



## COVID-19 FAQ Page

Have a question about COVID and the Sport of Figure Skating? Check out the Q & A's below to review questions we have been receiving from members in the Manitoba Section. Most recent questions will be located at the end of the document.

Have a question but don't see the answer below, then send in your question to [Skate.admin@sportmanitoba.ca](mailto:Skate.admin@sportmanitoba.ca) and we will get it answered!

Please check out [Skate Canada's COVID-19 Response Page](#) for Information such as Virtual/Online Training Requirements, FAQs, and Return to Skating Guidelines.

**If our local park is open, and we follow the current health requirements, can we do small group off – ice training?**

Yes, if your town/municipality/city has opened park(s) and you follow all requirements that have been mandated as per our Chief Public Health Officer, Dr. Roussin, you can have outdoor off-ice classes. Please note the Rule of Two applies. **If located in a Critical Red Zone, in person classes may not occur.**

**A private rink in our area has opened. Can we start skating?**

As of May 27, 2020 the Sport of Figure Skating in Manitoba has not been approved. In Manitoba, Skate Canada Clubs, Skate Canada programming and figure skating cannot commence until we have been approved by the Chief Public Health Officer, Dr. Roussin. UPDATE: As of June 19, 2020 (pending the Skate Canada waiver) skating can reconvene in Stage 1 of the Return to Play Protocols document.

**Our Club and Facility are ready to get on the ice before June 19<sup>th</sup>, we have everything in place! Can we start skating?**

If the Skate Canada waiver has not been received then no. The waiver must be received by SCMB, distributed to Manitoba Clubs, who must then send and receive it from their members before they can begin Stage 1 at the rink.

**How much time has to be between skating sessions or groups?**

You will need to work with your facility to find out how much time is needed between sessions for cleaning, flood, etc... Much will depend on what your facility has in place for protocols.

### Can a coach be the Emergency on site contact or Screening Volunteer?

Yes a coach can be either of those volunteers as long as there is enough time between sessions to do the intake screening or other duties as negotiated/assigned.

### Can you explain the difference between stage 3 to 5 for CanSkate?

Stage 3 introduces Parent and Tot skaters to Canskate. By having a parent directly responsible for assisting their child there is minimal time spent within the required 2m physical distance boundary. Parents must be registered Skate Canada members to enter the ice, and sign a waiver.

Stage 4 allows clubs to introduce athletes who have no previous experience in Skate Canada programs. This allows you to accept skaters who may need no assistance getting up off the ice into your program such as adults or older children, etc...

Stage 5 allows you to accept skaters who have no skating experience, are young and do not have a parent who can be on the ice with them to assist.

The stages demonstrate the transition of minimal risk (skaters with previous experience in CanSkate) to higher risk (young, no skating experience and no parent to assist with falling down and getting up)

### Can we offer Synchro?

Yes you can offer Synchro skating however it must be non-contact, physically distanced training.

### Is CanPowerSkate included?

Yes CanPowerSkate is included in Stage 1.

### How many athletes can be on the ice at once including coaches?

There must be at least one (1) Skate Canada professional coach in good standing on the ice at all times. In Stage 1 the maximum number of people on, or near, the ice is 15\*, so you could have 14 athletes and 1 coach in that scenario. Always include a coach in your on ice numbers. \*As of September 14<sup>th</sup> the on or near ice number is 35 participants plus up to 5 coaches and/or PA's.

### When we get the waivers signed what do we do with them?

Once you have signed waivers you will need to scan and submit them to SCMB. We have a link to an online submission form on our website. Then you will need to file them and keep them for a

predetermined period of time. All signed waivers must be kept on file with your club until August 30, 2021. Waivers from your club no longer need to be submitted to SCMB.

### Who need to complete the Skate Canada Waiver?

Everyone who enters the facility for your program. Skaters, coaches, volunteers, board members, PA's, spectators, parents, officials, etc... If they are there for Skate Canada programs or figure skating related activities they need to complete a waiver.

### Can skaters from other provinces or countries skate at our clubs if requested?

All Manitoba Government Rules must be followed in regards to travel restrictions. International travel is still not permitted. Inter-provincial travel currently still requires a mandatory self-quarantine period of 14 days. This quarantine must be followed each time the border is crossed. Skate Virden has received government clarification for their skaters from Moosimin being able to cross the border for training.

**Update: As of June 21, 2020 Residents of Western Canada and Northwestern Ontario do not need to self-isolate for 14 days when entering Manitoba.**

Anyone entering Manitoba from designated western Canadian jurisdictions (British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, and the Yukon, Northwest and Nunavut territories) or Northwestern Ontario (defined as west of Terrace Bay) is not required to self-isolate for 14 days if they are asymptomatic and have no known exposure to COVID-19.

