective posters and COVID-19 event recommendations.
- (6) All participants must follow the cough etiquette. Hosts shall remind participants with posters in adequate places.

§ 4. Game Day

§ 4.1. Transport

- (1) **It is the clubs' responsibility to secure COVID-19 protection for their players, coaches and staff during travel to away games.** National/local laws must be obeyed. Travel must not occur through countries that require a quarantine once arriving in host country.
- (2) Travel times must take into consideration quarantine requirements in host country. Participating teams shall bear all costs related to quarantine requirements both upon arrival in host country and upon return to home.
- (3) After arrival at host country, the away team shall use a bus for their transportation (hotel – arena, arena – hotel) to limit external contact. It is recommended that every second seat in the bus stays empty.

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- (4) A face mask shall be worn all times when travelling.
- (5) Players of the home team travel to the home games by their own car or other individual means of transport.
- (6) Teams, while travelling, should take measures in order to avoid contact with the general public.
- (7) In-transit catering shall be limited, and where necessary pre-packaged servings with single use disposable cutlery, plates/bowls, napkins and bottles/cans shall be used.

§ 4.2. Arrival at the arena

- (1) The teams shall use separate entrances, if possible.
- (2) A face mask **must** be worn when entering/exiting the venue when Government regulations require. It is obligatory in the red zone.
- (3) Upon arrival, the teams shall be isolated in their locker room area.
- (4) There is no interaction between the opposing teams, the referees, fans, etc.
- (5) The only contact between the team takes place via the ICE Hockey League main contact or the COVID-19 responsible contact person (if personal contact is needed social distancing must be practiced).

§ 4.3. Locker Room

- (1) If possible, each team shall be provided with at least two locker rooms plus additional rooms for coaches, equipment managers and medical staff. Each locker room shall always be used by the same persons.
- (2) Visiting team locker rooms, plus all additional rooms to be used by team personal, must be empty and disinfected by the home team in advance of the visiting team arrival.
- (3) Visiting team must leave locker rooms and all rooms used empty, before exiting the venue.
- (4) Only players, coaches, equipment managers & medical staff are allowed in the locker room area (no other club representatives, officials, or media).

- (5) Disinfectants must be available in sufficient quantities (to be provided by the host).
- (6) The stay in closed rooms (locker room area) shall be reduced to a minimum.
- (7) Regular cleaning of the locker room areas must be provided through the host (after each practice & game).
- (8) Doors should remain open if possible so that no door handles need to be used.
- (9) Open food is prohibited (only individual packaged food/additional preparations allowed, ensure disposal). No food outside of the locker rooms.
- (10) No fans and blow dryers (e.g. for gloves) are allowed in the locker room and the area around the locker room. This also includes hair dryers.
- (11) Maximum ventilation with maximum fresh air supply during presence, ventilation after each use or during the intermissions.
- (12) All staff members working in the locker rooms **must** wear a face mask and gloves (except for coaches).

§ 4.4. Players' bench

- (1) Players/coaches have no contact to the opposing team, fans, media, etc.
- (2) Each player is provided with a personal marked water bottle and towel. There must also be enough disposable towels available (provided by the host).
- (3) All **staff members on the players' bench** must wear face masks and gloves.

§ 4.5. Warm-up

- (1) A permanently assigned area outdoors or in the arena shall be assigned to each team for the off-ice warm-up. Players must always practice social distancing during the warm-up.
- (2) The on-ice warm-up starts FO-35:00. Teams must enter the ice in separated areas, if not possible they enter the ice through the same entrance one after another.

- (3) Both teams conduct the on-ice warm-up at the same time. In doing so, they stay in their half and the red center line must not be crossed at any time.

§ 4.6. Pre-Game

- (1) Teams must enter the ice in separated areas, if not possible they enter the ice through the same entrance one after another.
- (2) Teams line-up on the blue line for the ‘athletes **greeting**’ along their respective blue line, with no interaction between the teams.
- (3) The ICE Hockey League Starting-Six procedure applies.
- (4) There is no handshake between the two captains or the game officials.

