

## **ANCASTER SKATING CLUB COVID-19 RESPONSE PLAN and PROTOCOLS: UPDATED JANUARY 31, 2022**

### **ASC COVID-19 Oversight Committee Members:**

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The purpose of this Committee is to oversee the implementation of COVID-19 related safety and health guidelines with the Ancaster Skating Club. Should you have any questions about Return to Play Protocols or other policies and procedures related to COVID-19, please contact one of the individuals above, or [info@ancasterskatingclub.ca](mailto:info@ancasterskatingclub.ca).

### **Communication Regarding COVID-19 to ASC Participants/Guardians:**

- The primary method of communication by ASC regarding COVID-19 will take place via the Communication/email feature within Uplifter. This feature keeps a record of all email addresses communications are sent to.
- Responsibility for sending email communication rests with the ASC Co-Presidents with assistance from the Club Administrator.
- Communication will take place:
  - when there is new/updated information, policies, protocols or procedures;
  - when reminders of policies, protocols or procedures are required.

### **Skate Ontario COVID-19 Waivers:**

All individuals (skaters/guardians, coaches, board members, volunteers, music players) are required to complete the Skate Ontario Acknowledgement, Release, Indemnity and Assumption of Risk regarding COVID-19 (Waiver) once at the start of the season, prior to participation in club activities. Failure to do so means that individual must not participate. Acknowledgement of the Waiver will be done as part of the online registration system for all persons participating in Club programs, and records can be retrieved as necessary from the registration system.

### **Health screening questionnaires:**

All participants taking part in club activities (PRIOR TO EACH SESSION/CLUB ACTIVITY) must self-screen using the appropriate Ontario Ministry of Health COVID-19 Screening Tool (as referenced in the Skate Ontario Return to Play requirements). A link to the screening tools can be found on the COVID-19 page on the ASC website.

### **Protocol if an individual/participant becomes unwell with symptoms of COVID-19:**

If an individual/participant becomes unwell with symptoms of COVID-19, or experiences signs and symptoms that are new, worsening, and not related to other known causes or conditions they already have:

1. Individual/participant must immediately stop participation in club activities.

2. If at the arena, isolate individual/participant away from others in a well-ventilated area or outside, provide with a mask or face covering if one is available, and send home with instructions to follow public health guidelines regarding self-isolation and testing.
3. Coach (or Head Coach) to notify a member of the Oversight Committee.
4. Oversight Committee will notify rink staff, Hamilton Public Health as necessary and follow up with individual/guardian.
5. Club and individual will follow Public Health guidance on next steps.

**Protocol for a participant who is tested for COVID-19:**

- Participant who is unwell will not participate in club activities while waiting for testing results; participant/guardian will notify ASC they are awaiting test results. *(NOTE: Participants in the Adult Synchronized Skating Program are to notify the Synchronized Skating Coaches).*
- Participant who has been tested for COVID-19 and has no COVID-19 symptoms, no known exposure to COVID-19 and no travel history is permitted to participate in club activities while waiting for the results of the test.

**Protocol if a participant tests positive for COVID-19:**

- Participant/guardian should inform a member of the ASC Oversight Committee as soon as possible, and provide information on their last visit to the rink and the session(s) they were on. *(NOTE: Participants in the Adult Synchronized Skating Program are to notify the Synchronized Skating Coaches, who will inform a member of the ASC Oversight Committee).*
- Any participants who were in close contact with the individual should follow public health guidelines regarding self-isolation and testing; refer to the City of Hamilton COVID-19 information available at <https://www.hamilton.ca/coronavirus>.
- ASC to inform participants/guardians (on affected sessions) of a positive test within the club setting via email, using the sample notice on page 3 of this document. *(NOTE: Participants in the Adult Synchronized Skating Program will be notified by the Synchronized Skating Coaches).*
- ASC to inform facility of positive test and determine if any additional cleaning/disinfecting should be performed as per the facility's guidelines.
- ASC will inform Skate Ontario of a positive COVID-19 diagnosis within the club setting by emailing [clubsupportservices@skateontario.org](mailto:clubsupportservices@skateontario.org).

**Return to skating/club activities following illness or exposure to COVID-19:**

- Individuals must follow all public health and facility guidelines with respect to returning to club activities following an illness or exposure to COVID-19.
- If a COVID-19 test was negative and there was no known exposure to COVID-19, the individual may return to club/skating school activities once they no longer have any symptoms of COVID-19 for at least 24 hours.
- If a COVID-19 test was negative but there was a known exposure to COVID-19, the individual may only return to club/skating school activities once they have completed the period of self-isolation as advised by local public health.
- If a COVID-19 test was positive, the individual must follow all public health guidelines regarding return to activities.

**ASC participants/guardians/spectators will follow all public health guidelines regarding COVID-19.**

**These may include:**

- Following all public health/municipal/provincial requirements for physical distancing, masking, cleaning and disinfecting, and modifications/restrictions/postponement/cancellation of activities.
- Following federal quarantine requirements after traveling outside of Canada.
- Following the advice of a doctor, health care provider or public health unit to isolate at home when required due to an outbreak or exposure.
- Any individual with symptoms of COVID-19 is not permitted to take part in club activities.