Travellers from all other Canadian jurisdictions will need to continue to self-isolate for 14 days after arriving in Manitoba. Anyone entering Canada must continue to follow federal requirements for self-isolation at the time of entry.

Consideration will be given to lifting self-isolation requirements in the future for sectors that propose and provide satisfactory plans to address public health requirements for necessary travel. <https://www.gov.mb.ca/covid19/restoring/phase-three.html>

### Can a parent watch from the stands?

Depends. That is a decision between each facility and the club what they will allow.

### What does "on or near the ice" mean?

On or near the ice includes any person who is at ice level. Skaters on the ice, anyone in the players or penalty box, persons in the hallway or lined up by boards to enter ice surface. A music player, if at ice level, does not count towards the maximum number.

In the protocols it's mentioned that there should be one gate to go on the ice and one gate to get off. Doors should be kept open, except inside the rink to ice surface doors. Are we supposed to be closing the gates to the ice surface, or leaving them open? And if they are open does that affect insurance?

Doors/gates that lead directly onto the ice must be closed during a session as it is a safety and insurance requirement. Doors that lead to the players bench, dressing room doors, etc... should be propped open if possible to reduce high touch areas. Sanitize ice surface gate door handles frequently as they will be a high touch area.

Can we have drop ins/buy-ons on our sessions?

In Stage 1 it is not permitted to have skaters drop in/buy on to a session the day of. If skaters want to participate on a session they will need to purchase their drop in/buy on at least a day in advance.

Do board or committee meeting fall into any particular stage?

They can take place now, as long as meetings are meeting the current health requirements set out by the Province of Manitoba (such as physical distancing, number of people in a gathering, etc...). The government does encourage people to continue to work from home and meet virtually.

Do further stages within our sport need to be approved again by the province before it has to be implemented or is that up to us to determine?

Movement through the stages will be done by Skate Canada Manitoba in consultation with Sport Manitoba, Skate Canada, the current health restrictions set out in the Province of Manitoba and review of current state. When a new stage is opening it will come directly from the office. It will be posted on our website, social media and eNews for everyone to see.

Does each club need to submit a "return to sport" policy or has this been done by the province and we just need to ensure we follow the guidelines set forward?

The Skate Canada Manitoba Return to Play Protocol document is Manitoba's return to sport policy that everyone needs to follow. Clubs do not create their own but may need to include any additional requirements set out by their facility.

The no contact for pairs, dance and synchro, does that include off ice as well?

Yes. In Manitoba we have a requirement of 2m between people for physical distancing. If this restriction is lifted within the province, we will review our protocol and make any required amendments as per government regulations. Any changes will be communicated by the office to all stakeholders via

the website, eNews and social media. Please see updated Return to Play Protocols for more information about clarification on time spent within the physical distancing requirement.

So Manitoba is currently in Phase 2, will we have to wait until phase 3 to move onto stage 3, 4, 5 in skating? Has the province given Skate Canada Manitoba any indication when they may be moving into phase 3?

Skate Canada Manitoba will determine the movement of stages within our sport, with consultation from Sport Manitoba, Skate Canada, and reviewing the current provincial regulations etc... The province does not provide us with information regarding movement between the phases, we receive that information when everyone else does.

If we (our club) are starting after June 19<sup>th</sup> do we have to send proof that requirements within the document have been met?

No you don't. The only requirement is to submit scanned copies of signed waivers in a reasonable time to the office. Clubs must have the Skate Canada waiver signed by participants before they can start.

Is the volunteer performing the screening included in the maximum numbers?

The screener would be included in any maximum numbers set out by your facility for persons in the building. If the screener is performing their duties at ice level then yes they would be part of your maximum numbers for 'on or near' the ice.

Will there be template for all of the plans required? I think there was a plan template for the emergency response plan, but what about other documents that the club is responsible for creating?

Yes we have all of the templates available on our website for you to download and use. If you find that there is something you need or that would be useful, please let us know and we will see if it is something we can do for you. We encourage clubs to share any documents that they create with us and we can share it on the website for others to use too.

Is there a timeline or markers in the progression of the illness that will determine when we move from stage to stage?

No, it is quite fluid. We will be taking into account many factors when determining movement within the stages. Some programs/areas may remain in stage 1 while others move forward. For example we could be in Stage 2 for all Skate Canada Programs, but remain in Stage 1 for competitions/clinics/etc... due to public health restrictions. Decisions will be made in the best interest of the entire section.

