



2026 Manitoba Winter Games General Q&A

The following were common questions that came up during the Regional Guide to the Games presentations that may not have been included in the presentation slides.

Before You Get There

- Where can parents stay if they want to attend the Games?
 - Unfortunately at current time the hotels and housing arrangements in Thompson are at capacity. This has been complicated by the recent loss of the Days Inn due to flooding. If you had not already secured a hotel room, you can call the other hotels directly to be placed on a waiting list. You can also email Vicki at hladymiller@gmail.com to be placed on a waiting list for a home stay program that the Host Society has been coordinating.
- If athletes are not taking the arranged buses, what do they need to know?
 - For athletes that have indicated within the athlete registration that they will be taking their own alternate travel to Thompson, they can be dropped off at their athlete village (RD Parker Collegiate - females, Deerwood School - males) between Noon-2pm on their arrival day.
 - They will then be supported by volunteers, provided their accreditation, while they wait to connect with the rest of their team and coaches.
- What do athletes need to know about the bus ride and arrangements?
 - The bus schedule for your athlete, including pick up location and time, will be sent by email during the week of Feb 16-20. The bus schedule is coordinated based on information provided through the athlete registration, so athletes will not necessarily travel with all of their own sport. Expect to leave earlier in the morning.
 - Each bus will have a bus captain (Coach / Manager or other adult supervisor) that will be responsible for the athletes during the bus trip.
 - Athletes are expected to arrive at their pick up location 30 minutes prior to departure time. They will receive their luggage tags at that time for their luggage (1) and for any relevant sport equipment bag, which will all be packed under the bus.
 - After departing, the bus will not stop until arriving in Thompson. Buses have washrooms on board.
 - Athletes will receive their accreditation upon arrival in Thompson.
 - Upon arrival at the village, sport equipment bags will get moved to the equipment warehouse.
- What should athletes pack?
 - Please refer to the Travel Packing List outlined in the presentation.
 - Athletes should bring a backpack with them on the bus with any essentials, including snacks / food, and are encouraged to bring their pillow on board the bus for the trip.
 - Please pack efficiently and use appropriate sized luggage, remembering



- athletes are only gone for 3 nights and space under the bus is not limitless.
- Sleeping bags should be attached to luggage so it's easier to identify and sort upon arrival.
- Athletes can bring some spending money, or perhaps more appropriately a bank card, for small purchases (ie snacks, drink machines) or for merchandise.
- When will athletes get their competition uniforms?
 - Most sports will distribute their competition uniforms upon arrival. However this is determined by each sport so it's best to contact your coach or Provincial Sport Organization on this arrangement.
 - Athletes will receive their walk out clothing (hoodie, toque, mitts) upon arrival at their village

During the Games

- What are the sleeping arrangements at the villages?
 - Athletes will be sleeping on cots in classrooms at each of the schools.
 - Rooming lists are being coordinated by region, and then sport. However, due to numbers, it is not certain that your entire team will be in the same room, they may need to share a room with athletes from another sport.
 - Each classroom may have 20 or more cots.
 - Coaches/Managers will be staying in separate but nearby rooms and will be responsible for supervising their athletes.
 - Curfew is at 10:30pm, with lights out at 11pm.
 - All athletes are expected to stay and sleep in the athletes village. In rare cases if the situation warrants, and upon approval by coaches and Games staff, an athlete may be allowed to stay with parents at their hotel.
- What security is in place at the villages?
 - Each village will have 24 hours security and only those with appropriate accreditation will be allowed into the village areas.
 - The security is a combination of volunteers and paid security.
 - All individuals in these roles, and others where there is direct contact with athletes, have been screened through a criminal record check with vulnerable sector search.
- How are athletes able to shower during the Games?
 - If an option, athletes may be able to shower at the competition venues.
 - There will also be showers available at each village. The female village shower access will be available in the evenings in the female changerooms after the sport competitions are done for the day. The male village will have a shower trailer.
 - Showers will have separate stalls.
- Where do athletes eat during the Games?
 - The cafeteria for athletes, coaches and officials will be at RD Parker Collegiate, offering 3 meals per day plus grazing options in between planned meals.
 - If off-site for your competition and not able to access the cafeteria (ie. Alpine Ski), boxed lunches have been arranged by your PSO.



- What if my athlete has food allergies?
 - If you have food allergies or sensitivities, this should be indicated in your registration and arrangements will be made through the food services.
 - Please ensure the food services staff are aware of your food allergy when you get your food.
- Where is our athletes equipment (ie. Hockey or Ringette gear) stored when not in use?
 - Equipment will be stored in the warehouse at RD Parker when not in use.
 - If you want the equipment to be aired out, please unzip the bag when dropping the equipment to be stored.
- What can athletes do when they are not competing?
 - Athletes will have plenty to do when not competing, such as taking in other sports and cheering on their regional teammates, along with other athlete entertainment activities being organized.
 - Coaches are responsible for their athletes at all times, so if athletes want to see family away from the team, please ensure this is communicated and arranged through the Coach.
- Is there wifi in the villages and can they plug in devices for charging?
 - Each village has public wifi, and plugs to charge devices. Additional charging stations are also being arranged.
 - Devices are the responsibility of the athlete, so please ensure it is carried by the athlete or in a secure place.
- Do parents need to buy tickets for the competitions or the ceremonies?
 - All venues are free to access to watch your athletes compete, and also for both ceremonies!
- Are the sport competitions streamed for family to watch online?
 - It is understood that both of the rinks have Live Barn where you can subscribe and watch through that platform. Otherwise the other venues or sports will not be streamed unless arranged through the PSO.
- My child takes medication, are their requirements in place for administration or storage?
 - If your child can self-administer their medication, they are allowed to do so. They should ensure they keep the medication in a secure place or with their Coach to hang on to.
 - If your medication requires refrigeration, please let your Coach or Chef de Mission know so they can coordinate that through the Medical Polyclinic.
- When do we depart Thompson to travel back home?
 - Departures will take place in the afternoon of March 4 on the turn around day for athletes who competed in Phase 1, and in the afternoon following the closing ceremonies for athletes competing in Phase 2.