



# COVID 19 ARENA USE PROCEDURES

*A guide for the safe operations of the Smithers New Arena in accordance with the provincial guidelines as set by the Provincial Health Officer and WorkSafe BC with reference to BCRPA, viaSport, and RFABC recommendations as they exercise best practices to minimize the risk of transmission of the COVID-19 virus in public facilities.*



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## General Information

- All participants must abide by all Federal, Provincial, Municipal, and Organizational COVID-19 safety plans / orders
- Physical Distancing 2 metres (6 feet), Cleaning & Sanitation, Signage, Outbreak Mitigation Recovery
- All facility user groups will complete a COVID-19 Addendum to Facility Use Agreement/License
- All facility user groups will have a COVID-19 Safety Plan, it is the responsibility of each group to have the most recent Safety Plan. The agreed upon group size maximum should comply with facility capacity, Provincial Sport Organization recommendations and be outlined in the user group's COVID Safety Plan.
- User groups who do not have governing organizations can use one of the following templates:
  1. Hockey groups can use BCRPA COVID-19 Safety Plan template
  2. Non-affiliated sport groups can use viaSport COVID-19 Safety Plan template
  3. Activity groups can use BCRPA COVID-19 Safety Plan template
- A COVID Ambassador be assigned to each user group and be a visible presence (e.g. arm band signifier): this volunteer/parent/coach or instructor would oversee adherence to the return to play plan, and ensure COVID protocols are being followed, and would monitor PSO/LSO updates. Onsite, the Ambassador is also expected to monitor COVID safety plan compliance with the visiting team should that team not have a COVID Ambassador
- 45 minutes is allocated to clean and flood the ice and to conduct a COVID touch point cleaning of the facility between each ice booking cohort. No public will be admitted during the allotted cleaning time
- Groups will not be permitted to enter the arenas until the group ahead of them has fully exited the facility. Groups should not be opening doors for the next group
- Participants must bring a full water bottle
- No spitting anywhere inside the facility or on the ice

- Practice good hygiene, bring sanitizer and (sanitize face, hands, body, etc.) and equipment as appropriate before and after use
- For the remainder of 2020 spectators will not be permitted in the facility, BCRPA’s recommendation at this time, and for the remainder of 2020, is for municipalities to focus on supporting the “event” participants (those who are essential to the activity) \*Note, volunteers required for the event are not patrons and would be permitted to remain in the arena (e.g. U9, figure skating)
- **Ice can be booked by contacting the Town of Smithers Recreation Coordinator: 250-847-1600, recreation@smithers.ca**

## Entrance Rules

- Facility access for participants is limited to 15 minutes prior to the rental time – please be on time.
- At the entrance, signs are posted to inform patrons that:
  1. Patrons must not enter if they suspect they have COVID-19 or if they have any of the known COVID-19 symptoms
  2. Patrons must maintain physical distance of 2 metres from other patrons and staff
  3. On arrival, patrons must disinfect their hands with hand sanitizer
  4. Patrons should avoid the facility if they are at high-risk of COVID-19 contraction or severe illness
- Signage, floor markings and barriers are posted to guide user groups in and out of the facility. User groups will follow signage for entrance and exit of the facility
- Arena staff will only open doors for ambassador(s). Facility users will not be allowed in the building until their COVID ambassador has arrived
- Entrance is limited to participants, instructors, coaches, and the designated ambassador to ensure arena capacity does not exceed the limit directed by the Provincial Health Officer
- After groups enter front doors will be locked to control occupancy and avoid unnecessary access of public
- Parents and/or siblings will not be permitted access into the facility \*other than one parent per participant to assist with tying skates/taking off skates
- Lobby Occupancy is 16 participants



## Change Area Rules

- Dressing Rooms are now open with the following parameters:
  1. COVID Ambassadors will have an increased responsibility to ensure all the points below are met
  2. Only two dressing rooms will be open for each user group. This will allow Town staff to clean and prepare the other two dressing rooms during ice time
  3. Social distancing in dressing rooms and within the facility must be followed
  4. Dressing Room Occupancy Limits in the New Arena:
    - Dressing Room # 5 - Occupancy is 5
    - Dressing Room # 4 - Occupancy is 10 (2 coaches with masks)
    - Dressing Room # 3 - Occupancy is 9
    - Dressing Room # 2 - Occupancy is 13 (3 coaches with masks)
    - Dressing Room # 1 - Occupancy is 11
  5. 2- 3 Coaches are permitted in dressing rooms (standing or walking in center of room) above the allowable seated participant numbers but masks must be worn
  6. Groups COVID ambassador(s) are responsible to ensure social distancing in dressing rooms is followed
  7. Groups COVID ambassador(s) are responsible to ensure change rooms are vacated within 15 minutes of the end of each ice use. Holding groups to the 15 minutes will allow the Town to maintain minimum time between groups. Failure to vacate within the allotted times could result in canceled future ice times.
  8. Groups are permitted to enter the arena through the front door and proceed directly to dressing rooms
  9. Bag and shoes can be left in dressing rooms during ice times
  10. Parents can enter to assist smaller children with tying skates but social distancing from other participants must be followed and dressing room and facility occupancy numbers cannot be exceeded. Masks are suggested.
  11. Parents must exit through side doors after skates are tied. No remaining in the facility to watch. Exit through side doors. The Town is working toward spectators in the next phase of opening, it is not feasible currently to consider accommodating spectators in 2020.
- Groups must exit through side doors after ice use. This allows Town staff to clean and disinfect front entrances between groups during ice times.
- All participants must vacate the facility 15 minutes after their rental so that areas of the facility can be prepped, cleaned, and disinfected prior to the next group entering the building



## On Ice Rules

- There is a maximum of 20 participants plus up to 5 coaches permitted on the ice surface
- Drills must be designed with provincial guidelines in place
- As of August 24th, sport has moved to the “Progressively Loosen” phase. In this phase there can be a careful increase to contact intensity. Sport Organizations are asked to update their safety plans to reflect the addition of any new activities such as gameplay or competition. These plans need to be in accordance with the Smithers COVID 19 Arena Procedures, the Provincial Health Officer regulations, viaSport guidelines, and your Provincial Sport Organization guidelines
- Physical contact is only permissible within the field of play (the ice surface, the benches, the penalty box.) Outside those fields of play, the cohort must maintain 2 metres of physical distance or wear masks in (dressing rooms, hallways, staging areas, etc.)
- Socially Distanced Play is permitted under the regulations available from the Recreation Department
- Participants and Coaches must always keep gloves and equipment on. No touching of pucks with hands by players. Coaches must pick up pucks at end of the session.
- No sharing of equipment.
- At the end of the session, participants must exit the ice on time so that the next group can start on time