### Is the waiver a one-time requirement? Or is it a daily requirement?

The waiver will be required seasonally not daily. This is why clubs need to submit it the Skate Canada Manitoba and keep it filed during the season. Update: The waiver, once signed will be good until August 31, 2021

### Can the waiver be added as a drop down on Uplifter when members register?

Skate Canada is currently reaching out to online registration platforms such as Uplifter to discuss options and is speaking with their legal team about it as well.

Update: Skate Canada will have a checkbox on their online registration system for the upcoming season that you will be able to click to confirm that the skater has signed the waiver. Paper copies will still need to be collected for the duration of the season. More information will be coming regarding online waivers.

### If a skater is training at more than one facility do they have to sign a separate waiver for each training center? If we have skaters that come to us for summer or ours go elsewhere how does that work with waivers?

A skater must sign a separate waiver for each club they skate with. If skaters attend your club from somewhere else they must sign your waiver that you keep on file. If your clubs skaters go to another facility to skate, they must sign a waiver there, which that club will keep on file.

### As we begin integrating sports into a facility, for example hockey occurring after figure skating, will we need to take that into account for session planning?

As other ice sports are approved to return to play there will need to be discussions with your facility about things such as time between sessions, cleaning processes, rules for waiting to go out onto the ice, etc... As we are the first ice sport to receive approval we encourage you to share with your facilities the protocols we have and get the conversations started early for planning.

### I have a question about arrival screening, what exactly is included or must be included – can you direct me to more details? Do screening volunteers have to wear PPE?

On page 4 of the protocol you will find information about the instances where someone cannot participate as well as the requirement for the daily verbal screening. We have a template for the screening questions that must be asked upon arrival for every participant on our website, under Club Resources.

Screening volunteers must wear PPE when performing the screening duty as they are in a vulnerable situation and should be protected. Please note that on page 5 of the protocol we stated that “any off

ice club volunteer must be supplied with a mask and gloves to perform cleaning duties or music playing duties". We have amended the oversight of not including the screening volunteer in our protocol.

There is a discrepancy between the COVID-19 Participation Screening Tool That Skate MB wants us to use before each session and the MB Government screening poster where SCMB screening template does not use the differentiation between the variety of symptoms. The MB government poster which is provided on the website states that for symptoms like runny nose, loss of taste/smell etc you need to have two of those types of symptoms to be excluded. Some you only need one symptom to be excluded (more serious symptoms), other types of symptoms (more mild type) you need to have two to be excluded. Whereas the COVID Participation screening tool we are to use before each session doesn't seem to discriminate between these types of symptoms and if you have one of the symptoms you are excluded.

If you are sick, with any symptom, you stay home. The government poster lists more symptoms on it and is great for participants to review, but for the safety of everyone involved, if you present any symptoms of being ill (for any reason) you do not participate.

If someone exhibits symptoms (e.g. sore throat) and therefore cannot come to practice, when are they allowed to return? Must they wait 14 days? 14 days after symptoms disappear? 24 hours after being symptom free? Or as soon as they no longer have symptoms? Or after a negative COVID test?

Skate Canada Manitoba has a draft of an illness policy – this document will be reviewed/discussed and voted on by the SCMB Executive Committee at our upcoming meeting (Tuesday June 16) once approved it will be circulated to all stakeholders and will address the above questions.

If an individual is showing symptoms of COVID 19 – they can not participate and are advised that they should contact Health Links -Info Sante or seek a doctor for further guidance.

~~A participant will not be permitted to return until they are verified by a medical professional that they are COVID free.~~

You have the Stages in place so I assume you have milestones for skater numbers. Can you share what your next goal is for skater numbers on the ice? And will it be tied to the next Stage? Also, is there any rough timeline for each stage? Barring any outbreaks in Manitoba is MB Health's idea that we need to demonstrate success at each stage for a month or 6 weeks before we can move to the next stage? Do you have any ideas?

At this time SCMB has not worked on specific numbers or milestones required to move to the next stages. With the situation remaining fluid and changes happening on a regular basis it isn't effective or efficient to plan too far ahead. Having making that statement please don't take it that we aren't doing anything to prepare for the future and movement to the next stages. We are continually in contact with Skate Canada our counterparts across the country and with Sport MB and other sports in MB to see what is happening the discussing next steps.

Our future decisions are wholly dependent upon the Provincial, and Federal governments and we will take their direction and determine how and what we can to advance to the next stages in our R2P protocols. The Provincial Government has approved our R2P protocol in whole, so it is up to SCMB to determine when we move into each of our stages, based upon the Provincial Governments reopening strategies (reopening/phases).

