

Date: April 7, 2021

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

Good afternoon Clubs / Skating Schools, Coaches and Officials:

Thank you for your patience as we worked to get clarification on the impact of the restrictions and move back to Step 1 announced yesterday by the Province. The information and details coming out from various sources remained extremely fluid from the time of the announcement until late this afternoon when we were finally able to get final confirmation of what restrictions are in place for sport.

The following additional changes are effective immediately:

Youth Group Programming (Age 18 and under)

- Maximum of 10 participants (including coaches and skaters)
- **Only 1 group of 10 is permitted to occupy the ice at one time**
 - Multiple groups are not permitted to be on the ice at the same time
- Participants must be masked at all times when not on the ice
- Coaches must remain masked at all times
- All individuals must stay 3 metres (9 feet) apart from each other at all times
- At no time are volunteers, parents, spectators, skaters, or coaches permitted to congregate or gather creating a group setting in or out of the facility – clubs and skating schools are expected to ensure full compliance
- Skaters are permitted to warm up or practice on their own until their private, semi-private or group lesson time
- Participants must be scheduled/booked in advance. Drop-ins are not permitted.

Age 19 + Training

- **Low intensity group training (unsupervised) is NOT permitted**
- Only active 1:1 training sessions with a registered Skate Canada coach are permitted at this time
- Skaters are **NOT** permitted to warm up or practice individually on their own. Active instruction and correction while on the ice is required to be considered training. Passive supervision of a physical activity is not considered training.
- Skaters that are age 19 and older can NOT be included in a group where there is not a 1:1 coach to skater ratio for all participants on the ice
- 3 metres (9') physical distance must be kept by all individuals at all times (unless members of the same household)
- Coaches must wear masks at all times
- Participants are not required to wear masks during high intensity training but must wear masks at all other times
- Participant/coach pairs must remain separated at minimum 3 metres (9 feet) from other participant/coach pairs when on the ice
- Individual training sessions (lessons) must be scheduled/booked in advance. Group or Drop-in sessions are not permitted.

Assessments

Assessments are considered a training activity and are allowed with the following criteria in place:

- Refer to [Skate Canada: Alberta-NWT/Nunavut Phase 2 V1.1 protocols](#) for additional information on Assessments.
- Coaches should ensure that skaters being assessed are well prepared and ready for the level of assessment they are put up for.
- Dance partnering is not permitted at this time (exception allowed only in the case of a partner living in the same household). Shadow dance partnering is not an acceptable format for assessments as 3 metres (9 feet) of physical distance is required under the current health order.
- If the evaluator, evaluator in training and /or assessment coordinator are in a separate area (ie players/ penalty box or sitting in the stands), are maintaining 3 metres of distance from all individuals, and not having contact with the skaters or coaches then they can be considered support staff and not be included in the maximum number allowed at ice level.
- Spectators are not permitted. A parent / guardian is permitted to enter the facility, assist the skater with signing in and tying of skates, and then exit the facility while the skater is being assessed.
- Evaluators, Coaches, and Volunteers are required to wear non-medical face masks at all times.
- Skaters must wear a non-medical face mask within the facility when not on the ice. This includes common areas, restrooms, hallways, warm up areas, dressing rooms, etc.
- If an individual (evaluator, volunteer, coach, or skater) cannot wear a mask (e.g., medical reasons) they must not participate.
- Scheduling should be coordinated to assess skaters on a club-by-club basis with enhanced protocols and cleaning measures between each group.
- Group warm-ups are permitted with the following restrictions:
 - A maximum of 10 individuals at ice level. This includes skaters, coaches, and any volunteers that may come in less than 9 feet of contact with the participants (ie ice captain)
 - Skaters that are age 19 and older can NOT be included in a warm-up group where there is not a 1:1 coach to skater ratio for all skaters in the group
 - Individuals at ice level are required to maintain 3 metres of distance from others at all times (exceptions are allowed for members of the same household).
 - Enhanced cleaning measures of all common touch points between each warm-up group.
 - Cross-over in warm-up groups is not permitted. All skaters from one warm up group must fully exit the ice/hallway prior to the next to the next warm up group starting.
- Age 19+ skaters must each have their own individual coach (1:1) during warm up or practice.

Thank you once again for your understanding and patience while we worked to get clarification on the updated health order. If you have any questions, please email returntoskating@skateabnwtun.ca.

Sincerely,

Lisa Hardy
Executive Director