



The Skating Club of Boston®

1240 Soldiers Field Road
Safety Protocols
for Facility Operation
and a
Return to Skating

Established
May 22, 2020

Introduction

Given the current global pandemic and the newly-established state and city restrictions for the operation of non-essential businesses, the Club has established new protocols for the operation of the Club's facility at 1240 Soldiers Field Road. These new procedures are intended to offer an increased level of safety, and are based on all currently available information from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, the City of Boston, and the new operating guidelines from U.S. Figure Skating and the U.S. Ice Rinks Association.

These policies have been adopted in order to maximize the safety and well-being of the Club's members, coaches and employees. They should in no way be construed as offering any guarantees by the Club that it can provide a virus-free environment. No activity involving people from outside your immediate social distancing group should be regarded as completely without risk. Skating at the Club must be an individual decision, and at each member's own discretion.

These restrictions will be enforced uniformly and without prejudice or favor. They are being instituted for the good of the Club community and its surrounding community, and will involve the same sacrifice and patience everyone has already been practicing outside of the Club. We also realize they may not be to everyone's liking. But it would make no sense to re-open the Club under any but the most conservative of practices. If the Club were to become a hot spot of infection, or closed due to even one confirmed case of transmission on-site, it would do no individual wishing to skate any good, let alone the rest of the community at the Club and where we live. We must exercise maximum responsibility.

Finally, no matter what the Club does for implementing these and any safety measures, our success will still depend on the actions of each of us as individuals. We must respect ourselves and our fellow community members by willingly, closely and consistently following all of these established procedures. If we can eliminate the obvious sources of risk and contamination from coming into the Club, we are well on our way to creating a maximally safe environment for the entire community. The following measures are then necessary to help protect ourselves against the more challenging asymptomatic sources of transmission.

Please read all the ensuing information. Everyone using the facility will be expected to know these procedures, and to follow them. Parents or guardians are expected to explain the importance of these procedures to their children as a means of keeping them and their friends as safe as possible. The Club will update these procedures as additional information pertinent to the facility's safe operation becomes available.

Thank you for your cooperation, and your ongoing support of The Skating Club of Boston. If we all remain patient and understanding of our responsibilities to ourselves and each other, we will successfully make it through this next phase of living with the pandemic.

The following operating procedures have been organized by group. Please read and understand all of them before making your decision to return to skate at the Club. Returning to the ice is an individual choice. Members who do not wish to immediately resume participation in Club programming for any reason should contact Club management by emailing club.info@scboston.org. We understand that families and individuals may have concerns about returning to public spaces so soon after restrictions on businesses are being loosened. Deciding not to return to the Club at this time will not negatively impact any member.

General Practices

1. Please do not come to the Club if you suspect or are experiencing any of the published COVID-19 symptoms associated with infection. It will not do you or anyone else in the Club community any good if the virus is easily introduced into the building. It could lead to you and everyone else not being able to skate.
2. The Club will limit the total number of people occupying the facility to 20*, with a separation of 85 feet (the width of the rink) for the short session transition when skaters are exiting and entering the facility. This total number includes employees. The Club has more than 20,000 square feet of open ground floor space. This is approximately 1 person to 1,000 square feet. It also represents 1.6% of the building's ground-floor capacity.
3. The Club will limit the total number of people on the ice, skaters and coaches, to 15*. The rink surface area is 17,000 square feet. This is one person per 1,130 square feet, with no opportunity for congregating or engaging with more than 1 skater per coach.
4. The facility will not be open to the public. There will be no public skating at 1240 Soldiers Field Road until further notice.
5. Skating Academy classes have been cancelled at the Club through June. Weekend classes will resume in September at the Daly Rink on Nonantum Road. We hope to have Monday night summer classes, but that is still to be determined.
6. Only Club skaters, coaches and employees will be allowed in the facility. Parents or guardians must wait for their skater in the Club parking lot, or return at the appointed time to pick up their skater. No guests or non-staff coaches will be allowed in the facility.
7. The Club cannot exceed its established maximum occupancy. Skaters will be required to promptly leave the Club at the conclusion of their skating session(s) through the rear of the building so as to allow room for the next scheduled skaters to enter the facility. Please do not leave your skater stranded in the Club parking lot, especially during inclement weather.

* These numbers will be adjusted as new information becomes available.