If a skater is skating on private ice that is not involved with Skate Canada and if that facility has been approved to operate and has their own insurance how does that fall into our protocol?

We don't have authority over non-sanctioned skating activity occurring on private ice. That facility is responsible for maintaining/implementing the requirements/restrictions dictated to them under their approval by the government. Skate Canada members have no Skate Canada insurance while on non-sanctioned ice.

Are we able to evaluate new can skaters for previously demonstrated skills? For example there is a new family to the club. They skate on their own and have skills but don't have a record with the club? Can we evaluate their skills before starting CanSkate lessons ? If we are not allowed does this mean we can only have returning skaters?

CanSkate opens up in Stage 2 and only allows for returning skaters with whom you have a record for where their skills left off. New skaters (excluding parent and tot who are in stage 3) with no previous experience in Skate Canada programs are scheduled for Stage 4. It is possible that stage 3 and 4 could be released simultaneously but we will not know that until a later date.

If a skater was a member at another skating club you can contact Skate Canada Member Services and find out more about their skating record. Contact [info@skatecanada.ca](mailto:info@skatecanada.ca)

We have a few skaters in our club that have skated in our club as well as another club, is this still going to be allowed in the coming season?

This will depend on each club. Some clubs may enact policies that only allow skaters registered with their club to skate on their sessions, and some clubs may not change at all. I advise that each of the skaters (or their parents) reach out to the clubs that they typically skate with and inquire about their policies for the upcoming season.

Would it be alright if a coach had a contactless thermometer to take a skaters temp on sight if the parent forgets to send that information?

So the goal with the temperature taking before the rink is that you catch a fever before a person comes near other people. If you choose to take temperature a second time at the rink with a contactless thermometer than that goes beyond our standards. **Temperature submission is no longer required.**



If a coach is wearing ppe could they help a skater tie their skates inside if the facility has a drop and go, no parents allowed inside?

The goal is stay 2m apart all the time. If it is safe (weather, condition of walkway, etc..), a child who cannot tie their skates should arrive to the building with their skates already tied to avoid having another person come in close contact. If a child's skate needs to be retied during a session and there are no parents allowed in the building, then yes you could put on a mask and gloves and assist in the adjustment (if you are comfortable with that).

Would it be ok if our screening volunteer is the person to fill in the Session Record Form as skaters come in rather than having each person and their guardian have to sign it themselves?

Yes the screening volunteer can also be the person completing the session record form!

Is it possible to have the sign in be just a list with names and phone numbers of skaters registered for summer session and the volunteer would check off skaters as they come in? There would be a new list (with date) for each session. This way we still know who was at the rink but it is much quicker than filling in the skaters info each time. (For any other spectators or volunteers, the regular paper copy session record form would be used)

Yes you could have a print out of all registered skaters containing all the information for them needed and check them off as they arrive and do their symptoms screening. You will have to have a paper copy for the session record form, as you mentioned, for any other people that arrive. Make sure to attach both lists together when you file them so that one doesn't get missed in case of an emergency.

To reduce the amount of emails/texts our coach has to go through prior to each session, could the skaters take their temperatures at home and then we have the volunteer screener ask and record the skaters temperatures when they arrive at the rink? (Skaters would of course be encouraged to not come to the rink if their home temperature is more than 37.8 C)

Skaters are asked to submit their temperature from home in order to reduce the chance of them coming to the rink with a fever.

Update: Effective September 1<sup>st</sup> 2020 skaters will not longer be required to submit their temperature to their coach prior to arriving at the rink.

If we purchased a forehead thermometer and cleaned it between each use, could we screen skaters temperature at the rink?

If you would like to go above and beyond our requirements and take temperatures at the rink in addition to them submitting from home I think that is a great measure to ensure that no one enters with a fever. Yes, cleaning between readings would be a must.

With MB loosening the restrictions on requiring a 14 day isolation period in Phase 3 after travel to the West or in NorthWestern Ontario, will the screener be modified at that time? I could see some spectators/volunteers and skaters thinking it is ok to travel to these places once in Phase 3 (eg camping) only to be turned away because our screener is different.

When/if the government loosens/removes the 14 day self isolation requirements when returning from specific locations within Canada SCMB will review that information and make amendments to our criteria as necessary. **Update: The screening tool has been updated.**

Do you see any issue with having the Appendix of Waiver on bottom of page 2 rather than a 3rd page? Would be a lot tidier in having them in 1 double sided page.

You can move the Appendix to the bottom of page 2 instead of having it on a third page.

While going through the Pre-Season Preparation and Checklist I saw that one of the tasks was “Have you considered paperless options for screening, waivers, registration “. Would Skate MB allow us to use the MB Shared Health COVID screener that is available online in place of the “COVID 19 Participation Screening Tool”?

