
Recreation Facility Operating Protocols

Arena and Ice



Where Town and Country Meet

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

- All patrons entering the facility are to actively screen upon arrival.
- Effective Jan 4, proof of vaccination will only be accepted in the form of QR Code (printed, or on mobile devices)
- Effective Jan 10 proof of medical exemption will only be accepted in the form of QR Code (printed, or on mobile devices)
- Proof of identification may only be accepted in it's original form with the exception of individuals under the age of 18.
- Patrons are to follow the directional flow of traffic, indicated by arrows on the floor.
- Patrons are to physically distance where possible.
- Hand sanitizer is available at entrances and high touch areas.
- 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.
- Patron wellness checks (active screening) Our active screening documents ask our patrons about signs, symptoms and potential risk factors that may prevent them being able to enter the facility safely. This document informs the patron whether or not they are safe to enter the facility. 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.
- Prevention/control of outbreaks from a patron standpoint - Essa is mitigating the outbreaks in our recreation centers by regularly sanitizing high touch points changerooms and washrooms and limiting exposure to other patrons and staff by putting time caps on small spaces. We are enforcing the use of masks amongst all patrons and staff and in instances where staff are required to work in close quarter additional PPE is provided. 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. Participants and Spectators must sanitize hands upon entering the facility. Frequent hand washing and sanitizing while in the facility is highly recommended.

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- In the event a positive case is linked to our centers we can provide the health unit (SMDHU) Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit to provide our patrons on the next steps in the event an instance such as this occurs.

Change rooms

- Effective Dec 20, change rooms will be reduced to 50% capacity. Teams will be provided 2 rooms and pick up/ leagues will be provided 4.
- Masks are to be worn in change rooms.
- Players are to remain physically distanced while in the change room.
- Change rooms will be available 30 minutes prior and 30 minutes post ice rental.

Player Information

- Players are to physically distance when possible
- 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 but 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 all equipment is not permitted
- Players must bring their own marked water bottles