



Boyne Hockey Club

COVID Return-to-Play – Players & Parents

These guidelines have been written in accordance with government and sporting body advice. They are intended to reduce the risk of spread of COVID-19. However, the risk of contracting COVID-19 cannot be eliminated. By completing the Health Declaration form, coaches, supervisors, players and parents acknowledge the risk inherent in playing and coaching team sports such as hockey and chose to participate at their own risk. Coaches, supervisors and players can opt-out at any time and will not lose their place in the club for next season.

- Start times are staggered to allow one group to clear the pitch before the next group arrives.

Saturdays	Group	Pitch Area	Access/Egress	Coaches
09:15-10:45	3 rd year	Half Pitch (Top)	Middle Gate	Sinead, Jane, Sonja
09:30-11:00	5 th class	Half Pitch (Bottom)	Bottom Gate	Nancy, Gillian, Mark
11:00-12:10	4 th class	Third of Pitch (Top)	Middle Gate	Jane, Sinead, Eimear
11:15-12:20	3 rd class	Third of Pitch (Middle)	Middle Gate	Roisin, Jenny, Orla
11:15-12:00	2 nd class	Third of Pitch (Bottom)	Bottom Gate	Lawrence, Jenny
12:15-13:30	Boys	Third of Pitch (Bottom)	Bottom Gate	Chris, Robin, Lawrence
12:30-13:45	6 th class	Two Thirds (Top)	Middle Gate	Paul, Coleman, Jessica
Sunday	Group	Pitch Area	Access/Egress	Coaches
09:30-10:55	2 nd year	Full Pitch	Bottom Gate	Sonya, Sinead, Niall
11:00-12:25	4 th year	Half Pitch (Top)	Middle Gate	Mike, Keith, Brad, Robert
11:00-12:25	5 th year	Half Pitch (Bottom)	Bottom Gate	Sinead, Mike
12:30-14:00	1 st year	Full Pitch	Bottom Gate	Richard, Rachel, Maeve
Monday	Group	Pitch Area	Access/Egress	Coaches
20:00-21:00	5 th year	Third of Pitch (Middle)	Middle Gate	Sinead, +1
Wednesday	Group	Pitch Area	Access/Egress	Coaches
18:00-18:55	2 nd year	Third Pitch (Top)	Middle Gate	Sonya, Sinead, Niall
Thursday	Group	Pitch Area	Access/Egress	Coaches
18:00-18:55	2 nd year	Full Pitch	Bottom Gate	Sonya, Sinead, Niall
19:00-19:55	1 st year	Third of Pitch (middle)	Middle Gate	Richard, Rachel, Maeve
19:00-19:55	3 rd year	Third of Pitch (middle)	Middle Gate	Sinead, Jane, Sonja
19:00-19:55	4 th year	Third of Pitch (middle)	Bottom Gate	Mike, Keith, Robert, Brad

* TOP refer to goal end furthest from the sports car park.

* BOTTOM gate refers to the normal entrance to the pitch.

* To reach the MIDDLE gate, please walk along the road and up the steps in front of the school.

- Parent volunteers will be identified to act as COVID Supervisors for each training session / match. *Please refer to Return-to-Play Policy – Coaches & Supervisors for the duties of a Supervisor.*
- All Players (parents) must complete the Sport Ireland Return to Sport Course ([Part A](#)) prior to completing the Boyne Hockey health declaration.
- All Players (parents) must complete the Boyne HC return to hockey health declaration within 2 days before returning to practice. The link to the form will be shared with all members in the week

before resumption of club practice. **Players who are defined as Very High Risk regarding COVID should not attend training or matches (See HSE.ie).**

- A COVID Supervisor / coach from each group will issue a message to their WhatsApp group prior to each session calling for coaches and players to confirm attendance, that they are physically well and that there has been no change in COVID status or risk.
- All players must confirm their fitness to attend on their WhatsApp group prior to each training. Only confirm if you are planning to attend training as this information will be used for contact tracing if necessary. **DO NOT ATTEND TRAINING if you are unwell, have COVID symptoms, are a close contact of a confirmed case, have returned from travel abroad within the last 14 days, or until you have been given medical clearance if you are recovering from illness.**
- Only those who are registered as members with the club, have completed their one-time COVID declaration and have confirmed suitability for training on WhatsApp will be permitted access to the pitch (there will be no exceptions).
- **There will be no access to the clubhouse for players. There will be no access to toilets.**
- Children must bring their own equipment - sticks, shin pads, gloves, named water bottles etc. No sharing of equipment will be allowed. Players should arrive ready to play with shin guards on and mouth guards in.
- Dedicated goalkeepers will be provided with their own set of gear, where gear must be shared it must be fully sanitised between use.
- No sharing of bibs will be allowed. Coaches may ask the players to bring suitable colour(s) to training if this is important to the running of the drills/games.
- Short-corner facemasks cannot be shared. Players who routinely defend short-corners should purchase their own mask and label it clearly. Where a shared mask is required, it must be washed well with soap and water after use. The team coach is responsible for ensuring this is done.
- Parents should arrive on time for each session.
- Parents and players should wait in their cars until the designated starting time to avoid mixing with players leaving the pitch. Players should not car pool. Players must be collected on time.
- Players enter and exit the pitch through the appropriate gate and sanitise their hands at the start & end of training. Attendance will be recorded by the COVID Supervisor. **Children must not enter the pitch without their attendance being recorded by the designated COVID person.**
- There should be no socialising outside the pitch.
- As per current government regulations no spectators are allowed.
- One parent per child in 3rd class and below is required to attend each session (watch from outside the fence) in case of injury, illness or other need from their child.
- Coaches should maintain a distance of 2m from children at all times. Where this is not possible (e.g. attending an injury – face masks should be worn by both the player and the coach).
- A parent of older players may attend for safe guarding purposes. They should stand at the fence or wait in their cars. All parents are expected to maintain social distance in the car park and at the pitch. There must be no congregating in the car park or anywhere in the grounds.
- Parents and others must not walk around the school grounds, or as per school normal policy, bring pets or walk dogs on the school grounds.
- During training sessions, groups on the pitch are limited to 15 people (including coaches, helpers). Larger groups may be split into two or more pods who train separately – no mixing allowed within a training session. Pods may contain different people for different training sessions.
- Players should keep 2m apart (2 hockey stick lengths) when possible on the pitch. Social distancing is not required when players are actually playing.
- Players should not shake hands, hug or make other physical contact. Spitting is not allowed.
- Only coaches will be allowed handle the equipment - balls, cones, etc.

- Where possible the player will be guided to complete their own first aid or seek assistance from their parent.
- Should a player become unwell during a session, the player will be provided with a mask and taken to the designated isolation area and their parent contacted for immediate collection. The parent should contact their GP regarding players symptoms.
- **Players, coaches and parents are expected to take personal responsibility in following the COVID-19 guidelines and etiquette to keep the club community safe.**
- **These guidelines are subject to change in line with statutory, Sport Ireland or Hockey Ireland guidelines.**
- **Parents and player contact details will be shared with the HSE Public Health contact tracing team or other relevant health organisation should it be requested.**