**ASC COVID-19 Credit/Cancellation Policy**

- In the event public health, municipal/provincial government and sport recommendations change/evolve, ASC will implement appropriate modifications, restrictions, postponement, or cancellations as applicable, and will notify ASC participants/guardians as soon as possible of the changes. Modifications/restrictions will be kept in place until advised by public health, government, or sport officials that it is safe to resume activities.
- In the event the skating season is cancelled due to an arena closure, participants who have registered will receive credit or a refund for the prorated amount of the season remaining, not including the Skate Canada fee or the Club admin fee.

**Sample Notice to ASC Participants/Guardians regarding positive COVID-19 test result:**

On (DATE), the Ancaster Skating Club was informed of a self-reported positive COVID-19 test result or results. The individual or individuals may have interacted with:  
Session Date(s), Time(s), Program(s)

This information is self-reported and has not been confirmed by Hamilton Public Health Services (HPHS). We are uncertain of the infectious period. To protect the privacy of any individual with a positive COVID-19 test result, we do not disclose their name. Self-reporting positive COVID-19 test results is voluntary for those who choose to report, although should be encouraged.

Under updated Ministry of Health guidance, persons who do not have symptoms, have not been advised to isolate, and who pass the COVID-19 School and Child Care Screening may continue to carry out regular activities. For further information on public health guidelines regarding self-isolation and testing, refer to the City of Hamilton COVID-19 information available at <https://www.hamilton.ca/coronavirus>

Participants/families are reminded to continue following all public health protocols, including masking, physical distancing, and close monitoring of symptoms. Please follow the directions provided on the Club's COVID-19 page (on the website) and keep your skater home if they are sick.

For updates, protocols and other COVID-19 resources, visit the ASC website, [www.ancasterskatingclub.ca](http://www.ancasterskatingclub.ca)

## **COVID-19 Policies/Protocols to Ensure Safety Within the Facility:**

1. Parents/skaters must acknowledge the Skate Ontario COVID-19 Waiver through the on-line ASC registration system, and prior to their skater starting their first session.
2. At home and prior to coming to each and every skating session, **Parents (if staying to watch) AND Skaters** must conduct COVID-19 self-screening using the appropriate Ministry of Health Screening Questionnaire (links to these forms are available on the Club's website on the COVID-19 page):
  - **DO NOT COME TO THE RINK IF THE ANSWER TO ANY OF THE QUESTIONS IS YES;**
  - **DO NOT BRING THESE FORMS TO THE RINK.**
3. Skaters are encouraged to arrive at the arena in their skating clothes, and to consider leaving personal items such as skating bags in the relevant individual's vehicle (if available) and not brought into the arena.
4. Parents/guardians (and siblings) may accompany skaters into the rink facility; parents/guardians (and siblings) are considered to be spectators, and must adhere to all requirements outlined in this policy. DUE TO CURRENT FACILITY SPECTATOR LIMITS, at this time skaters may only be accompanied by a **MAXIMUM OF 2 INDIVIDUALS** (for example, 1 parent and 1 sibling).
5. ASC participants/parents/guardians are encouraged to arrive no earlier than 15-30 minutes prior to the session start time. All individuals aged 12 years and (84 days) 3 months entering the facility are required to show identification that includes their name and date of birth, and to scan their COVID-19 proof of vaccination (QR code).
6. Once inside the facility, participants/parents/guardians may head directly to their assigned rink and change room to put on skates. DUE TO CURRENT FACILITY LIMITS, the City would prefer that only 1 individual (parent) accompany a skater into the change room; skaters can also sit on benches located rink-side (Rink #1) or in the lobby (Rink #2) to have their skates put on.
7. Members and spectators are encouraged to sanitize/wash hands upon entry to the facility.
8. Masks must be worn by everyone (skaters, spectators, children more than 2 years of age, volunteers and coaches) when inside the rink facility, in change rooms, and when NOT on the ice surface. Skaters may remove their masks when on the ice.
9. Physical distancing must be practiced by everyone throughout the facility (exception: individuals from the same household).
10. During the session, parents/guardians/siblings (spectators) may stay and watch the session, while following the masking and social distancing requirements. Because of facility limits on the numbers of people in the building and individual rinks, parents are asked to:
  - refrain from going into the other rink/recreation facility (and any closed-off areas) at the facility; and,
  - ensure that any siblings are supervised.
11. ASC StarSkaters who are unable to attend a session are asked to notify their coach in advance.
12. Failure to follow COVID-19 protocols can result in the facility being fined, spectators not being allowed in the facility, ASC losing its ice time, and/or other consequences; the ASC also reserves the right to suspend or terminate a skater's privileges for failure to adhere to these protocols (refer to the ASC COVID Disciplinary Process, found on the COVID page on the ASC website).
13. Please direct any questions and/or concerns to the club via email: [info@ancasterskatingclub.ca](mailto:info@ancasterskatingclub.ca)

Replaces Version dated August 31, 2021