

September 10, 2020

Hello OLU Families.

The health and safety of everyone is a top priority for the Orchard Lake United (OLU) Hockey Association. Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer signed an executive order allowing ice rinks to reopen effective September 9, 2020, provided the resumed activities comply with Michigan Executive Order (EO) 2020-176 as well as other mitigation measures set by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and other applicable state and federal laws. As part of EO 2020-176, Section 7. Organized Sports, Paragraph b. the Governor has mandated the wearing of facial coverings while participating in an organized sport, while on the field of play.

*EO2020-1767.b. Athletes participating in an organized sport, while on the field of play, are not subject to the social distancing requirements of this order found in sections 2(a) and 6(a)(1), but instead must maintain six feet of distance from one another to the extent compatible with that organized sport, and wear a facial covering except when swimming. Sports organizers shall ensure that athletes comply with this subsection for each organized sporting event.*

Michigan Amateur Hockey Association (MAHA) issued a statement on September 7, 2020 related to Michigan EO 2020-176 regarding use of facial coverings/masks. In their statement, MAHA noted that the Governor's current order is inconsistent with the recommendations of the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), World Health Organization (WHO), and Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS), which all recommend not wearing a cloth mask while participating in high intensity aerobic activity. Unfortunately, this mandate must be followed and enforced for hockey to restart. MAHA is working with other athletic organizations requesting further clarification on EO 2020-176. Until further clarification is provided, facial coverings/masks are required while on the ice, or anywhere within the Orchard Lake St. Mary's Athletic Complex. Parents have the right to withhold participation of the players if they feel the guidelines may cause health issues for their son or daughter. We ask that if your player will not be participating in team activities while this mandate is in place to please communicate directly with your Team Manager and Head Coach.

In order to safely return to play and comply with Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's executive order we have developed the attached **COVID-19 Safety Plan**. This plan addresses Exposure Prevention, Preparedness, and Response. First and foremost in this plan - it is imperative that if you are ill, have been ill, show any symptoms, or may have been exposed to the COVID-19 virus, you stay home. It is important that we all conform to this standard of behavior. Even if you are personally do not agree, or are not worried about contracting the virus, please consider others.

As hockey resumes and until further clarification is received, it is important we comply with the executive order. The entire Orchard Lake United Hockey Association and St. Mary's Athletic Complex is working hard to ensure we are prepared to safely return to

play. Please take the time to familiarize yourself and your family with the safe practices, protocols and guidelines outlined in the plan. We cannot do this without you! We will continue to monitor the situation and update our plan as needed.

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Michigan Executive Order 2020-175

[\[https://content.govdelivery.com/attachments/MIEOG/2020/09/03/file\\_attachments/1535444/EO%202020-175.pdf\]](https://content.govdelivery.com/attachments/MIEOG/2020/09/03/file_attachments/1535444/EO%202020-175.pdf)

Michigan Executive Order 2020-176

[\[https://content.govdelivery.com/attachments/MIEOG/2020/09/03/file\\_attachments/1535448/EO%202020-176.pdf\]](https://content.govdelivery.com/attachments/MIEOG/2020/09/03/file_attachments/1535448/EO%202020-176.pdf)

Michigan Executive Order 2020-180

[\[https://content.govdelivery.com/attachments/MIEOG/2020/09/09/file\\_attachments/1541348/EO%202020-180%20Emerg%20order%20-%20MI%20Safe%20Start%20amendment.pdf\]](https://content.govdelivery.com/attachments/MIEOG/2020/09/09/file_attachments/1541348/EO%202020-180%20Emerg%20order%20-%20MI%20Safe%20Start%20amendment.pdf)

MAHA Statement Regarding Executive Order 2020-176

[\[https://www.maha.org/news\\_article/show/1121369\]](https://www.maha.org/news_article/show/1121369)

MAHA Return to Play Standards – 2020-21

[\[https://www.maha.org/news\\_article/show/1121304\]](https://www.maha.org/news_article/show/1121304)