**Stage 3 Health & Safety Return to Ice Protocols & Procedures**

(September 23, 2020)

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The Township of Assiginack is committed to provide a safe reopening of the arena to protect our coaches, volunteers, officials, participants and staff and ultimately our community at large. Together, we have an onerous and collective responsibility to prevent the transmission of COVID-19 by ensuring that all facility guidelines which are based on recommendations from Public Health & Ministry of Health are followed. All user groups are charged with the responsibility to abide by and enforce the Return to Ice/Lobby Protocols & Procedures, failure to do so will result in the cancelation of permits.

The Municipality will continue to update the facility Ice/Lobby Protocols & Procedures as needed. Hours of operation will be subject to change and cancellation pending confirmed ice usage, reports and updated direction from Public Health Sudbury & Districts.

User groups may have additional health & safety requirements as provided by their governing league and umbrella organizations.

**Check-in**

Ice Users/Lobby users enter the designated door to the ice pad/lobby and proceed directly to the tables set up for check-in. Here a wash station/hand sanitizer will be in place as well as staff to fill out the Contact Tracing Form.

Ice Users for rentals are responsible for setting up their own lobby check-in to include prescreening all coaches, volunteers, participants and guardians in attendance. This check-in process could also be done by email or phone prior to entering the building. The record must include date and time of entry, name and contact information of all in the event that Pubic Health has to do COVID contact tracing at a later date. These records are submitted to the Arena manager to copy and store. The ice user must also maintain a copy for record until a month after the season end.

**Screening for Facility Entry**

Ice users/Lobby users have the responsibility to screen each participant, volunteer, coach & guardian upon entering the facility. The designated screener for the organization must refuse entry of any participant who answers yes to any of the following questions:

In the last 14 days:

* Have you had a fever of over 38 degrees Celsius (100.4 F) or knowingly been exposed to anyone with a fever?
* Have you experienced any of the following symptoms;
* Shortness of breath – new or worsening
* Cough – New or worsening
* Loss of appetite
* Muscle aches
* Fatigue
* Headache
* Runny nose
* Sore throat
* Diarrhea
* Abdominal pain, nausea / vomiting
* Loss of smell
* Poor taste or loss of taste

In the last 14 days have you:

* travelled to a COVID -19 hot spot?
* Have you recently returned from air travel?
* Have you been exposed or been in close contact with a known positive case

**Face Coverings**

All staff, visitors and customers are required to wear a face covering upon entering and remaining within common areas of the arena building and while maintaining 2 metres of physical distance is not possible. The face covering must securely cover the nose, mouth and chin.

All skaters and coaches must wear a face covering in the facility. The cloth mask can be removed while participating in a hockey or on-ice activity when physical distancing is practiced.

Signage from Public Health is posted on the entrance doors to reinforce the requirement for face coverings.

**Physical Distancing**

All visitors to the arena building must practice physical distancing by maintaining at least 2 metres (6 feet) of space between others. Staff have implemented measures to assist visitors in maintaining physical distancing to include designating separate entrance and exits for users, closing off washroom spaces, applying floor signage to mark spacing and traffic flow and closing off dressing rooms. Signage from Public Health is posted on the entrance doors to reinforce physical distancing.

**Hand Sanitizer**

Hand sanitizer dispensers or wash stands are placed at entrance. Visitors are to sanitize their hands upon entering the facility. Signage from Public Health is posted on the entrance doors to reinforce regular hand washing.

**Cleaning Products & Protocols**

As per the recommendations from Public Health frequency of cleaning and sanitization has been increased in all public spaces with emphasis on frequently touched contact surfaces. Cleaning of benches and chairs will be conducted between each ice user booking. Cleaning products meet Public Health guidelines for use as effective against viruses, bacteria and other airborne and blood borne pathogens.

**Safety Plans & Waivers**

All user groups are required to submit a COVID -19 safety plan to the Township of Assiginack and agree to the terms of the COVID-19 Waiver of Liability.

Groups are encouraged to have each of their participants sign an “Assumption of Risk or Waiver document before their first on-ice session.

**Duty to Report**

If you or any of your participants test positive for COVID 19, you must immediately notify Arena manager as well as your instructors/coaches & participants.

**User Group Ice Use Requirements**

* A maximum of 25 participants allowed on the ice to include players, coaches and officials.
* Amateur and recreational sports leagues may resume so long as they do not allow prolonged or deliberate physical contact between players or if they have modifications to avoid physical contact between players.
* Scrimmages or games will be permitted as well as skills and drills but prolonged contact among players is not permitted.
* 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. Players are not yet permitted to play against players outside of their league or group. Spectators at all sporting events, including professional sports, will be subject to gathering limits and physical distancing measures, with assigned seating where possible.
* Public Health allows for up to 50 spectators in the stands.
* Do not share equipment unless it is disinfected before and after each use.
* All players must arrive dressed. No dressing rooms, lockers or showers will be provided.
* Skates will be put on in designated areas which may include the lobby, rink or hallway benches or on a chair and these chairs will be spaced 6 feet apart
* Upon completion of the rental time, players will return to their chairs, take their helmets, gloves, and skates off and put their shoes on. They will not undress/change to street clothes at that time. This will be done off-site. The only exception is goalies who are allowed to quickly remove their gear.
* Participants responsible to bring their own filled water bottle.
* One guardian per family with no accompanying siblings or children will be permitted to attend in order to supervise their child/children. Guardians may view on-ice activity from a row in the stands.
* Each ice user group will have access to the building 15 minutes before the rental start time.
* Access to the penalty box is not permitted. However, use of the players’ benches is allowed if required.
* Refrain from spitting on the ice, in the facility or outside on the property
* Refrain from hand shakes, high fives, hugs, huddles all body contact
* Upon completion of the ice time, players will leave the ice pad and return to the designated lobby, rink or hallway seating.
* Skaters will change from skates back to street shoes in the same chairs they used previously and exit the building through a designated arena exist
* Participants must vacate the facility immediately after the rental time is finished (within 10 minutes)
* Once skaters, parents, and instructors have left, sanitization of the areas used will commence prior to the next rental’s arrival.

**All ice rentals are subject to change/cancellation depending on the status of COVID 19 and changing provincial regulations**

These Guidelines have been informed by the following:

<https://www.phsd.ca/health-topics-programs/diseases-infections/coronavirus/guidance-for-employers-covid-19/sector-specific-guidance>

<https://www.ontario.ca/page/guidance-facilities-sports-and-recreational-fitness-activities-during-covid-19?_ga=2.171801510.707754400.1597670076-1117485867.1572357592>

<https://cdn.hockeycanada.ca/hockey-canada/Exclusive/return-to-hockey/downloads/HC_RTH_Safety-GUIDELINES_EN.pdf>