

Date: November 17, 2020

From: Lisa Hardy, Executive Director Skate Canada: Alberta-NWT/Nunavut

Good Evening Clubs / Skating Schools, Coaches and Officials:

We know the last few days have been frustrating and confusing for everyone as there continues to be differing information and interpretation from the Province, Alberta Health, AHS inspectors, municipalities, facilities and sport organizations regarding the [Chief Medical Officer of Health \(CMOH\) Order 37-2020](#) and how it applies to each sport.

What is clear and we fully support is that significant measures need to be enacted in this critical time to “reduce places and spaces where people gather” as numbers continue to rise, extra burden is placed on our health care system and health care professionals, ICU beds are at 81% capacity, and the uncertainty of where the exposure came from in confirmed cases increasing drastically, means that regardless of whether the club / or skating school is in an area impacted by this recent health order we need to ensure we are being diligent in following or exceeding all protocols in place and not become complacent.

We have obtained written confirmation from the Province and Alberta Health that where facilities choose to remain open, Figure Skating is permitted in those communities impacted by the temporary public health order in effect November 13th – 27th 2020 with the following restrictions in place:

Only the following areas are impacted by the new restrictions at this time for the period of November 13-27th inclusive. Those areas that are only identified as a [purple enhanced zone](#) and not a community listed below are not currently impacted by these restrictions.

- [Calgary and surrounding areas](#)
- [Edmonton and surrounding areas](#)
- Lethbridge
- Red Deer
- Grande Prairie
- Fort McMurry

For the sport of Figure Skating:

- 1) One-on-one training is permitted to occur with a maximum of 10 participants (athletes + coaches) in the practice area (ice and benches inclusive). Physical distancing is required for all participants at all times.
- 2) Pairs and dance teams living together in a household may train with one coach.

We had also previously received confirmation that Club simulations and assessment days fit within the temporary health order and are therefore permitted with the following restrictions in place:

- Only 1 skater is permitted on the ice at any one time
- Group warm-ups on or off ice are not permitted
- Assessment days must be limited to host club members only
- Skaters should arrive in skating attire with minimal use (if any) of dressing rooms to avoid a group environment
- Full compliance with [Skate Canada: Alberta-NWT/Nunavut Phase 2 V1.1 protocols](#)



Further clarification of approved programming by Skate Canada: Alberta-NWT/Nunavut Section:

Skaters are to arrive ready-to-train, and ***“Get In-Train-Get Out”***

The following programming is permitted

- Private STARSkate Lessons
- Private CompetitiveSKATE Lessons
- Private AdultSkate Lessons
- Dance / Pair Teams that are living in the same household

Group programming and “team sports” are not permitted from November 13-27th inclusive in the communities identified above.

- Semi-Private Lessons
- Synchronized Skating - All team activities (including physically distanced skills sessions)
- Group programming: Including but not limited to STARSkate group lessons, CanSkate, CanPower, and Parent and Tot programming, Instructed stroking classes
- All in person group dryland training and group in-person fitness programming
- Events and Competitions

We also are recommending the following additional measures be put in place by clubs and skating schools in the communities impacted by the temporary health order:

- No parents or spectators permitted in the arena
- Minimal use (if any) of Dressing Rooms
- Coaches wear masks at all times in the facility including during all private training sessions
- At no time are skaters or coaches permitted to congregate or gather creating a group setting in or out of the facility

We are also recommending (if not already being practiced), that all clubs and skating schools in Alberta, Northwest Territories, and Nunavut require their coaches to wear masks at all times when in the facility, and those clubs that have formed cohorts for any of their programming shift to physical distancing of 2 meters at all times with no contact between coaches and participants. Clubs, skating schools and coaches should be diligent in ensuring these measures are being complied with fully in addition to Skate Canada: Alberta-NWT/Nunavut protocols and any Provincial, Territorial, Municipal or facility protocols or restrictions that may also be in place.

Once again, we thank you for your understanding and patience while we worked on getting clarity on the new targeted measures. If you have any questions, please email returntoskating@skateabnwtun.ca.

Sincerely,

Lisa