§ 4.7. Post-Game

- (1) Ceremonial Salute (post game) – to replace the post-game hand shake (that was stopped due to COVID procedures), the hand shake is now replaced with a ceremonial salute, where both teams line up on their respective team blue line and lift their sticks (same procedure as pre-game). The visiting team then exits the ice* and the home team is welcome to proceed with their post-game salute to their fans.

*Player of the Game/Post Game Presentation – for the teams that either have a player of the game award or will have a form of a post-game ceremony, it is required that the visiting team and game officials are notified pre-game. When a presentation post game is to occur, it will be required both teams and game officials remain lined up across the blue line

- (2) Interviews/media obligations according to the ICE Hockey League Club Manual obligations & separate Broadcasting/Media chapter in this document.

§ 4.8. Catering

- (1) Catering for the away team can be provided at the venue in a separated and safe area or is organized by the visiting team itself.

§ 4.9. Laundry

- (1) Teams are responsible for their own laundry. Gloves shall be worn for pick-ups. Laundry opportunities for the away team shall be arranged between the two clubs, if needed.

§ 4.10. Leaving the Arena

- (1) The teams go directly to the team bus (away team) or to their cars (home team).
- (2) Teams use separated exits, if possible.
- (3) There is no contact/interaction with fans or any other persons.

§ 5. Off-Ice Officials (Score & Timekeepers)

The legal minimum distance to the staff of the Off-Ice-Officials must be maintained and the Off-Ice-Officials must wear MNS masks while fulfilling their duties while present within a building, on the penalty bench, in contact with teams, etc. No off-ice crew members will be permitted to enter the area of either teams dressing room, but 1 designated off-ice crew member will be permitted to enter the game officials provided mouth and nose protection and the minimum legal social distancing occurs.

In the event, due to COVID-19 restriction or lack of off-ice officials for a respective game, the ICE Hockey League management is to be notified as soon as possible. The ICE Hockey League management will help manage the adequate number of off-ice officials by using league management, game supervisors or on-ice officials.

§ 6. Penalty Box

- (1) PET bottles and disposable wipes must be provided and used in the penalty box if possible, and the score/timekeeping staff must wear MNS masks when fulfilling their duties in contact with players.
- (2) Single use bottles in the penalty boxes (thrown away after each use).
- (3) No sharing of towels in the penalty box.

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- (4) Disposable paper towels instead of normal fabric towels, or fabric towels then after each use, they go in the laundry bin (multiple towels required).
- (5) Penalty box attendant must wear gloves and face mask.
- (6) Benches, floors, and handles should be cleaned between periods.
- (7) Hand Sanitizer / Alcohol gel available for use.

**There must be a glass separation on all 4 sides (where players are present). Inclusive of between the penalty bench and the timekeeper's box.*

§ 7. Game Officials

- (1) ICE Hockey League games will be officiated on a 'best case' to minimize travel, regionalize and provide adequate time between crews who officiate on a weekend basis.
- (2) It is recommended that Game officials travel individually to the game and shall arrive about FO-90:00. In circumstance where officials must travel together, it is recommended face masks be worn while travelling and maintain the legal minimum distance (front seat/back seat car location).
- (3) The home club shall provide parking in a restricted area.
- (4) A face mask **must** be worn when entering the venue. Wearing a mask is obligatory in the red zone.
- (5) Game officials shall warm up preferably outside of the arena in a designated area.
- (6) Freedom of movement is restricted to their dedicated locker room.
- (7) The ice surface is entered/left according to a precisely defined sequence, as **per the home club's COVID-19 mandate**.
- (8) No handshake with captains before or after the game.
- (9) No contact/interaction with fans or media.

§ 8. Official Meetings & Checks (If Required)

- (1) Official Meetings shall take place in rooms where social distancing can be practiced or in an outside area.
- (2) Only essential people shall attend the official meetings.
- (3) The duration of the official meetings shall be limited to a minimum.
- (4) A face mask **must** be worn during official meetings.

§ 9. Media & Broadcasting

§ 9.1. Broadcasting – General Principles

- (1) All broadcasting companies and their staff present on-site must comply with the applicable national/local rules as well as all requirements of the home clubs' & the ICE Hockey League's COVID-19 guidelines & recommendations.
- (2) Broadcasting companies may be required to submit details of their own protocols, hygiene measures and operating plans, which must be adhered to **if not exceeded by the home clubs' & the ICE Hockey League's guidelines.**
- (3) The home club must ensure that any companies or staff operating at their arena are informed of all the local requirements and restrictions.
- (4) Wearing face masks at all times in the arena on both GD-1 and GD is highly recommended (when operating at ice-rink level or in the stands). Wearing a mask is obligatory in the red zone.

