



RETURN TO PLAY 2021/22

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Elora Fergus Ringette Association (EFRA) Mission Statement:

The Elora Fergus Ringette Association provides, promotes, governs, and endeavors to improve organized ringette in the Township of Centre Wellington. EFRA is committed to fostering community spirit through the promotion of ringette by helping players meet their needs and interests regardless of ability; to maintain and exercise safe supervision and direction over the playing interests of its teams and players; to teach fair play and sportsmanship with the emphasis on the enhancement of good character and citizenship, and to ensure that all members have the opportunity of presenting and having their views heard.

COVID-19 Protocols & Requirements:

The safety of our members is our top priority and we have been working to prepare a plan that meets the requirements of Ringette Ontario as well as Public Health Ontario and our facilities partners to get back on the ice.

Working with the Province and Region

Elora Fergus Ringette Association will continue to follow COVID 19 protocols and meet requirements as per:

- The Province of Ontario: <https://www.ontario.ca/page/reopening-ontario>
- Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public Health Unit: <https://wdgpublichealth.ca/your-health/covid-19-information-public/public-health-measures-and-restrictions>, in consultation with:
 - Colin Murphy, Public Health Inspector
Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public Health
490 Charles Allan Way,
Fergus, ON N1M 2W3
T: 1-800-265-7293 ext. 2652
F: 519-836-7215
colin.murphy@wdgpublichealth.ca
www.wdgpublichealth.ca

Working with the Township of Centre Wellington

EFRA continues to work in partnership with the Township of Centre Wellington Community Services department. We will remain flexible and follow all guidelines communicated by the Municipality. Specific arena protocols and requirements will be posted and shared with ERFA members here: <https://elorafergusringette.ca/category/1558/COVID-Protocols-2021---22>

NOTE: As of September 22, 2021, screening of all individuals entering the town facilities is being completed by a third party security company. In Step 3 active screening and proof of vaccination is required for anyone entering recreational facilities.

- It is strongly encouraged everyone entering the facility complete the Township's Screening Tool www.centrewellington.ca/screening for screening and contact tracing. Please have your screening email confirmation ready to show security when checking in.

- If anyone is unable to complete the online screening tool, security will complete the screening verbally and collect contact information in accordance with Public Health and Provincial regulations.
- Security will check for proof of vaccination at the entrance to the facility.
 - Everyone 18 years of age and older entering the facility will be required to provide proof of vaccination (or exemption) as outlined in O. Reg. 364/20.
 - Children under the age of 12 are exempt for all reasons of entry but must comply with all other screening procedures. Caregivers may be required to show proof of birthdate for youth under 12 in their care.
 - Youth spectators 12 and older must provide proof of vaccination.
 - Youth aged 12 to 17 participating in organized sports, are not required to provide proof of vaccination.
 - It is the responsibility of the participant or their caregiver to ensure they have the appropriate documentation to gain entry to the facility. People will not be permitted in the facility if they fail to produce proper documentation or identification.
 - Proof of vaccination must be provided every time you enter the facility. O. Reg. 364/20 outlines businesses/organizations are not permitted to keep this information on file.
 - Please note: in O. Reg. 364/20 it states “Proof of vaccination (or proof of being entitled to an exemption) is not required for workers or volunteers, including coaches and officials” This statement applies to Township employees and volunteers only. It does not apply to private user groups and minor sports organizations.
- The following links outline the provincial requirements for providing proof of vaccination and answer frequently asked questions:
 - Proof of Vaccination Guidance for Businesses and Organizations under the Reopening Ontario Act (gov.on.ca):
https://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/publichealth/coronavirus/docs/guidance_proof_of_vaccination_for_businesses_and_organizations.pdf
 - QA Document (gov.on.ca):
https://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/publichealth/coronavirus/docs/fq_proof_of_vaccination_for_businesses_and_organizations.pdf
- You will have received printed proof of vaccination following your vaccine. However, needed, you can obtain your proof of vaccination at <https://covid19.ontariohealth.ca/>. After accepting the terms of use, you will be prompted to enter your health card number, at which point you can download your receipt(s) from your COVID-19 vaccine(s). Take a picture of the documents or save a screenshot from your phone. Out-of-province or international students can contact their local health authorities for information.

Working with Ringette Canada and Ringette Ontario

EFRA continues to be governed by Ringette Canada and Ringette Ontario as it concerns the safety of our members in preventing the spread of COVID-19.