The thought for going paperless for the screening was using a digital screen to show the document instead of having a paper copy, such as on a tablet or on a digital screen in the rink where you do your intake. Screening needs to be done in person at the rink. Please note that the Pre-Season Checklist has been modified by removing both screening and waivers to avoid confusion.

We run a summer school at our club. Do we need to have separate waivers, one for the summer school and one for the regular season?

If your summer school (or fall or spring school) has a different Skate Canada registration number from your club then yes you will need separate waivers. If your summer school has the same number as your club then you can just list the school under the Appendix on the waiver.

Do skaters need to resubmit their temperatures in between sessions? For example, we have 30 minutes between two of our sessions and two hours between one of our other sessions.

Temperatures need to be submitted prior to the session to the coach via their preferred method of communication. For skaters remaining in the facility between sessions they do not need to resubmit their temperature. If a skater leaves the facility between sessions they will need to submit their temperature again prior to returning to the rink. A reminder that symptom screening (and session record forms) must be completed for each session, regardless of whether the skater stayed in the facility between sessions. Update: Effective September 1, 2020 skaters will no longer be required to submit their temperature to their coach.

Who needs to have their temperature submitted, is it everyone who comes to the arena or just skaters? What is the cut off temperature that I can't let them in?

We are only asking skaters to submit their temperature readings to their coach at most several hours prior to the start of their session. A reminder that everyone must have the daily verbal screening for symptoms upon arrival at the building before participation. On the Manitoba Government website (COVID 19 Info) they have a temperature self monitoring form and it indicates that >38C or 100.4F and higher indicate a fever.

Can we only teach private lessons? Am I free to move around the ice while teaching?

Both group and private lessons can be taught. In the Return to Play Protocols under Coaching, it suggests dividing coaches and skaters into "training groups" if ice time can accommodate. We are recommending as much as possible that you have the same skaters in the same groupings ("training group") from session to session to limit contact with a larger pool of skaters. Earlier in the document under "Organizing Skate Canada programs/figure skating in your facility", we recommend that you limit your activities to practice and private lessons or lessons with small groups. If lessons with small groups occur, physical distancing measure must be followed. All lessons/sessions that are taking place must comply with the physical distancing, cleaning, sanitizing measures and recommendations by the federal, provincial and municipal government authorities and with the Skate Canada Manitoba Return to Play protocols. At this time, coaches must remain at the boards in their designated teaching area. Update: As of July 20<sup>th</sup> coaches may skate with athletes while choreographing or teaching patterns.

Who can sign the signature line on the session record form?

As the session record form is for recording purposes only of who is in the facility/on the session together you do not need to collect signatures from each participant. The signature line will be made optional going forward and has been amended online to reflect that change.

Can a person skating on a session also be the 'sign-in' volunteer for that session? We know coaches can oversee sign-in and then go on the ice, but are wondering if an adult skater or older skater on the session can volunteer to do this? If yes, what is the minimum age for the sign-in volunteer (18? 16?).

A club can have an individual be the sign in volunteer with the following restrictions:

1. If under the age of 18, but no younger than 16 would have to have parental permission to do this role.
2. Must have signed the waiver
3. Must be a current SC member
4. Must wear a mask and gloves
5. Prior to participating in the on-ice session must follow all other protocols (i.e. hand sanitization, physical distancing ect...)
6. They would also have to confirm with the onsite Team Lead (COVID leader) their own screen prior to doing the facility screening role.

Are we allowed any contact between skaters and/or coaches during a session?

We have received clarification that where sport specific training cannot maintain the physical distancing requirement of 2 meters that contact must be kept between participants (including skater to skater, coach to skater, etc...) to a **maximum of 15 cumulative minutes** per session.

What this means is...

- Dance and Pairs may begin training sport specific skills but must keep any close contact to a maximum of **15 cumulative minutes** - this is defined as any training less than 2 meters apart
- Coaches may adapt their teaching methods to follow the above definitions
- Harness lessons may resume immediately, following the guidelines set out on page 7 of the Return to Play Protocols

Please note that at this time Synchronized Skating remains no contact. We are currently reviewing and researching how best to adapt this information for the Synchro discipline. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

Our arena is doing an intake area where all persons entering are screened and contact information collected. Do we need to also collect the information?

If your arena is asking the same screening questions that SCMB requires than no you do not have to ask everyone a second time (unless they have exited the building and re-entered and are not screened at the facility intake area). If the arena/facility is taking down contact information for all persons who enter the facility you do not have to take down the same information as long as you are able to receive a copy of the records that pertain to your club activity as you are still required to file it for 30 days.