§ 9.2. Flash Interviews

- (1) Between the reporter, the cameraman and the player the legal minimum distance must be kept for all flash interviews.
- (2) Flash interviews will always take place rink-side.
- (3) Hygiene measures shall be applied wherever possible (e.g. microphone, headset).
- (4) No in-game interviews shall take place.

§ 9.3. Filming of Team Off-Ice Footage

- (1) Filming of team arrivals may be permitted if the legal minimum distance to the players can be maintained. No interviews & no locker room access for broadcasting staff upon team arrivals.
- (2) Filming of locker room footage is not possible with a manned camera (no access to locker rooms for any non-team related persons). Alternative solutions (e.g. remote cameras) may be considered on a case by case basis and are subject to ICE Hockey League approval.

§ 9.4. Press/Media & Photographers – General Principles

- (1) All journalists & photographers present on site must comply with the **applicable national/local rules as well as all requirements of the home clubs' & the ICE Hockey League's COVID-19 guidelines & recommendations.**
- (2) The home club must ensure that journalists & photographers operating at their arena are informed of all the local requirements and restrictions.
- (3) Clubs can deny accreditation for journalists and/or photographers if the number of requests exceed their limited capacity due to COVID-19 restrictions.
- (4) Wearing face masks at all times at the arena is recommended, and mandatory if required by national/local rules. Wearing a mask is obligatory in the red zone.

§ 9.5. Media Stands

- (1) Local rules for the use of media stands apply.
- (2) Food and beverages may be provided if precautionary measures have been taken for their preparation, packing and distribution.
- (3) The ICE Hockey League recommends providing hand disinfectants, a distribution of people that always allows to keep the legal minimum distance and to wear face masks (mandatory if required by national/local rules).

§ 9.6. Media and Photographer Working Rooms

- (1) Local rules for the use of media and photographer rooms apply.
- (2) Media and photographer working rooms may be used if enough space is available to allow social distancing.
- (3) Food and beverages may be provided if precautionary measures have been taken for their preparation, packing and distribution.
- (4) The ICE Hockey League recommends providing hand disinfectants and to wear face masks (if the legal minimum distance cannot be secured). Face masks are mandatory if required by national/local rules.

§ 9.7. Photography Positions

- (1) Local rules for photography positions apply.
- (2) Wearing face masks at all-times is recommended on ice-rink level positions and on positions in the stands. Wearing a mask is obligatory in the red zone.

§ 9.8. Post-Game Interview Procedures

- (1) Journalists & Photographers are not allowed in the locker rooms at any time (no open locker rooms).
- (2) The home club is responsible to define an interview area (mixed zone) in the arena where post-game interviews can be conducted.
- (3) Interviews which are not filmed do not require the commercial backdrop. Therefore, interview locations can be spread in order to allow social distancing.
- (4) The interview area for the away team shall be separated from the home team.
- (5) Both clubs have a dedicated person on site who is responsible to coordinate interview requests (e.g. club communication manager or team manager).
- (6) Wearing face masks at all-times is highly recommended for journalists when conducting interviews. Wearing a mask is obligatory in the red zone.

§ 9.9. Post-Game Press Conference

- (1) Post-Game Press Conferences are optional.
- (2) If a Post-Game Press Conference is conducted, the home club must make sure that the legal minimum distance between the journalists and the head coaches (as well as between the 2 head coaches & between the interviewer and the head coaches) is maintained.
- (3) Journalists attending the Post-Game Press Conference shall wear a face mask. Wearing a mask is obligatory in the red zone.