EFRA continues to comply with Ringette Ontario's Return to Play Guidelines

(<https://ringetteontario.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/RO-Return-to-Ringette-v3.0-Updated-August-2021.pdf>) as they evolve and effective November 1, 2021, EFRA will ensure compliance with Ringette Ontario's COVID-19 Vaccine Policy which states:

- All Ringette Ontario Participants - including Players, Officials, Bench Staff, Volunteers and Third Party Contractors, over the age of 18 years, are to provide proof of being fully vaccinated by November 1st, 2021, in order to participate in RO Sanctioned Activities.
- Ringette Ontario will be managing all accommodation requests and consulting with medical and legal experts on behalf of the Clubs/Associations. We have implemented an accommodation form which will be placed on our website and is embedded in our policy. The link can be found here: <https://form.jotform.com/212634726161048>
- We have implemented a Zero Tolerance clause against abusive behaviour and individuals who behave in any manner deemed as threatening, abusive, harassment and/or aggressive, towards volunteers and facility personnel, which will fall under the RO Discipline & Complaints Policy and deemed a Major Infraction.

Working with Coaches, Bench Staff and On-ice Volunteers

The support and participation from coaches and bench staff to ensure protocols are followed and successfully communicated will be key. The following are key focus points for EFRA bench staff:

- All coaches, bench staff, and volunteers must be registered with EFRA and listed on insurance to be allowed on the ice (<https://www.rampregistrations.com/login?v3=311429df5e>)
- All coaches and bench staff will conduct themselves following the Ringette Ontario Team Staff Protocols <https://ringetteontario.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/Ringette-Ontario-Team-Staff-Protocols.pdf>)
- Each team will be required to name a COVID Safety Coordinator (CSC). The CSC will be responsible for COVID tracking and signed requirements for each practice; and generally ensure that team bench staff, players and parents are compliant with COVID 19 safety protocols.
- To attend practice, bench staff and players must confirm their intention to attend at least 48 hours in advance using the RAMP app. Attendance will be monitored by CSCs.
- Upon arrival, or within 8 hours in advance of practice, the player will submit COVID Screening "health check" questions via the RAMP Team app.
- Bench staff must comply with Centre Wellington Township protocols and submit the township screening form before entering the facility (<https://frm-cvd-ca.esolg.ca/Centre-Wellington/Screening-Form>)
- Bench staff may not enter the facility if:
 - They have traveled outside Ontario in the last 14 days.
 - They have symptoms of COVID-19 or are feeling unwell.
 - Someone in your household has COVID-19 symptoms in the past 14 days.
 - If anyone in your household has been exposed to someone who has or is recovering from COVID-19.
- Before stepping on the ice for the first practice, all bench staff will be required to review and sign (when required) the following:

- Ringette Ontario Declaration of Compliance: (<https://ringetteontario.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/Ringette-Ontario-COVID-19-Declaration-1.pdf>)
- Ringette Ontario Informed Consent and Assumption of Risk Agreement: (<https://ringetteontario.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Ringette-Ontario-Assumption-of-Risk.pdf>)
- Ringette Ontario Release of Liability, Waiver of Claims and Indemnity Agreement: (<https://ringetteontario.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Ringette-Ontario-Waiver.pdf>)
- Ringette Ontario Team Staff Protocols: (<https://ringetteontario.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/Ringette-Ontario-Team-Staff-Protocols.pdf>)
- Township of Centre Wellington Waiver: (https://cloud.rampinteractive.com/elorafergusringette/files/Forms/Centre%20of%20Wellington_Waiver.pdf)
- We will continue to work closely with local public health and with the Township of Centre Wellington Community Services department if modifications to ice times, change room allocation, or facility access is required. We will plan and manage reduced access time to change rooms to allow for additional cleaning.
- The rule of two is required for change rooms and on-ice activity especially with the absence of spectators.
- Any off-ice activities need to be reviewed with the COVID Safety Coordinator (CSC) for approval including details of how social distancing will be accomplished
- Bench Staff will not be allowing handshakes, touching, or hugging on the ice.
- Bench Staff will keep the rings and shared equipment clean.

Working with Players, Parents/Guardians & Spectators

It is the responsibility of all players, parents, guardians and spectators to understand and respect the rules and adhere to the health guidelines. Not complying will result in players not being able to participate in activities.

