

# ONTARIO HOCKEY FEDERATION

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## OHF Bulletin

**To:** OHF Members, Associations, Registered Participants  
**From:** Philip McKee – Executive Director  
**Date:** 10/25/2021  
**Re:** Team Official and On-Ice Official Masking Requirement  
Bulletin ID: 21-058

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The OHF recognizes that our On-Ice Officials are responsible for ensuring a safe environment for all participants during the course of a game. As such, their focus will remain on Hockey Canada playing rules and the on-ice safety of our players and they will not be responsible for enforcing general mask wearing.

In accordance with Provincial Public Health guidelines, Team Officials while in the facility - including while on the bench - must always wear a cloth or medical mask. As Team Officials, you are the direct leadership to our athletes and youth. As leaders, Team Officials have the expectation to set an example for all participants and those whom they supervise.

Enforcement of mask-wearing is the responsibility of the Head Coach of each Team.

However, specifically, as it relates to communication with officials, the following will apply, and our On-Ice Officials are expected to enforce it accordingly:

*Any team official who alters the position of their face mask while challenging/disputing the ruling or any communication with an official regardless of whether physical distancing is being maintained, shall be given a warning.*

*This warning applies to all team officials of that team. If any team official alters the position of their mask for any of the above actions, after that team has received a warning, they shall be assessed an unsportsmanlike conduct penalty under Rule 11.1.*

*A team official after receiving an unsportsmanlike conduct minor penalty will receive a Game Misconduct if their actions continue or if there is a subsequent violation.*

*The directive above does not extend past the scope of communication between team official(s) and officials.*

In addition, On-Ice Officials that identify a Team Official outside of communication with the On-Ice Official not properly wearing their masks have the ability to provide a report to the MHA on the game sheet or by any mechanism the MHA sees fit.

Should there be any complaint against a Team Official, in regard to this matter, the MHA, the Member or the OHF will intervene and provide education and if the action continues, sanctions may be imposed.



This would not apply to a Team Official that has received accommodation in accordance with the guidelines established by the Ontario Government.

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