### Do coaches have to wear a mask on the ice?

Yes. Effective August 4, 2020 everyone in the facility who is attending a Skate Canada program or figure skating related activity must wear a mask while in the building, for the duration of their stay. The only exception is athletes who may remove their mask once they enter the actual ice surface and will then have to put the mask back on upon exiting the ice surface.

### Our club is in the process of setting up an account with UpLifter. I was asking them if there was a way that the Skate MB Assumption of Risk and Waiver could be part of our skaters registration process and then if there was a way Skate MB could accept these?

In our meetings with Skate Canada – they have indicated to us the following:

That clubs will continue to have to collect and keep paper copies of the Skate Canada Assumption of Risk and Waiver. Skate Canada is working with Uplifter and other online registration platforms that skating clubs use and that are linked to the Skate Canada Membership database. It is my understanding that for the 2020-21 Skate Canada registration season (starting September 1<sup>st</sup>) is that they are planning to have a check box (or something similar) that would allow the club to confirm to Skate Canada that the club has received a completed paper copy of the waiver form for each member. At this time Skate Canada is not entertaining an online waiver.

Once Skate Canada has confirmed that this process is in place Skate Canada Manitoba would likely review and remove the current requirement to scan and submit the waivers to us as it would be tracked in the Skate Canada membership system. Please watch for any changes or updates in our weekly eNews.

### Is there an age limit to having to wear a mask in the building? Do small children need to wear a mask? For in person off ice classes do athletes have to wear masks?

1. At this time Skate Canada Manitoba will follow the Government of Ontario's public health recommendations regarding who should or shouldn't wear masks, as the Manitoba Government does not have regulations (as it isn't currently mandatory here). The following persons do not have to wear a mask as per the Government of Manitoba's website:
  - a. Children under the age of 5
  - b. Persons unable to take a mask off by themselves
  - c. Persons who have difficulty breathing
2. Off-ice classes – Skate Canada Manitoba would follow the same rules as on ice. Instructor must wear a mask, participants urged/encouraged, but not required as long as they follow physical distancing rules.

### Our club is wanting to host an assessment day, how do we request one?

All requests for an Assessment day(s) must be sent to the office ([skate.exec@sportmanitoba.ca](mailto:skate.exec@sportmanitoba.ca)) for review. Requests must be submitted no later than two weeks prior to the start of registration. When submitting your request please include the following information:

- Host Club and Location
- Date of event
- Type of event (monitoring/feedback, assessment day, workshop, seminar, etc...)
- Length of event, hours of ice booked
- Number of participants expected to be involved

Protocols for Assessment Days will be developed and distributed to our stakeholders.

Please do not submit requests for assessment days occurring after February 28<sup>th</sup> as they will not be reviewed at this time. Please submit only one assessment day per email. Once the request has been approved by the office it will be forwarded to the Section Assessment Day Coordinator, Diane Harder, for approval and organization.

Please note that submission of requests does not guarantee approval of the event as all assessment days are subject to evaluator availability.

#### Do we need to continue to submit waivers online to SCMB?

Clubs/Schools will no longer be required to submit signed waivers to SCMB for skaters, board members, officials and PA's. When you register these persons for the new skating season with Skate Canada, there will be a check box to confirm that you received their signed waiver.

~~Coaches, volunteers and spectators will need to be submitted to SCMB as they are not registered with Skate Canada membership site and therefore do not have the option of checking off the confirmation of receiving a waiver.~~

**Coming soon:** Coaches and Officials, SCMB will soon be sending out SCMB Waivers for you to sign for the upcoming season. These waivers are to participate in attending SCMB competitions, assessment days, seminars, clinics, etc... put on by Skate Canada Manitoba. You will need to sign and submit back to the office. Watch your inbox for the waiver.

#### Can we run the CanSkate Program?

Yes! As of September 1, 2020 we are entering Stage 2 of our Return to Play Protocols, and for CanSkate only we are actually opening up to Stage 4!

To read more on CanSkate specific questions please visit the CanSkate & COVID FAQ page on our COVID-19 Resource Page.

#### When can Synchro skaters and teams begin training?

Synchro skaters and teams can be training individual and non-contact skills right now! As of September 1<sup>st</sup>, only skaters who reside in the same household may have contact.

The Synchro Committee is currently working on a Return to Synchro Training Guide to help clubs, coaches and teams navigate the new training environment. Once available, sport specific training may begin under the considerations in the guide.

We run a CanPowerSkate program and are wondering about the difference in on ice numbers for the program? SCMB has an on or near the ice number of 35 for all programs except CPS? Why is it different?

