

The WMHA is pleased to have found a way to share the WMHA goalie gear for the younger groups (U7, U9, U11) who are trying out and learning the position, while also finding a way to follow COVID-19 protocols and our return to play plan.

We have negotiated an in-kind arrangement with Changing Gear, they are covering our first \$1,500 of goalie gear cleaning using their Sani Sport system, in exchange for a corporate team sponsorship. After we have used up our in kind amount, WMHA will then have to pay per cleaning. As such we will need to have some policies around the goalie gear cleaning to ensure we do not overload the system or our budget.

**Cleaning Frequency:**

**The goalie gear must be sanitized at Changing Gear, using their Sani Sport system between use of any players who are not in the same family.**

**To minimize the need for cleaning, we are encouraging players wishing to try the position to take the gear for a longer period of time, and play a few games.** Note: To minimize burden on the system and inconvenience of cleaning, we recommend that where siblings are on the same team, that they share the gear during the same period or during back to back periods. The cleaning frequency per division, and rationale is below:

**U7** – as they only play a game once per month; and because players can also safely play goalie with regular gear and a goalie stick; it is appropriate that these teams can bring the goalie gear in for cleaning up to once a month over the season, starting in November. The gear should not be used by multiple players in this period unless they are siblings. If a different goalie is desired for practice, please share the goalie stick and use regular gear.

**U9 N1, N2 and U11 A1** – All the goalies in these divisions are still trying the position, and not yet committed or with own gear. With a game every week, we can have goalie gear cleaning at a maximum frequency of every two weeks starting in November. The same player should keep the gear for at least 2 to 3 games.

**U11 – 11-A2** – We understand that two teams have dedicated goalies and will not require gear cleaning services. The a 3<sup>rd</sup> team has a goalie with WMHA gear that will not need to be cleaned. If or when necessary, WMHA will provide one additional set of gear that can be cleaned up to once per month (i.e. it will not need to be shared between players as frequently due to the other goalie with dedicated gear).

**Cleaning Rotation Schedule.** In order to make sure all of our goalie gear does not land at Changing Gear at the same time, please respect the following cleaning rotation:

- U7 (4 teams) – Can bring gear in for cleaning during 2<sup>nd</sup> week of every month starting in November.
- U9N1 (3 teams) – Can bring gear in for cleaning during 2<sup>nd</sup> week of any month, or 4<sup>th</sup> week of any month.

- U9N2 (4 teams) – Can bring goalie gear in for cleaning during 1<sup>st</sup> week of any month or 3<sup>rd</sup> week of any month.
- U11 A1 (3 teams) - Can bring gear in for cleaning during 2<sup>nd</sup> week of any month, or 4<sup>th</sup> week of any month.
- U11 A2 – team without dedicated goalie (1 team), can bring gear in for cleaning once per month, any week.

**Procedure:**

Assign the gear to a goalie and their parents for the period as indicated above. Ideally they will take it for 2 to 3 weeks, and play the games in that period. Practices can be optional and skills should be done in forward gear.

The gear must be sanitized per this procedure between use by any non-family members.

Before bringing goalie gear in for cleaning at Changing Gear, please make sure it is completely dry, has been aired out in a warm place for at least 24 to 48 hours.

The entire goalie gear, bag, pads, all protective gear will be disinfected. The process is an overnight process, however if multiple bags land on the same day there may be an additional day delay.

The player who has most recently played goalie, and who has then aired out the gear should have their parent drop the gear at Changing Gear for cleaning. They should indicate team name and division when they drop it off. They should make arrangements to pick it up and get it back to the coach team for the next goalie. We recommend they take advantage of the trip and get families skates sharpened as well. Sharpening is also an overnight process, and when dropped off before can be picked up the next day.

Note: some coaches and teams have asked about alternative and approved cleaning processes. At this time WMHA would like to follow this process above to ensure that the cleaning is done consistently and adequately. If another alternative is found that may be more convenient, we will consider this and pass this information on to coaches.

Further information on the Sani Sport cleaning system, taken from the Changing Gear web site is below:

**Sanitize Your Sports Equipment**

Here is a fast and economical way to sanitize your sports equipment. Used by the NHL, NFL, MLB and the NBA for their equipment cleaning needs. Today's sports equipment is mostly made from synthetics which do not allow the equipment to breath. These are perfect conditions for bacteria to breed. Washing equipment can take a lot of time and do damage to the equipment. The Sani-Sports system is fast and your gear is sanitized, smells better and is ready to wear. The Sani-Sport allows you to maintain clean, safe equipment while reducing odors that can come from playing hard.

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