

Covid-19 Arena Re-Entry Guidance (#3)

Welcome back: We look forward to welcoming you, your organization, and its members back to Strathcona County arenas within the new guidelines and facility procedures. Your collaboration and communication are very important as we reopen arenas. Our shared responsibility will help keep arenas open. The health and safety of everyone is our priority.

[Government of Alberta Covid-19-Relaunch for Sports, Physical Activity and Recreation](#)

- **Pre-screening measures:** Stay home if you are sick or displaying any symptoms of COVID-19. Follow the pre-screen procedures outlined by Alberta Health Services and posted at the facility.
- **Contact Tracing:** Sport and recreation organizations are responsible for keeping track of their participants for the purpose of contact tracing in the event of an outbreak. Refer to AHS Guidelines for COVID-19 Relaunch Guidance for Sport, Physical Activity and Recreation – Stage 2 (AHS-SPAR, p. 4 Oct/20).
- **2 Meters Physical Distancing:** Maintain 2-meter physical distancing between people, except for those who reside in the same household or who belong to an existing cohort.
- **Non Medical Masks (face coverings):** As part of Strathcona County's efforts to stop the spread of COVID-19, non-medical masks (face coverings) will be required for people 10 or older, entering all County-owned buildings and public transit (Strathcona County Bylaw 46-2020). Masks should be worn indoors except when engaging in intense physical activity.
- **Limit Contact:** No more than 50 people can be on the ice at the same time; including: participants, officials, coaches, and trainers (AHS-SPAR, p. 8 Oct/20). Spectators in Strathcona County arenas must adhere to specific posted spectator capacity limits.

Recreation, Parks & Culture will:

Communicate: Covid -19 re-entry protocols with facility guests including players, parents, coaches and staff through on-site media (facility signage, posters, conversations) and on-line media.

[Strathcona County - Know Before You Go: Arenas](#)

Initiate: Covid-19 Protocol Response, when Strathcona County Covid-19 Guidelines are not followed and adhered to.

Pre-screen: RPC staff team members will be pre-screened daily using a Health Assessment Pre-screening Tool.

Use Facility Ambassadors: To greet and help guests navigate the new guidelines required for arenas – modified entry/exit, dressing rooms, ice and spectator capacities.

Educate: Facility users about new facility procedures implemented to avoid the spread of Covid-19.

Collaborate: With facility user groups and individuals on ways everyone can help reduce the spread of Covid-19.

Post Capacity Limits: For arena dressing rooms, spectators and other spaces using 2-meter physical distancing guidance.

Clean and Disinfect: Additional cleaning and disinfecting measures will be used to ensure a safe and healthy environment for everyone. Staff will be disinfecting arena and common touch points between users.

Reduce Risk: Provide hand sanitizer at facility entrances and in various locations throughout the facility and increased frequency of cleaning and disinfecting.

Reduce Crossover: Facilities will promote physical distancing and where possible implement one-way traffic flow and modify entry and exits points to reduce contact between groups.

Review: In collaboration with all stakeholders, evaluate current guidelines and update as needed based on AHS and Government of Alberta direction and guidance.

Communicate and Educate: With participants, parents, coaches and spectators on AHS Covid-19 Guidelines as well as Strathcona County's requirements, procedures, spectator capacities and facility postings and signage.

Identify Covid Coordinators: For the purposes of managing Covid-19 related matters for their organization, groups will identify an individual(s) who will be the primary point of contact for Strathcona County.

Pre-screen: Prior to their arrival at the arena, coaches and participants must complete the Covid19 pre-screen process pursuant to AHS requirements (AHS – SPAR, p. 4 Oct/20). Spectators need to pre-screen as well.

Limit Contact: Where sports and activities cannot be modified to maintain 2-meter physical distance, groups must limit the number of contacts between different participants. No more than 50 people can be on the ice at the same time; including participants, officials, coaches, and trainers (AHS-SPAR, p. 8 Oct/20). This is done by playing within sport cohorts of up to 50 people (AHS – SPAR, p. 3, Oct/20). Groups are responsible for creating and managing their cohorts and on-ice activities (AHS-SPAR, p. 2 Oct/20).

Spectators: May enter the facility at the start of the scheduled ice time and exit at the end of the ice time. To use masks (Bylaw 46-2020) and adhere to Strathcona County's posted specific spectator capacity limits at each arena.

Arrive ready to train or play: Participants are encouraged to arrive with their required equipment on (AHS – SPAR, p. 2 Oct/20), as dressing rooms will be limited to accommodate physical distancing. Bring a pre-filled, labelled water bottle.

Masks: All participants and coaches should wear masks while inside the facility. Masks are not required for players during physical activity on the ice. Physically distanced coaches must keep their masks on while on the ice.

Dressing Rooms: Participants and coaches are permitted in dressing rooms 30 minutes prior to scheduled ice time. Dressing room space will be limited to provide 2-meter physical distancing between participants and coaches (AHS -SPAR, p. 12 Oct/20). Groups will be limited to a maximum of 2 dressing rooms. Showers are not available.

Exit: Coaches and participants will leave the ice and benches immediately after their scheduled time and proceed directly to the dressing room area. Do not congregate after your ice time in the players benches or hallways. All belongings must be removed to allow for disinfecting between groups. Coaches and participants have 15 minutes after their ice time before they must exit.

Reduce Crossover: Coaches will promote physical distancing, by guiding entry and exit in and out of dressing rooms to help reduce contact between groups. The purpose of this is to prevent groups coming off the ice from crossing over with groups coming onto the ice. Coaches will be responsible for their team, ensuring everyone has left and cleared the hallways.

Minimize Contact with High Touch Surfaces: Everyone should minimize contacting high-touch point surfaces such as door handles and going in and out of dressing rooms. Indoor warm-up space is not available. Common area chairs and tables may not be available to reduce gathering areas and to promote physical distancing.

Additional support required: Spaces may be set aside for skaters to put skates on where facilities can accommodate such space. Groups with individuals needing help with skate tying should consider how to manage this within physical distancing guidelines. Parents of participants needing help with skate tying need to coordinate with coaches in advance of their child's ice time. Skate tying prior to arrival and the use of skate guards is strongly recommended.

Hockey Canada, Ringette Alberta and Skate Canada have developed sport specific guidelines to provide direction on how their sports' activities can be modified to comply with AHS and Government of Alberta directives regarding physical distancing and avoiding the sharing of common equipment. Groups are expected to follow their sport governing body's guidelines with respect to these modifications. It is also the group's responsibility, to ensure sanctioned activities are permitted through their sport governing body.