Skate Canada standards has an ideal maximum on ice participant number of 30 and pre-COVID you had the option of requesting permission to exceed that number. SCMB will not be granting permission to exceed during COVID. Please see the [Skate Canada Program Requirements and Delivery Standards – COVID 19](#) resource on page 17

If we do off-ice outside while it's nice outside do skaters and coaches have to wear masks while doing this?

Skaters do not have to wear masks while training outside. While your off ice training is being done outside of the facility coaches are not required to wear a mask. We would recommend a mask for coaches if at any time they are coming within 2 meters of any athlete or another coach, or think that they might.

If skaters are wearing mittens do they still have to sanitize their hands just before getting on the ice? We are currently doing this practice but just wondering if they could sanitize earlier, like in the hallway?

If skaters sanitize their hand prior to putting their mittens/gloves on they do not have to redo it at the on ice area. HOWEVER – if they remove their mitten/gloves for any reason they would be required to re-sanitize.

Our rink facility does not require parents/ spectators to wear masks, but our Skate Canada protocol states parents must wear one in the rink. There is a walking track in our facility which this parent like to walk on while watching his skater. He would like to walk without the mask since the arena allows him to do this (social distancing). Is this okay for him to do?

In response to your query regarding the wearing of masks by an individual parent who using the walking track while their skater is on the ice training. If someone is on the walking track and participating in walking then they wouldn't be required to wear a mask. Once they stop walking they would have to put on a mask to "move" back into the skating club area/program/seating etc.

### Do I need medical grade equipment in our first aid kit?

Medical grade equipment for personal protective equipment (PPE) are not required in your first aid kit at the rink. You should consider extra gloves and masks, a gown and face shield or safety goggles.

### For synchro- will skaters have to sign another skate Canada waiver or is the one they sign for individual covering that as well?

Synchro skaters will sign a participant waiver for every club they skate out of. So if they only skate at one club, there is just one waiver. If they skate singles at one club and synchro at another, they will need to sign a waiver at each club.

### For coach assessments (Star 1-5) can they begin those again- following, of course all the Current safety protocols?

Coach assessments have always been allowed to occur, so yes they can take place ensuring that all covid safety protocols are being followed (physical distancing, etc...). For more information about STAR Assessments, please see the STAR Assessment Resource Guide on the Info Center (<https://program.skatecanada.ca/product/star-assessment-resource-guide-english/> )

Please discuss at your club how you will handle the distribution/collection/submission of the assessment papers and money (for example, please make sure to wash your hands after handling an assessment paper, or please submit the SC assessment fee online, etc...) create your own protocols to follow for what works well for your club and members to keep them safe.

### If we have a skater that is interested in the STARSkate program can they come and try it out? Do they have to pay their Skate Canada membership before they try it out if they are unsure about registering. Or is okay as long as they sign the waiver?

So in order to 'try' it out, they would need to register and provide payment information to the club and sign the waiver for your club, just don't process the payment yet. If they try it out and are good to continue with the program proceed to process payment, and if they will not be continuing do not process the payment.



In our facility the touchless water bottle refill stations have remained open, while all other fountains are closed. Please advise if this is ok.

The touchless water bottle filling stations are not our preference but can be allowed as long as there are additional cleaning/sanitization are incorporated. As a “touchless” station isn’t really 100% touchless as an individual has to hold their bottle (or may even set it down in the filling area -depending on the variety that is installed) and may touch parts of the filling station.

Our facility doesn’t require masks in the rink as long as people are socially distanced. Do parents/spectators in the stands have to wear a mask if our rink doesn’t require it?

Everyone who enters the facility for any of your club’s activities must wear a mask at all times. The only exception is the skaters who do not have to wear one while on the ice.

Are there any restrictions for fundraising during COVID?

This is a little bit of a tricky answer as it is not just a yes or no. The answer would depend on what type of fundraising that you are wanting to do. If it is 100% virtual with no contact then the answer would be no, there wouldn’t be any restrictions. Any other fundraising activities would need to follow our Return to Play protocols and any facility requirements/protocols to ensure the safety of all, things such as (but not limited to) no close contact, frequent sanitization of any high touch areas, no porous materials etc. When handing over prizes please make sure to label bags with ‘Do Not Open for Three Days’ or ‘Please Sanitize upon Receiving’ etc...

When a parent signs a waiver for their child, does it also count as the waiver for the parent?

When the parent signs the waiver for the child, it does not count for themselves as well. The parent(s) will need to each sign their own waiver.

