
Recreation Facility Operating Protocols

Arena and Ice



Essa Township Recreation Facility Protocols - In response to Covid-19

The following resources, guidelines, and recommendations were used in the development of these protocols:

<https://www.ontario.ca/page/framework-reopening-our-province-stage-3>

<https://www.hockeycanada.ca/en-ca/home>

<http://orfa.com/ORFA-Home>

<https://www.prontario.org/>

The Township of Essa continues to monitor and adapt to the guidelines and recommendations of the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit, Province of Ontario, and Federal Government. These operating guidelines may be adjusted and/or changed as required at any time.

Entering the building

- Effective Wednesday September 22nd, 2021, all Participants, Coaches, Instructors and Spectators are required to provide proof of Covid-19 vaccination upon entry into the facility.
- Minor's under the age of 18 engaged in sport are exempt from providing proof of Covid-19 vaccination, However; minor's (over the age of 12) attending the facility as a spectator are required to provide proof of Covid-19 vaccination.
- Players over 18 must also show proof of vaccination and valid identification in addition to the active screening/contact tracing document and must ensure they are checked off their team's roster before proceeding to their assigned dressing room.
- Players under the age of 18 must ensure they are checked off their team's roster in addition to completing the active screening/contact tracing document before proceeding to their assigned dressing room.
- Spectators over the age of 12 must show proof of vaccination and valid identification in addition to the active screening/ contact tracing document before proceeding to the viewing area.
- The building will be unlocked 30 minutes prior to the scheduled ice time. Ice users who arrive after the scheduled ice time will not be allowed entry.
- Players/skaters are permitted 2 spectator.
- Participants and Spectators who are feeling unwell, have symptoms of COVID-19, are waiting for a COVID-19 result, or have been in contact with someone who has symptoms or has tested positive for COVID-19, will not be permitted to enter the facility.
- Participants and Spectators must complete an Active Screening and Contact tracing prior to entering the facility.
- Participants and Spectators must sanitize hands upon entering the facility. Frequent hand washing and sanitizing while in the facility is highly recommended.
- Participants and Spectators must practice physical distancing of 2 meters (6 feet) while in the facility.
- Participants and Spectators must follow traffic flow and spacing instructions that are clearly marked with stickers and signs.
- Participants and Spectators must wear a mask that covers the nose, mouth, and chin while in the facility. Participants are exempt from this rule while on the ice.

Change rooms

- Changerooms have a capacity of 8 people. Teams will be provided 2 rooms. Coaches will be provided a separate area to prepare.
- Showers are not in use currently.
- Masks are to be worn in change rooms.
- Players are to remain physically distanced while in the change room.
- Change rooms will be available 15 minutes prior and 15 minutes post ice rental.

Viewing Area

- The viewing area has a capacity of 45 people
- Masks are to be worn at all times by spectators
- No food or drink (with the exception of water) is permitted in the viewing area
- Spectators are to remain physically distanced with the exception of those in the same household.

Player Information

- Spitting on the bench, on the ice or in the change rooms will not be permitted.
- Players are not allowed to take their helmets or gloves off while on the ice.
- There will be no shaking of hands at any time during before or after any game.
- There will be no 'contact or battle drills' practiced. Only skill drills are permitted

General Information

- No gathering or loitering in parking areas or public areas before, during.
- The Canteen will not be available.
- Permit Holders are responsible for all Participants/ Spectators behavior while in and around the facility.
- Constant failure to abide by the regulations put forth by the SMDHU/ Ontario Gov & Township may result in the cancellation of future rentals.
- Provincial Restrictions require that the arena is sanitized a minimum of twice a day with recommendation that it occurs more frequently.
- Designated Operations Staff will be responsible for sanitizing the following areas during bookings and between groups; washrooms, dressing rooms, high touch point surfaces, doorways, player's benches, timekeeper's boxes.
- Sharing of any and all equipment is not permitted
- Players must bring their own marked water bottles
- Spectators are restricted to viewing from the stands