

Date: November 13, 2020

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

Good Evening Clubs / Skating Schools, Coaches and Officials:

We have continued to seek clarification on the new restrictions imposed in specified communities from the Province and Alberta Health. Our Alberta Sport Consultants met with Alberta Health this afternoon and was able to gain some insight as to how the new health orders impact sport organizations however there is still much needed clarity and we understand there is a new document being released on Monday in addition to the [Chief Medical Officer of Health \(CMOH\) Order 37-2020](#) and [targeted health measures summary](#) that was recently released. It is our hope that this new document coming Monday will provide greater clarity for sport organizations and facility operators.

The following is information that has been confirmed at this time however it is still subject to updates as we continue to receive further information or new information is released:

- **Only the following areas are impacted by the new restrictions at this time** for the period of November 13-27th inclusive. Those 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
- **NEW: Maximum number of participants:**
 - Currently Alberta Health has deemed that more than 1 skater / coach on the ice at any one time is no longer considered to be an individual sport and instead falls under a group activity which is NOT permitted.
 - It was indicated that this is the position Alberta Health has taken with all indoor sports that fall under the Sport Physical Activity and Recreation (SPAR) guidance document at this time. We are working hard to advocate for larger numbers on the ice as we know this restriction for most programming is not feasible for any length of time. This information has only been communicated verbally from Alberta Health through our Provincial Sport Consultants this afternoon, so currently there are a multitude of interpretations of the health order being made by organizations, municipalities and facility operators in the absence of any additional information from Alberta Health at this time.
 - Our understanding is that this is an item included in the document set to be released on Monday, so we will continue our advocacy work over the weekend in hopes that they will reconsider this restriction. In the meantime, it is likely that clubs / skating schools and coaches will continue to hear or see very different information coming from a variety of sources. Again, this is a direct result of the lack of clarity or detail in the actual health order, and groups or facility operators communicating their own interpretation of the document. We ask for your continued patience as we wait for the Alberta Health document that is forthcoming.



- With the maximum numbers mentioned above the following programs have been confirmed that they may continue in facilities that remain open providing a minimum of 2m physical distance is maintained at all times:
 - Private STARSkate Lessons
 - Private CompetitiveSKATE Lessons
 - **NEW:** Private AdultSkate Lessons
 - **NEW:** Dance / Pair Teams that are living in the same household are permitted to continue to train together. In this case 1 team and 1 coach would be permitted on the ice at any one time.
Please note: Teams that do not live in the same household are required to pause training together for the mandatory 2- week period.
 - **NEW:** Assessment Days and Simulations are 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](#)
- Group programming and “team sports” are not permitted from November 13-27th inclusive in the communities identified above.
 - Synchronized Skating
 - All team activities (including physically distanced skills sessions) are included in this category as the discipline is considered a team sport.
 - Group programming: STARSkate group lessons, CanSkate, CanPower, and Parent and Tot programming
 - All in person group dryland training and group in-person fitness programming
 - Events and Competitions

We know these new restrictions, measures and information are problematic, frustrating and confusing at this time. Things continue to remain extremely fluid and the information coming from the Province continues to change and evolve several times during a single day so we will continue to provide any new information as it becomes available.

Once again, we thank you for your understanding and patience. If you have any questions, please email returntoskating@skateabnwtun.ca.

Sincerely,

Lisa