During Canskate we have a volunteer in the players box that we call the CanSkate Mom? Is this person able to tie a skate if needed? Does that count in the 15 min or less contact time? She would be masked and if needed too could wear gloves too.

The volunteer ‘CanSkate Mom’ is able to tie skates, and yes they need to keep contact with a skater to under 15 cumulative minutes during a session. We would recommend gloves but realize that trying to tie skates with gloves on may be very challenging, so please make sure this person has hand sanitizer

and sanitizing supplies to clean the area after the skater has left. I would also recommend the person wear a face shield or protective eye wear when re-tying the skates as the skaters are no longer wearing masks and may be breathing heavily from warm up/lessons. Just to give extra protection to the volunteer.

**Our club is in the Restricted Orange Zone and we have had requests from skaters within Critical Red Zone to skate on our sessions. Are skaters and coaches allowed to come to our club?**

It is up to the discretion of the Club and the Facility as to their policies regarding the welcoming of skaters and/or coaches who reside in the Critical Red Zone. We encourage clubs to speak with their facilities and their board/executive so that they can address these scenarios. It is important for clubs to know the policy of the facility.

**We have a rink in our backyard, can our coach facetime in and do lessons?**

Skate Canada Manitoba recognizes that many individuals are installing their own personal backyard rinks. As such we wanted to ensure that there is a clear understanding of the implications for skaters and coaches.

Currently the entire province of Manitoba is in the Critical Red Zone in the Manitoba Pandemic Response System, this includes public health orders that state no gatherings with anyone outside of your household, no sporting activities are to be taking place (so no in person skating activities); travel is to be for essential purposes only.

What can be done while in the Manitoba Pandemic Response System level Red:

Personal use on these surfaces is permitted, while in Red, as long as:

1. Skaters can skate on outdoor private rinks independently. No Skate Canada programs or activities
2. No Coaching in person or virtual
3. No Skate Canada insurance for accidents or liability for those accessing outdoor private ice at this time.

Once the Chief Public Health Officer of Manitoba changes the Pandemic Response level color there may be further allowances made.

**Please note that at no time can a Skate Canada Professional Coach provide virtual instruction for a skater who is on an ice surface.**

We received many questions regarding the statement above that is in bold. We sent your questions forward to Skate Canada and received the following responses:

**“I have seen choreographers and coaches in different provinces post that they have connected with skaters virtually while they were both on ice in different locations. Is this a rule that is place just because of "Code Red" in Manitoba or is this a Skate Canada Rule?”**

In order for the Skate Canada insurance to be valid a coach must be present to administer First Aid. This is a condition of insurance qualification and not tied to any Skate Canada rules.

**“Skater A is on the ice with a SC Coach “MB” and is in a lesson with her. On FaceTime is SC Coach “A” from another province giving feed back to SC Coach “MB” and Skater A. Can this happen?”**

As long as a coach is present who can provide first aid there is no issue with Coach “A” providing feedback.

**“Virtual coaching happens all the time, is this just for outdoor/backyard rinks during covid?”**

Again we can not comment on the specifics noted in this question. We reiterate that a coach must be present to administer first aid in the event of injury.

**I’m hearing that some arenas may let their ice go depending on decisions from Hockey MB about their season. Is there any consideration by Skate MB to find ice specifically thinking about our Pre-Novice or Novice preparation?”**

We have not had conversations yet about the section securing ice specifically for skaters. Our first step is to establish a timeline and see whether it aligns with Skate Canada’s reintegration plan for athletes (Safe Return to Sport). This is an ongoing discussion with Skate Canada and we will have to see when we exit the Red Zone where we are.

**Now that community rinks can open, can programs or lessons occur on those surfaces?”**

While we are in the Red Zone there can be no lessons or programming (ie no organized sport).

When organized sport can occur again there are a few considerations about community ice surfaces. For insurance, Skate Canada programming (including private lessons) cannot occur on an ice surface that has other activities on it such as public skating. All those on the ice must be registered Skate Canada members. Coaches and clubs, once we are out of the red zone, could procure outdoor community ice and run programming on it.

**How does Skate Ontario get to keep their skaters on the ice in the code red regions?**

Ontario has a different system where in the red zone skating can still happen to a degree, but skating shuts down in the grey zone.

Skate Ontario initially petitioned the government to have certain levels of skaters remain on the ice. We believe that it was for 'carded' or Olympic level athletes.

**Is there any opportunity for Manitoba to host a National Coach Technical and Tactical Course via zoom as you can't travel right now?**

At this time we do not believe that the NCCP courses are being offered virtually. Currently certain judging clinics, such as STAR 1-4, have been adapted to be delivered virtually but we are not aware of any NCCP courses.