§ 10. Annex

§ 10.1. ICE Hockey League COVID-19 Club responsible persons description

§ 10.1.1. COVID-19 responsible Club contact person

- (1) Main Tasks:
 - Planning and implementation of prevention measures in practice and game operations
 - Contact person for the responsible authorities and for ICE Hockey League operations
- (2) Requirements:
 - Main contact with the ICE Hockey League for COVID-19 related topics & hygiene concept
 - Must be well versed with all aspects of clubs, national leagues, national federations, ICE Hockey League & governmental COVID-19 protection regulations
 - Must be close to team staff, players & coaches
 - Must work **closely together with the teams' medical staff & the ICE Hockey League**

§ 10.1.2. COVID-19 responsible medical staff member

(1) Main Tasks:

- Implementation of medical measures, mainly in connection with people of the on-ice team
- Responsible for the clearance of team members (coaches, players & staff) in the ICE Hockey League management system according to 4.1. of these guidelines

(2) Requirements:

- Main contact with the ICE Hockey League for COVID-19 medical-related topics
- Must be well versed with all aspects of clubs, national leagues, national federations, ICE Hockey League & governmental COVID-19 protection regulations
- Must have basic/advanced medical knowledge (e.g. physiotherapist)
- Must travel with the team to the away games

§ 10.2. Medical questionnaire prior to game

On travel & game day each player, coach and team staff member considered in the red group, must go through the medical questionnaire about their current health situation at latest by 09:00am local time. The questions below must be answered honestly and **if any of the questions is answered with a “Yes” the respective person must self-isolate him/herself immediately and contact the team’s COVID-19 responsible medical staff member or the team doctor to receive further instructions.**

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Contact risk evaluation:		
Did you have any contact with a COVID-19 infected person within the last 14 days?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Have you been quarantined in the last 14 days because of governmental regulations?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Do you show any of the following symptoms today:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> High temperature (above 37.5°C) Body temperature must be measured! 	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sore throat 	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dry cough 	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shortness of Breath 	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chest Pain 	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sudden loss of sense of smell and/or taste 	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Headache 	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> General weakness, feeling unwell 	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aching muscles <i>Normal muscle pain after working out or a previous injury is not considered.</i> 	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gastrointestinal symptoms e.g. nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, stomachache 	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Head cold 	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Skin rash 	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Is any of your family member showing symptoms?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No

First Name:		Last Name:	
Club:			
Date:		Signature:	

§ 11. Suspected Case/Positive Tested Case

The management of the club must immediately contact the local health authority and strictly follow its instructions. Should a suspected case / positive tested case occur during a championship game, the respective Federation, the league organization must also be informed immediately. In a positive tested case, the certificate of fitness for sport and the approval of the responsible local authority must be presented in order to return to the game.

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§ 11.1. Procedure for Suspected Cases

If symptoms occur, the following steps should be followed:

PERSON WITH SYMPTOMS (= SUSPECTED CASE)

- (1) Players, Coaches or staff members with any COVID-19 symptoms must **isolate themselves, contact their team's COVID-19** responsible medical staff member or their team doctor immediately and follow the given instructions strictly (especially with regard to clinical symptoms and possible need for official information).
- (2) Immediate self-isolation in the sense of seclusion at home to reduce contact with other people, i.e. in particular no leaving the home until the release by the medical responsible (Clarification by an official negative PCR test).
- (3) Reporting the suspected case to the league.
- (4) The presence of medical personnel (e.g. physiotherapists) during training sessions and games must be ensured for the treatment of acute cases – including away games.
- (5) In the case of COVID-19 suspicion, national/local regulations apply and must be strictly followed.
- (6) All other game participants (e.g. club staff, arena staff, volunteers etc.) must isolate themselves, contact their doctor or local authorities to receive further instructions and must inform the clubs ICE Hockey League COVID-19 responsible person.

Typical COVID-19 Symptoms	Rare COVID-19 Symptoms
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sore throat • Cough (mostly dry) • Shortness of breath • Chest pain • High temperature (above 37.5°C) • Sudden loss of sense of smell and/or sense of taste 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Headache • General weakness, feeling unwell • Aching muscles • Gastrointestinal symptoms (nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, stomachache) • Head Cold • Skin rash

Principle: In case of uncertainty, contact the responsible team doctor immediately!
Before clarification the training facilities may not be visited.

