

Municipality of *Bluewater*

Reopening of Ice Facilities

August 14th, 2020

The novel coronavirus, COVID-19, has been declared a worldwide pandemic by the World Health Organization. COVID-19 is extremely contagious and is believed to spread mainly from person-to-person contact. As a result, federal, provincial, and local governments and federal and provincial health agencies recommend physical distancing and have, in many locations, prohibited the congregation of groups of people.

The Municipality of Bluewater (“the Municipality”) has put in place preventative measures to reduce the spread of COVID-19; however, the Municipality cannot guarantee that you or your child(ren) will not become infected with COVID-19. Further, attending the Municipality could increase your risk and your child(ren)’s risk of contracting COVID-19.

This document has been developed in consultation with user groups, staff, Huron Perth Public Health Unit and Provincial guidelines. It is understood that the document will be reviewed and updated due to changes in guidelines, best practices and user needs.

These guidelines are an effort to provide the safest possible experience for players, spectators and staff.

Hensall and Zurich arenas will open mid to late September incorporating the following requirements. These requirements will include but not be limited to:

- Physical Distancing
- Mask/Face Coverings
- Gathering Limits
- Limited access to washrooms, change rooms, showers
- Contact Tracing
- Passive Screening

Before entering the facility

Organizations/renters must ensure their participants are;

- Not experiencing any symptom of illness such as cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fever, chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, or new loss of taste or smell.
- Have not travelled to a highly impacted area in the last 14 days.

- Do not believe to have been exposed to someone with a suspected and/or confirmed case of COVID-19.
- Have not been diagnosed with COVID-19 and not yet cleared as non-contagious by local public health authorities.
- Following recommended health guidelines as much as possible to limit exposure to COVID-19.
- All participants will be expected to use the hand sanitizer stations at the entrance of the facility.

The organization or individual renter assumes the risk and liability and is responsible for ensuring that passive screening of all patrons under their rental is completed before entry into the facility. The Municipality reserves the right to perform additional screening prior to patrons being granted access.

Crowd Control and Participant Limits

All participants are encouraged to arrive at the facility dressed and ready to participate.

There is limited space available within change rooms.

To allow for physical distancing, change rooms will only accommodate a maximum of 8 participants at a time.

Additional seating will be placed outside of change room door for skate tying. 2 change rooms will be available per hour allowing for a maximum of 20 skaters per rental. The total number of participants in the facility during an ice rental is 25. This includes coaching staff and spectators.

Users are permitted into the facility no sooner than 15 minutes before scheduled ice time and must depart within 15 minutes of completion of rental.

The Facility will remain locked. User groups are responsible for stationing a representative at the door to screen and control entrance limits.

The total number of occupants in a facility is 50. In order to maintain this guideline and provide the most optimum amount of ice time per user, the on ice rental limit is 25 thus permitting a facility overlap of 2 groups.

Facility Traffic Flow

Participants may not enter and exit through the same doors. This limits exposure to social distancing proximity. As such all participants are to exit through designated door following traffic flow arrows marked on the floor.

The lobby area is not a space for congregation. Lobby's provide entrance and washroom access only.

Ice Times

For the 2020-2021 season all efforts will be made to maintain previous years allocated ice times.

Staff will attempt to accommodate all user groups where possible. However, ice time may need to change due to facility needs.

Face Coverings

All patrons entering the facility will be required to wear face coverings whenever moving throughout the facility, in a change room or outside of the specific room reserved for their recreational program or private rental.

Spectators must wear face coverings while viewing the ice pad from the stands.

Staff

PPE (masks, gloves, eye protection, etc.) will be provided to staff at the beginning of every shift.

All staff will be trained on the appropriate use of PPE which must be worn while cleaning/sanitizing, assisting with patron control or whenever physical distancing is not possible.

All staff will be trained on patron control throughout the facility as well as modified behaviour guidelines for physical distancing.

All patrons will be expected to follow the direction of staff on duty.

The Municipality has the resources to invest in necessary equipment, technology and/or staff resources to address future requirements as they pertain to the ongoing COVID-19 situation. This may include but is not limited to PPE, cleaning and sanitizing equipment, and quality controls.

Cleaning and Sanitizing

All public areas will be cleaned and sanitized daily following all public health guidelines and industry best practises.

All high touch surfaces such as door handles, railings, sink faucets, and toilet flush handles will be sanitized regularly throughout each day. Programming spaces, change rooms will be cleaned and sanitized before and after each program or rental.

Additional staff will be scheduled to support this additional cleaning throughout the day.

Hand sanitizing stations will be set up at all entry points as well as throughout the facility and all patrons will be expected to use these on a regular basis.

Conditions of Use

Groups are responsible for following established health and safety protocols, including physical distancing guidelines, guidelines established by the Municipality of Bluewater and their sport's governing body.

Leagues must contain no more than 50 participants total. If participants in a league exceed 50, the league may divide into smaller groups of no more than 50. As of now, players are not permitted to play outside of their league.

Anyone entering the facility is required to wear a face covering. Players can remove face coverings before entering the ice pad.

Dry land or warm up areas are not provided inside the facility.

Participants are encouraged to use their own equipment. Any shared equipment must be sanitized between uses.

Participants should practice proper hand hygiene techniques often. Proper respiratory etiquette should always be followed. Spitting is prohibited. Users who spit will be asked to leave.

The concession booth will remain closed. The use of water fountains will be prohibited except to fill water bottles.

Participants must remove all waste/garbage with them as they depart the facility.

Rules and Regulations:

All participants must follow the direction of On Duty staff.

The municipality reserves the right to deny access to the facility to any person for any reason.

Failure to follow conditions of use, directional signage and arrows, commands from staff on duty or appropriate physical distancing practises will result in patrons being asked to leave without refund.