

Federation of Broomball Associations of Ontario [FBAO]

Thursday October 29, 2009

FBAO Handshake Policy - Effective Immediately

POST GAME HANDSHAKE POLICY – PROCEDURE

For 2009/2010 Season - Due to H1N1

It is the policy of the FBAO that teams shake hands immediately following each game. This policy is consistent with the values of the Sport of Broomball. Teams are reminded that on-ice officials do have the authority to prohibit the handshake. We do hope this will not be necessary. From time to time, a situation may arise where individual team members and/or the entire team should take precautions. Please be advised that, effective immediately, the following procedure is to be followed for the post-game handshake in any FBAO sanctioned games.

FBAO PROCEDURE FOR 2009-2010 Season:

Players are to keep their protective gloves on for the Post Game Handshake and instead tap the gloves of the opponent.

FBAO PROCEDURE FOR 2009-2010 Season:

The Coaches, Captains and Officials of the game shall greet each other without the hand shake.

H1N1 Virus – Recommended Steps for all Associations and Teams

There is presently much speculation as to the impact that the H1N1 virus will have on Canadians over the next few months. Organizations have been urged to stress to their members steps that should be taken to prevent the spread of the virus, and to have plans in place to alleviate any hardships that may come of the spread of H1N1. Team staff need to emphasize to players and parents the need for total cooperation in all aspects concerning hygiene to reduce the spread of any infection in the sport's environment, but specifically to the prevention of the transmission of the H1N1 virus. The following are recommended steps within the team environment:

1. Players should be urged to report all illnesses to their parents and Team Officials. **Parents are urged to keep their children away from the sport's environment if they are showing any signs of infectious disease or virus. Sick players are encouraged to see their physician if showing signs or symptoms of the H1N1 virus, and to be fully recovered prior to returning to play.**
2. Players should be encouraged to wash hands routinely and always after handling their playing equipment. Frequent hand washing with soap and water is one of the best preventions recommended. Teams are encouraged to carry extra hand soap or hand sanitizer as not all arenas have this readily available.
3. Talk to your players about covering their mouths and nose when coughing or sneezing using their arm as opposed to their hands.
4. Advise players to try and not touch their own mouths or nose when in the sport's environment to reduce the chance of them passing an infection on to themselves.
5. Ensure all players and Team Officials have **their own water bottles labeled with names and player's numbers.** Sport drink bottles should be avoided as direct lip contact is possible when drinking.
6. Officials and coaches should avoid drinking from other players water bottles and have water readily available to them on their respective benches.
7. Towels should be removed from all benches. Players should not share towels, clothing, bar soap or other personal items.
8. Assist athletes in protecting their immune system by stressing they get sufficient sleep, that they do not over train and that they get proper nutrition.

You may find additional information on the Health Canada website at <http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/index-eng.php>

You may find additional information on the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care website at <http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/ccom/flu/>

Yours in the Sport of Broomball,

Executive and Board of Directors
Federation of Broomball Associations of Ontario