§ 11.2. Procedure for Confirmed Cases

In case of positive PCR test results, the following steps should be followed:

- (1) Mandatory telephone notification of the confirmed case to the competent authority (medical reporting obligation) and league.
- (2) Immediate self-isolation in the sense of domestic seclusion to reduce contact with other people:
 - If acute medical care (other than COVID-19 disease) is required, the responsible doctor of the respective club or the organizations named under §19 of this document (in regards to each respective country) must be contacted by telephone and informed of the infection epidemiological status ("COVID-19 positive") in order to clarify further action
 - In the event of transport to a hospital, the competent health authority must be notified
- (3) The instructions of the health authority must be followed.
- (4) The person may not participate in the game for the time being.
- (5) Persons who are tested positive on a road-trip must be isolated from the rest of the team and are not permitted to travel back with the team.
- (6) Note: also see § 14 (PCR test day before or morning of game day and additional antigen rapid test +/- 1.5 hours before game)

§ 11.3. Return to Sport after COVID-19 Infection

- (1) Return at the earliest 14 days after onset of symptoms (= report to league)
- AND
- (2) Freedom from symptoms for at least 48 hours in relation to the acute COVID-19 disease (after consultation with the treating team doctor)
- AND
- (3) Negative SARS-CoV-2-PCR test obtained from two simultaneous oro- and nasopharyngeal swabs

AND

- (4) Confirmation of fitness for sport by the team doctor (including current ECG and cardiac echo, further examinations may be necessary in the case of severe courses)

§ 11.4. Official procedure for SARS-CoV-2 contact persons: Contact tracing

In general, the evaluation of the individual situation is the responsibility of the responsible health authority. Instructions of the health authority must be followed.

§ 11.4.1. Procedure for the management of category 1 contact persons for top athletes (i.e. contact person with high risk of infection)

- (1) Immediate self-isolation in the sense of domestic seclusion to reduce contact with other people, this means:
 - a) No leaving the apartment except for Training sessions and competitions.
 - b) During training sessions, it is important to ensure that the contacts that arise are always made with the same team members or groups of people. At games it is to be made sure that no contact to the fans takes place.
 - c) No use of public transport on the way to and from these exceptions
 - d) Restriction of all social contacts not strictly necessary for the exercise of the above-mentioned exceptions, even within the own household
 - e) Documentation of all contacts and types of contact with other persons
 - f) Ensuring compliance with the hygiene measures specified in the respective prevention concept, adherence to strict hand hygiene as well as coughing, sniffing and ripping label
- (2) Having a negative PCR test result before any contact with persons not from your own team (e.g. during a competition) or before any performance.
- (3) In addition, before any contact with the above-mentioned persons or before any public performance, the absence of corresponding symptoms of illness must be checked by the responsible team doctor or the COVID-19 representative.

- (4) Self-monitoring of health status until day 14 after the last contact, via
 - a) Measuring body temperature twice a day
 - b) Keeping a diary of symptoms (optional), body temperature and general activities
 - c) Transmission of health records according to SARS-CoV-2/COVID-19 prevention concept by the responsible team physician or the COVID-19 representative at the request of the authorities
 - d) Active contact by the authority 10 days after the last contact to close the case.
- (5) If an athlete, coach or trainer becomes aware of SARS-Covid-2 infection, all athletes, coaches or trainers must undergo a molecular biological test for the presence of SARS-Covid-2 in the 14 days following the infection before each competition.
- (6) Note: also see § 14 (PCR test day before or morning of game day and additional antigen rapid test +/- 1.5 hours before game)

11.4.2 *Procedure for the management of category 2 contact persons for top athletes (i.e. contact person with low risk of infection)*

- (1) Self-monitoring of health condition up to day 14 after the last contact (use of diary optional)
- (2) Asking people to voluntarily reduce social contacts and the use of public transport as well as travel activity considerably and to make a note of the contacts and conversational contacts they knowingly made.
- (3) After careful consideration of proportionality, keeping away (traffic restriction) from Category II contact persons can also be considered epidemiologically justified by the health authorities. A traffic restriction is the keeping away of:
 - a) Visits to community facilities and meeting places,
 - b) Use of public transport,
 - c) Jobs that require frequent contact with other people.

