

COVID -19 Arena Protocols

Date: September 7, 2021

Time: 9:00 am

Location: Community Services Department

At the Town of Whitby, the health and safety of Whitby customers and employees is its number one priority. When the Town's arena facilities open, we will be operating under a number of strict safety precautions, and with services that may be limited.

The following protocols have been developed to reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19 among our customers and employees. Hockey Canada, the Ontario Hockey Federation (OHF), Ontario Women's Hockey Association (OWHA), Ontario Minor Hockey Association (OMHA), Skate Canada and Ringette Ontario, as well as Durham Public Health, have provided the following protocols and return to play guidelines to encourage physical distancing and to ensure the safety of everyone in our facility.

Please take the time to familiarize yourself with these protocols prior to arriving at any Town of Whitby Arena. It is essential that customers take these protocols and precautions seriously to support a safe and healthy experience for everyone.

John Romano
Commissioner
Community Services Department

For further information, please visit [whitby.ca/skating](https://www.whitby.ca/skating)

Before You Arrive:

- The Permit Holder (who is the Organization and/or Team Official) is responsible for screening and contact tracing for all individuals including players, coaches, instructors, game officials and spectators
- All participants of a permit are required to show proof of the successful completion of COVID-19 screening to Town of Whitby staff who will verify the date, time and name of the individual
- Please utilize the Screening Link provided by your organization if one has not been provided the Town has provided a Screening Link for your convenience whitby.ca/screening
- All participants should be aware of the COVID-19 Frequently asked Questions: [please review:](#)

Entrance Restrictions:

- Have tested positive for COVID-19 and have not been deemed by health authorities to have recovered from COVID-19
- Are sick with any illness or have any symptoms associated with COVID-19, including fever, cough, tiredness, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, chest pain/pressure, loss of taste or smell, discoloration of fingers or toes, or loss of speech
- Anyone who has returned from traveling outside of Canada in the past 14 days and been advised to quarantine per the federal quarantine requirements
- Anyone who knows or believes that they may have been exposed in the past 14 days to a person who has symptoms of COVID-19; or a person who has tested positive for COVID-19, and they have not been fully-vaccinated against COVID-19
- Upon entry, all spectators and participants are required to [wear a mask](#)
- On ice-participants may remove their face covering before entering the ice surface. Masks/face covering must be worn as soon as they leave the ice
- Spectators will be directed to a viewing area in the designated arena (dress appropriately for the cold)
- **Spectators for Tryouts** will be limited to 1 spectator per participant
Spectators for Regular Season will move to 2 spectators per participant
- Facility Doors will remain closed at all times

Arena Protocols



Iroquois Park Sports Centre (IPSC)

Arena	Entrance
Scotiabank Rink 1	Exterior doors on the south side adjacent to main doors
Whitby Orthodontics Arena 2	IPSC main entrance doors
OWASCO Arena 3	Exterior east doors adjacent to Boston Pizza/Community Services offices
Okanagan Hockey Arena 4	North courtyard
Arena 5	North courtyard
Desjardins' Arena 6	North courtyard

McKinney Centre

Arena	Entrance
Arena 1	South lobby entrance doors
Arena 2	North lobby entrance doors
Toyota 3	South lobby entrance doors

Prior to play:

- If Screening and Contact Tracing has been completed Participants/spectators will be permitted to enter the facility, as a group, no earlier than **10 minutes** prior to the designated ice time.
- Participants and spectators need to be ready and at the door when the Facility Attendant opens the door
- All participants of a permit are required to show proof of the successful completion of COVID-19 screening to Town of Whitby staff who will verify the date, time and name of the individual
- Participants are encouraged to come partially dressed. For safety reasons participants are not permitted to enter the facility wearing skates or roller skate guards
- Participants should bring a full water bottle
- Spectators must be prepared to enter the facility with their team/group **no, in and out privileges** will be permitted. Spectators are not permitted to gather or spectate in the lobby areas of the facility at any time
- No outside food will be permitted

While participating:

- All sport activities must be conducted in accordance with the rules and policies of the applicable Provincial Sport Organization, including the rules and policies put in place to encourage safe return to the sport
- Players' benches are available for use during the permitted activity
- All non-participants (e.g. coaches, trainers) are required to wear a mask while on the bench
- To avoid physical contact and maintain physical distancing, all participants are asked not to high five, fist bump or hand shake, share personal sporting/fitness equipment

Arena Information:

- All activity must follow [OHF Return to Hockey Framework](#), [OWHA](#), [OMHA](#), [Skate Canada](#), [Ringette Ontario](#)
- Each arena will have a capacity limit for participants and spectators posted
- **Spectator capacity is limited.** Groups should look to minimize the number of Spectators where possible and communicate accordingly to all participants in advance
- **Player and spectators** (parent/guardian) must enter at the same time. Have all participants stand with their spectator to enter the arena in an orderly manner
- Water fountains and water bottle filling stations will be closed
- Change Rooms/Arena Change Areas will be open with capacity limits for use and sanitized after each permit, Users should physically distance as much as possible when using these amenities
- The Town will post change room capacity limits outside of the change rooms and permit holders will be required to ensure those limited are followed
- General public access is not permitted

Additional Requirements for permit holders:

- Showers are not available at this time.
- Organizations must arrange for a volunteer to oversee participant and spectator capacities are adhered to during each session
- **No more than 50 participants are** permitted on the ice including coaches, instructors, Game officials do not count toward this number
- Warm-ups will not be allowed inside the facility under any circumstances
- Concessions, Pro Shop and Customer service desks will remain closed until further notice
- Lobby washrooms will be available for use by participants and spectators only

Arena Protocols



Code of Conduct Policy:

The Town of Whitby expects everyone to:

1. Abide by the Town of Whitby Public Code of Conduct.
2. Be respectful of others using and or working in Town of Whitby facilities and properties.
3. Be respectful of Town of Whitby facilities and properties.

The Town of Whitby will not tolerate violence, bullying or vandalism in its programs, facilities or properties and will take appropriate action where necessary to deal with these incidents. Conduct that violates the [Public Code of Conduct](#) will result in appropriate action against the person(s) responsible, user group and/or the permit holder. This includes, without limitation, immediate suspension or termination of privileges to use Town facilities and properties. Appropriate disciplinary or legal action may occur. The Public Code of Conduct applies to all users of Town of Whitby facilities, programs and properties including but not limited to residents, visitors, guests, spectators, coaches, parents, volunteers and vendors. It covers structured and unstructured activities.

Failure to comply with the Code of Conduct Policy and/or Whitby Arena Protocols will result in the following steps being applied by Town Staff to permit violators:

- First offence – Verbal warning
- Second offence – Removal of one scheduled ice time at the cost of the permit holder
- Third offence – Removal of three scheduled ice times at the cost of the permit holder

Following Your Rental

- Participants are to properly dispose of any garbage.
- Participants and Spectators must exit the arena and facility through the designated path or travel exit/entrance points **10 minutes** after rental.

Cleaning and Disinfecting Requirements:

- All fixed structures, such as benches, will be cleaned after each permit.
- Available Washroom facilities will be cleaned as per [Public Health Guidelines](#)