

Date: June 4, 2021

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

Good Afternoon Clubs / Skating Schools, Coaches and Officials:

The targets required to move into the next step have been met and as long as hospitalizations do not start to trend upward the Province will move into Step 2 June 10, 2021. Information we hoped would be provided to us earlier this week from Alberta Health has still not been received, however we have been able to get a bit more clarity as to what the intent or recommendations are for sport in Alberta as part of the [Alberta Open for Summer plan](#).

This information is subject to change as we continue to receive information, or further decisions are made by Alberta Health. The Section will be working on updating our protocols over the next few days with the intent to have them approved and released prior to the opening of facilities.

Overall considerations being looked at by the Section in determining what protocols will be in place as the Province moves into Step 2 & 3 of the Open for Summer Plan are:

- The health and safety of our members remains the priority in our return to skating in the Section
- Age 11 & under participants are not eligible for vaccination at this time which increases the risk of spread among this demographic
- Anyone considered to be a [close contact of a confirmed case](#) and not fully vaccinated is still legally required to quarantine for a minimum of 10 -14 days.
- Limiting the potential risk of spread between participants as we prepare for the upcoming season and competitions and events are once again able to resume
- There are many unknowns as to what the outcomes will be with the re-opening of each Step in Alberta's Open for Summer plan

Effective Tuesday June 1st clubs and skating schools can resume outdoor dry-land training with their members.

- Maximum of 20 in a group (including coaches, volunteers, participants)
- More than 1 group may occupy a playing surface or field if the groups maintain distance from each other (no cross-over of participants)
- 2 metres (6 feet) of distance is required between all coaches and participants at all times
- Participant Tracking and Health Screening is required
- Social gatherings or congregating before, during or after training is strongly advised against. 2 metres distancing is still a requirement with a maximum of up to 10 individuals in outdoor social settings and it is the expectation that the club/skating school or coach will ensure compliance if they allow any social gatherings as part of their activities.

Tentatively Thursday June 10th clubs and skating schools can resume indoor programming. The following can be used for planning purposes but may be subject to change:

General Information for All Programs

- "Get In, Train, Get Out"
- Contact Tracing, Daily Health Screening, and Waivers will still be required
- Physical Distancing will be required by coaches, PA's and their skaters at all times

- Coaches and PA's will be required to wear masks at all times
- Skaters are not required to wear a mask while on the ice, but must wear a mask anywhere else in the facility
- Spectators will be allowed if the facility permits. There will be restrictions on the number of spectators permitted indoors, distancing and masking requirements will still be in place.

CanSkate & CanPower

- The Parent/Tot program may be used in place of Pre-CanSkate programming
 - Pre-CanSkate will remain as NOT permitted in Step 2
- CanSkate and CanPower programming will be allowed
 - Maximum of 20 participants in a group (including coaches & PA's)
 - Maximum of 2 groups on the ice surface at any time
 - Groups must remain at minimum 3 metres (9 feet) apart from other groups. No crossover of participants or coaches between groups
 - Physical distancing between participants will be required at all times
 - Skate Canada CanSkate/CanPower COVID-19 Delivery standards will apply
 - Sport Cohorts will NOT be allowed

STARSkate, AdultSkate & CompetitiveSkate

- Lower levels of STARSkate with age 11 & under participants should train separately from those 12 & older
 - Maximum of 20 participants (including coaches) in a group
- Maximum of 25 participants (including coaches) for all other levels of STARSkate, AdultSkate & CompetitiveSkate when using the full ice surface
- Youth and Adults may share the full ice surface together
- Private, Semi-Private, and Group Lessons will be allowed
- No restrictions for low-intensity or high intensity
- Physical distance between all participants must be maintained with the exception of Pairs & Dance Teams
- Pole Harnesses will be allowed (some restrictions will still apply)

SynchroSkate

- SynchroSkate programming will be allowed
- In Step 2 distancing between participants as an initial return to the ice will be required (no in-hold training)
- Maximum of 25 participants (including coaches) when using the full ice surface
- Teams with primarily age 11 & under skaters should train separately as a group.
 - Up to a maximum of 20 participants (including coaches) in the group for teams primarily age 11 & under

More detailed information will be provided next week as it becomes available to us. As always, if you have any questions, please email returntoskating@skateabnwtun.ca.

Sincerely,

Lisa Hardy
Executive Director