- (4) If symptoms occur within 14 days of the last contact with a confirmed case, the criteria for a suspect case are met and the procedure is the same as for a suspect case.
- (5) If the virologic examination shows no evidence of SARS-CoV-2, the patient shall continue to be handled as a Category II contact person until day 14 after the last contact
- (6) Note: also see § 14 (PCR test day before or morning of game day and additional antigen rapid test +/- 1.5 hours before game)

§ 12. Testing & Clearance of Players, Coaches & Team Staff and Game Officials

Referring to:

- FIT TO PLAY
- TRAVEL

In accordance with the ICE Hockey League COVID procedures, it is mandatory that a 'fit to play' is provided each game day, preferably no later than 12:00pm. It is the club (team) COVID-19 medical staff member (Sport Manager) and team doctor responsibility to enter clearance (fit to play) in the ICE Hockey League management system.

Each club/team is responsible to provide confirmation of all team personal (player's, coaches, trainers, equipment managers, physios, ...).

FIT TO PLAY - GAME DAY - all players listed (as per the club/team doctor approval) will be considered 'fit to play', provided:

Green Group (which includes):

- Vaccination certificate
- Recovered from a COVID-19 infection (positive PCR test result and negative detection by PCR test; not older than 6 months/180 days)
- Confirmed no changes in status
- Negative COVID test day of game

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Red Group (which includes):

- Covid test day of game, either PCR (if result can be determined in a timely manner) or Antigen Test

*Subject to change based on local Government regulations in consideration to where the game is played.

TRAVEL - each participating club must declare that its players, coaches, and staff members are symptom-free before travelling to their away game.

Each player, coach, and staff member that will travel on the bus (inclusive of both green and red group) must COVID test before travel begins.

When travelling, it is the club's responsibility to fulfill all requirements necessary for travelling and entering and/or transit in a country. Test procedure must be accomplished before getting on the bus.

Game Day:

- Before bus departure: Test (either PCR or quick test) must be done day of travel and is considered valid for the Fit to Play Form

Travel Day Non-Game Day

- Either a quick test day of travel before entering bus or PCR test, not older than 24 hours before departure time of travel.

Game Day – Home Team

- Home club must declare that their players, coaches, and staff are symptom-free and COVID negative before visiting team departure.

*It is the club's COVID-19 medical staff member (Sport Manager) and team doctor responsibility to enter clearance (fit to play) in the ICE Hockey League league management system based on received questionnaire information of each team member, preferably no later than 12:00 pm local time of the respective game day. In the event, a team doctor is not able to sign the fit to play in a timely manner (day of game), the signature of the respective Sport Manager will be considered okay and team, fit to play. Provided, the missing doctor's signature is sent within 24 hours after the Face-Off time of the respective game.

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(Regarding ICE Hockey League “fit to play” and does not include governmental regulations regarding travel)

- All teams are requested to support the guest teams on road-trips in the best possible way (personnel, Test-Kits, etc.).
- If needed, the home-team is required to assist by testing the game officials.
- All government regulations supersede the ICE Hockey League “fit to play” regulations. ICE Hockey League “fit to play” qualification information below. Government regulations, for the purpose of cross border travel will differ and must be followed.

The cost of the COVID-19 test (unvaccinated) will be paid by the respective player, coach, or team staff, unless otherwise agreed to by the respective club

After Game Day: If a club stays as long in a country until test results of unvaccinated or recovered players, coaches and staff members expire, then it is the club's responsibility to organize testing for the concerned persons again.

Until 5 days after a ICEHL game: It is the participating clubs responsibility to inform the ICEHL if a COVID-19 suspicion or positive tested case emerges from players, coaches and/or staff members who were involved in the recent ICEHL game, for contact tracing reasons (via e-mail to lyle.seitz@ice.hockey).

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CURRENT STANDARDS REGARDING 3-G rule (Subject to change as per Government Regulations):

Regarding ICEHL game day clearance and for travel Country to Country, a valid negative (PCR) test result, a vaccination or a recovery certificate or a medical certificate thereof must be carried. These documents must be issued in Latin script in German or English and must be presented to the authorities upon request.