- All players must be registered with EFRA and listed on insurance to be allowed on the ice (<https://www.rampregistrations.com/login?v3=311429df5e>)
- All players, parents/guardians and spectators must conduct themselves as per the Ringette Ontario Participant Protocols (<https://ringetteontario.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Ringette-Ontario-Participant-Protocols.pdf>)
- All players, players/guardians and spectators will wear masks while inside the arena as per public health guidelines
- All players, parents/guardians and spectators entering the facility will use hand sanitizer provided at the entrance – provided by the facility
- All players will provide their own hand sanitizer available in their equipment bag
- Players will bring their own water bottles and water bottles will not be shared
- All players will provide all their own equipment and equipment cannot be shared. If a player forgets a piece of equipment, they should not borrow equipment and not go on the ice unless they are in full gear

- Individual player equipment should be cleaned regularly by the player/guardian after each practice
- Upon arrival, or within 8 hours in advance of practice, the player will submit COVID Screening questions via the RAMP app.
- All players, parents/guardians and spectators (including siblings) must comply with Centre Wellington Township protocols and submit the township screening form before entering the facility (<https://frm-cvd-ca.esolg.ca/Centre-Wellington/Screening-Form>)
- A player or guardian may not enter the facility if:
 - They have traveled outside Ontario in the last 14 days.
 - They have symptoms of COVID-19 or are feeling unwell.
 - Someone in your household has COVID-19 symptoms in the past 14 days.
 - If anyone in your household has been exposed to someone who has or is recovering from COVID-19.
- Before stepping on the ice, the player/guardian must review and sign (when required) the following documents:
 - Ringette Ontario Declaration of Compliance: (<https://ringetteontario.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/Ringette-Ontario-COVID-19-Declaration-1.pdf>)
 - Ringette Ontario Informed Consent and Assumption of Risk Agreement: (<https://ringetteontario.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Ringette-Ontario-Assumption-of-Risk.pdf>)
 - Ringette Ontario Release of Liability, Waiver of Claims and Indemnity Agreement: (<https://ringetteontario.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Ringette-Ontario-Waiver.pdf>)
 - Ringette Ontario Participant Protocols: (<https://ringetteontario.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Ringette-Ontario-Participant-Protocols.pdf>)
 - Township of Centre Wellington Waiver: ([https://cloud.rampinteractive.com/elorafergusringette/files/Forms/Centre%20of%20Wellington Waiver.pdf](https://cloud.rampinteractive.com/elorafergusringette/files/Forms/Centre%20of%20Wellington%20Waiver.pdf))

Communication & Reporting

Association wide updates and information will be communicated to players, parents/guardians, coaches, and bench staff through the EFRA website (elorafergusringette.ca), RAMP Team app, social media channels, and direct email.

- Players / Guardians will be automatically added to our organization's email distribution list upon registration.
- EFRA's website will have a dedicated area for COVID protocols and information: <https://elorafergusringette.ca/category/1558/COVID-Protocols-2021---22>
- EFRA's COVID Safety Leader (CSL) as required by Ringette Ontario is:
 - Bruce Parkin - bruceparkin@yahoo.ca
- Coaches, bench staff, and COVID Safety Coordinators (CSC) responsible for team-specific information/updates will communicate to players and guardians primarily through the RAMP Team App, with occasional communications through direct email, text, or phone when required.

- You can download the RAMP Team app and set up you account using the same email address used to register. Teams have been set up and you should automatically see your team schedule, roster and be able to chat. This is where you can confirm for coaches your attendance and there is a health check built into the app.
- To download the app visit: <https://www.rampinteractive.com/#rampteam>
- The association COVID Safety Leader (CSL) is required to report any incidents to the Township of Centre Wellington (Facility Booking Coordinator), Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public Health, and Ringette Ontario.

Communication Type	Frequency	Method of Communication	Receiver of Communication	Responsible	Goal of Communication
Updates from Ringette Ontario	As needed	BaseCamp COVID resources website	COVID Safety Leader (CSL)	Ringette Ontario	To keep association up to date on changes to protocols and new information learned.
Updates from the Township of Centre Wellington	As needed	Emails	COVID Safety Leader (CSL) Ice Scheduler	Township of Centre Wellington	To keep associations up to date on changes to protocols
Updates from Wellington Dufferin Guelph Public Health	As needed	Website updates Facebook updates emails	COVID Safety Leader (CSL)	Public Health Unit	To update on COVID stats, new information, and changes to the protocol.
Changes to Association Teams and Players	As needed	EFRA website, social media channels, and email	EFRA Members	EFRA Chair or COVID Safety Leader (CSL)	To update all members on any new information or changes to protocols
Team Concerns or Reports	As needed	Email and Phone	COVID Safety Leader (CSL)	EFRA COVID Safety Coordinators (CSCs)	To update the association on any team concerns or issues as soon as possible to help with instruction and action.
Association Issues or Concerns	As needed	Emails and Phone	Township of Centre Wellington Community Services department / Public Health Unit	COVID Safety Leader (CSL)	To report or ask questions to gain instruction or action.

- The COVID Safety Leader (CSL) will be the main point of contact with Ringette Ontario, Township of Centre Wellington, and Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public Health. This will also be the main point of contact with each COVID Safety Coordinator (CSC).
- Information will flow from the COVID Safety Leader (CSL) to the COVID Safety Coordinators via direct email or phone as required.
- Information will flow to all EFRA members via the website, social media channels, RAMP APP, and emails.