- Verification / Test (Red Group to be cleared on game day)
 - PCR-Test via authorized body daily testing
- Verification / Vaccination (Green Group)
 - Second vaccination not older than 270 days
(as per 6.12.2021 – until 5.12.2021 not older than 360 days)
 - Vaccination with vaccine with only one dose from day 22 onwards
not older than 270 days
 - Vaccination, provided there was a positive molecular biology test for SARS-CoV-2 at least 21 days prior to vaccination or evidence of neutralizing antibodies prior to vaccination not older than 270 days
(as per 6.12.2021 – until 5.12.2021 not older than 360 days)
 - Further (3rd) vaccination 270 days
- Verification / Recovery (Green Group)
 - Proof of recovery - medical confirmation that infection has been overcome (positive PCR test and negative detection by PCR test)
within the last 180 days

If a team self-mandates testing both teams (home and visiting team or game officials) for their home game and not mandatory as per Government or Regional regulations, the home team must pay for the visiting team and game officials testing.

The ICE Hockey League Management must be notified each time a team has been tested to notify of the date of testing and all players tested negative or positive. The ICE Hockey League will nominate an individual (recommended medical person, not in direct relation to any team) to follow the data protection guidelines.

§ 13. Game Cancellations or Special Circumstances:

If/when a situation arises, whereby the ICE Hockey League By-Laws and/or Rules & Regulations do not clearly define or do not identify the on-going issue (ex. COVID-19 related issue), the decision will be made by the ICE Hockey League Special Committee. The Special Committee will decide in the best interest of the ICE Hockey League to provide the greatest opportunity for the ICE Hockey League and its survival as a whole, regarding both sportive and economic impacts.

The Special Committee will be made up of:

- 1 Vote - Chairman - League Vice President for Sport
- 1 Vote - ICE Hockey League issued Lawyers (Justice Committee)
- 1 Vote – ICE Hockey League Director of Hockey Operations (DOHOPS) – representing the majority opinion of the ICE Hockey League Sports Committee

Request (case opened) can be made by any of the following:

- (1) At the discretion of the ICE Hockey League Presidency
- (2) At the discretion of the ICE Hockey League Sport Chairman
- (3) At the discretion of the ICE Hockey League Commissioner (GM)
- (4) At the discretion of the ICE Hockey League Justice Committee
- (5) Can be initiated by a club (ICE Hockey League Team)

All cases will be binding and considered a final decision by a majority vote (2/3 vote), based on 3 individual votes by each of:

- (1) Chairman of the Committee,
- (2) ICE Hockey League Justice Commission and
- (3) Director of Hockey Operations

to conclude a final (2/3 majority) vote.

The Special Committee maybe in consultation with the ICE Hockey League Presidency.

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Due to COVID-19 restrictions by authorities and/or the neglect of a team to fulfill the ICE Hockey League requirements, at the discretion of the Special Committee, a decision can be made regarding (Examples of, but not limited to):

- Changes in the COVID-19 Appendix throughout the season, as required.
- ICE Hockey League team cannot fulfill game requirements in the timely manner for regular season-52 games or Play-Offs, an outcome for a **suitable change to the schedule, home right, game location, ...**
- ICE Hockey League team cannot fulfill game requirements in the timely manner for regular season-52 games or Play-Offs, the elimination of a team for the remainder of the season.
- The declaration of a winner for a game or Play-Off series, in the event game(s) or series cannot be fulfilled in the timely manner, as per the schedule allotted time frame.
- If a game cannot be played, based on the neglect of a team, a 5-0 outcome.
- Special circumstance situation where the minimum players + goalkeeper **cannot be fulfilled by the players on the respective team's ICE Hockey League Roster**, a decision can be made to allow additional player(s) either **through the 'free player movement' or use of domestic player(s) from other ICE Hockey League affiliated Leagues.**

Additional tools to best prevent game cancellations when infection is active | league organization + doctor's committee can order:

- PCR resting for the entire affected team the day before or the morning of the game day
- additionally, +/- 1,5 hours before the game another mandatory antigen rapid test

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COVID-19 Parameters for Special Committee to consider when making a decision:

Importance of staying on schedule will be considered the main priority. Meaning, it is considered of greater importance to move all teams along in a normal scheduled time frame manner, as opposed to 1 COVID infected team stopping or delaying the other 12 ICEHL teams or series.

Notwithstanding, any unforeseen circumstances, other than Covid-19 concerns, which may cause a delay, postponement or change in the game schedule, the bet-at-home ICE Hockey League will decide in the best interest of all teams. This will include all decisions within rescheduling game times, game dates and venue for which the game(s) are to be played.

In the event of a special circumstance due to Covid-19, a game or playoff series that **cannot be played in a timely manner, the decision will be made by the 'special committee' as per the Covid-19 Appendix.** The condition of playing the games is considered the most important factor. However, if game(s) cannot all be played by a **team or team's, the special committee can make the decision to play all games in 1 venue, cancel a game or remaining games and in unforeseen circumstance where games cannot be played in a timely manner, cancel a series, and declare a winner.** The decision will include teams that cannot provide a minimum 9 forwards, 4 defenseman and 1 goalie to play a game, otherwise a team shall be considered fit to play. Covid-19 conditions can include either a lack of minimum players required, border closure, Government restrictions or any Covid-19 condition that effects, restricts or eliminates a team from playing.

- When a team has 1-3 positive test results, a game has the possibility to take place, based on medical approval.
- If there are 4 or more positive cases reported, the postponement of the game is recommended, based on medical approval.

Additional tools to best prevent game cancellations when infection is active | league organization + doctor's committee can order:

- PCR resting for the entire affected team the day before or the morning of the game day
- additionally, +/- 1,5 hours before the game another mandatory antigen rapid test

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52 Round Games (September 17th, 2021 – February 27th, 2022):

- The allotted time to play 52 round games will be considered fulfilled on or before February 27th
- If a (1) team affects the 52 round games schedule and game(s) cannot be fulfilled, the consideration for 5-0 games shall be considered, if the team affecting the game schedule cannot find a reschedule date or cannot play the required amount of games on or before February 17th, 2022
- In the case the 52 round schedule is affected by multiple (more than 1 team) and the games cannot be fulfilled, the regular season standings (52 Round) will be considered the final standing for the games played

Play-Offs (Quarter Final and Semi-Final):

- Each series will be provided designated time frame (dates) where in the event a series cannot be concluded, the possibility of 5-0 games will be considered
- Importance of all series moving in a timely manner is the determining and important factor
- The determination of a series being reduced from best of 7 to best of 5 or 3 can be considered, provided the decision is made provided a minimum of 1 more game must be played. Reducing a series from 7 games to best of 5 or 3 cannot be considered if it eliminates a team (Ex. 4 games played, the series cannot be reduced to a best of 3 to declare winner, but can be considered to be played in a best of 5 provided the series is not 3-1)

Play-Offs (Final):

- All games will be played until a winner is declared
- If the COVID delay is greater than 7 days, the series can be considered from best of 7 to best of 5

Additionally, if all series have been completed in 5 or less games (based on 7 game series), the next series can be moved ahead (start earlier than scheduled) - provided each team has had a minimum 2 day rest and is fit to play, based on COVID testing.

§ 14. Game Playing Rules

- (1) Score Sheet Procedure and Goal/Assist Changes: Each ICE Hockey League Sport Manager will designate 1 member of their choice (Sport Manager, 1 coaching staff member or COVID-19 team representative responsible person) to distribute, communicate and make changes with the ICE Hockey League off-ice crew. The game line-up, scoring changes, player **addition/deletion before the game, ...)** must follow the same ICE Hockey League procedure by a coach signing the proper documents and then distributed to the off-ice crew responsible person at the off-ice crew room. A mask and gloves must be worn and legal minimum distancing, by both the ICE Hockey League Team member and off-ice members must be followed. No off-ice crew members will be permitted to enter either teams' dressing room area (red zone).

Game Book Part D | Case Book | § 7 Rule 21 - Team Composition

The team managers authorized by each ICE Hockey League club are required to provide the home club's scorekeeper with a team roster using the lineup form at least 75 minutes prior to the start of each game. The roster must be filled out completely and accurately, and it must be signed and dated by the team manager.

- (2) Transfer Deadline:
The transfer deadline will be **February 22nd, 2022**. In the event COVID-19 has had a significant impact in the game schedule and playing of games, the Special Committee shall have the ability to extend the transfer deadline, provided a decision is made before December 15th, 2021.