Reporting Workflow:

Note all the procedures below apply to non-injury related illness and all other return to play guidelines specific to injuries still apply.

Scenario 1:

The participant feels ill at the Facility / Activity



The participant advises bench staff and COVID Safety Coordinator (CSC) immediately



The participant receives a mask and dons it as soon as possible. Anyone caring for the participant should also wear a mask (they should be wearing one already). Physical distancing should be considered if care can be effectively provided while doing so



Guardians are advised and take the participant home. If the participant is an adult, they will leave immediately if well enough to drive. If there is a delay in leaving the facility, they should find an area to isolate.



The participant is advised to follow up with their physician or public health authority for instructions and continue to self-screen (<https://covid-19.ontario.ca/self-assessment/>) Participants who screen negative but still feel unwell must stay home from ringette activity and monitor for additional symptoms. If participants continue to screen negative (i.e. the answer to all screening questions continues to be 'NO') then after 24 hours participants may return to ringette activity if they are feeling better.



Any participant with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 should not return to ringette activity until all public health authority steps have been completed.



If a participant is confirmed to have COVID-19, refer to the section below regarding positive testing communication.

Scenario 2:

The participant advises bench staff or COVID Safety Coordinator (CSC) they are not feeling well or have symptoms of COVID-19 and will not be attending practice.



The participant is advised to follow up with their physician or public health authority for instructions and continue to self-screen (<https://covid-19.ontario.ca/self-assessment/>) Participants who screen negative but still feel unwell must stay home from ringette activity and monitor for additional symptoms. If participants continue to screen negative (i.e. the answer to all screening questions continues to be 'NO') then after 24 hours participants may return to ringette activity if they are feeling better.



Any participant with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 should not return to ringette activity until all public health authority steps have been completed.



If a participant is confirmed to have COVID-19, refer to the section below regarding positive testing communication.

Scenario 3

Someone in a participant's household is symptomatic or has traveled internationally



Participant notifies COVID Safety Coordinator that a household member is symptomatic or has traveled internationally



If a household member is sick with COVID-19 or has symptoms compatible with COVID-19, participants are a household close contact and should stay home.

If a household member is sick (has been diagnosed by a health care provider with something other than COVID-19) the participant can return to ringette activity as long as they feel well.

If a household member has traveled internationally and has been self-isolating for 14 days upon return, and is not showing any symptoms, participants can return to ringette activity.

If a household member is an essential worker who has traveled internationally for work and is not showing any symptoms, participants can return to ringette activity.

Positive Test of COVID-19

If a sick participant (or their guardian, if the participant is a minor) elects to inform EFRA that they have been diagnosed with COVID-19, the individual informed shall seek the sick participant/guardian's consent to contact public health authorities to obtain advice on communication with other potentially impacted participants. The sick participant (or their guardian if the participant is a minor) should be asked to advise Public Health of this consent. EFRA will explain the communication will take place and never disclose the sick person's name.

Any Ringette participant (Player, Volunteer, Bench Staff, Official, or Guardian) who tests positive for COVID-19 should contact Public Health, their physician, and follow Public Health Guidelines.



Participants can return to ringette activity if:

- They have self-isolated for 14 days and symptoms have resolved or,
- They have received a different diagnosis from a health care provider (e.g. strep throat) or
- They have received a negative COVID-19 test result and are symptom-free for 24 hours.

In Canada, the management of public health crises is a matter involving close coordination between all levels of government. There is therefore a variety of public and private sector privacy legislation at the federal, provincial, and territorial levels that govern the collection, use, and disclosure of personal information. There are provincial and territorial privacy authorities that oversee compliance with the privacy legislation and the federal, provincial, and territorial levels that govern the collection, use, and disclosure of personal information. There are provincial and territorial privacy authorities that oversee compliance with the privacy legislation in their respective jurisdictions, and some have published their own statements relevant to the matter of COVID-19.

Key Contacts

Elora Fergus Ringette Association:

Contact Name: Bruce Parkin – Director, Programming & COVID Safety Leader

Email – bruceparkin@yahoo.ca

Phone – 519-843-1278

Alternative Contact Name: June Perry, President

Email - efr@elorafergusringette.ca

Phone - 519-500-5508

Township of Centre Wellington:

Alicia Benham, Recreation Programmer & Facility Booking Coordinator
Township of Centre Wellington | 1 MacDonald Square, Elora, ON N0B 1S0
519.846.9691 x260 abenham@centrewellington.ca
Office located at: 550 Belsyde Avenue E, Fergus, ON N1M 2W5