8. Only one skater, and one parent or guardian if present, will be allowed in the Club vestibule to be complete the required paperwork. Please form a line to the right of the entry doors and along the front and side of the building. Spots have been marked on the asphalt to indicate the necessary 6' social distancing requirement. Please stand in your spot until the spot in front of you becomes available.
9. Each day, all skaters must complete a COVID-19 Self-Certification Health Questionnaire and Voluntary Waiver in the Club entry vestibule and before entering the facility. For skaters under the age of 18, a parent or guardian must accompany their skater to the Club's entry vestibule to complete and sign the form. After signing the form in the vestibule, the parent or guardian must return to the parking lot.
10. The Self-Certification Health Questionnaire and Voluntary Waiver may also be downloaded [HERE](#) or from the home page of the Club website if you prefer to complete in advance of your arrival at the Club. A newly dated and signed form is required for each day you come to the Club.
11. Before leaving the vestibule and entering the facility, every individual must agree to have their temperature taken using a contact-less, infrared thermometer. Any individual with a body temperature of more than 100 degrees Fahrenheit will be required to return home with the recommendation to call their health-care provider. They will not be allowed in the facility for any reason, including access to their locker or use of the restrooms.
12. All skaters are asked to warm-up outside the building, weather permitting. In the event of inclement weather, the bleachers have pushed back to create additional warm-up areas inside the building. When warming up inside, skaters must follow the standard social distancing policy of 6' distance from each other. If choosing to warm up inside the facility, you must do it within the allotted time of your skating session so as not to exceed total capacity restrictions.
13. Members are required to bring their own mask. Masks must be worn by everyone entering the Club entry vestibule and facility. Masks must be worn at all times while in the facility.
14. If you are not willing to wear a mask, please do not come to the Club. If you forget your mask, you may not be able to enter the facility. The Club is still securing a larger supply of masks should they be needed by members.. But they are not yet available to offer.
15. Skaters are asked to arrive no more than 15 minutes before their session begins.
16. Please do not congregate anywhere in the facility. The Club's primary purpose at this point in the pandemic is to open safely for the express purpose of members resuming their on-ice training. As exciting as it may be to see friends in person after two months, please leave socialization and extended communication with friends for the outdoors.

17. Practice social distancing minimums of 6' separation at all times in and outside of the Club. This keeps you and everyone safer for when you return to the Club.
18. Please leave the facility through the rear 2 exits of the building. We are asking every skater to move quickly to take off their skates, gather their belongings and leave the facility after each session. This will allow more time to wipe down and clean seating and other areas of the facility before the next session.

Facility Setup and Cleaning Policies

1. The Club's entry vestibule has been set up with a table with the Self-Certification Health Questionnaire and Waiver. Only one skater, and parent or guardian if present, will be allowed in the Club vestibule. Please do not enter the vestibule if another member is still registering for facility entry.
2. If the vestibule is already occupied, please form a line to the right of the entry doors and along the front and side of the building. Spots have been marked on the asphalt to indicate the necessary 6' social distancing requirement. Please stay in your spot until the spot in front of you becomes available.
3. The Club office has plexiglass dividers separating the office from the membership entry area. After registering, skaters and coaches may proceed through the office to submit their completed questionnaire for review and to have their temperature taken. Once submitted and approved, they may proceed into the facility. Please do not linger in the Club office, unless to make a payment you were not already able to complete online.
4. After entering the facility, we are asking everyone to proceed directly to a restroom to wash their hands with soap and hot water before accessing either side of the rink to put on their skates.
5. After washing their hands, skaters will be directed to either the left side or the right side of the rink to take a seat and put on their skates. This will prevent overlap and close proximity for skaters entering the facility and skaters exiting the facility. More information on exiting the facility is provided below.
6. The Club has provided hand sanitizer throughout the facility. Please use as you believe necessary. Please do not use the Club hand sanitizer supply to fill personal sanitizer bottles. The Club's supply is for use while you are at the Club.
7. The Club's drinking fountain is closed. Please bring a personal water bottle labeled with your name. The Club office cannot fill water bottles. Water will also be available in the lobby vending machines if necessary.

8. Throughout the day, the Club's facility's team will regularly clean the rink board caps, door handles, music center, vending machines and other high-touch surfaces in the facility.
9. After the last session of each day, regular cleaning will take place of the Club office, vestibule restrooms, rink boards, chairs, bleacher seat tops, music center, vending machines and all high-touch surfaces. Bleach and disinfectant cleaners will be used.

Facility Access

Club Office

1. The Club office will be open to members for the purpose of making payments and submitting registration forms only. Only one member at a time may be in the office. There will be no more than 2 Club employees in the office at any time.
2. When possible, members are asked to make payments for sessions over the phone via credit card to avoid entering the facility unnecessarily.
3. Members with questions are asked to please contact Club Management by phone or email in lieu of entering the office.

Restricted or Limited Access

1. The Club Lounge and Rotch Room will be closed until further notice.
2. All of the back fitness rooms will be closed until further notice .
3. Locker rooms may only be used to access the restrooms, or for the removal and return of items to a locker. Locker rooms may not be used as a dressing or changing room. Skaters must arrive at the Club dressed for training.

Spinner and Jump Harnesses

1. The pole harnesses, and stationary harness may be used by staff coaches, but must be properly sanitized by the coach responsible after each use. Please inquire with the front office if you do not see the cleaning materials that have been put out for this purpose.
2. The spinner will not be available for use in the immediate short term unless a coach and a skater choose to use their on-ice time for time in the spinner. If planning to use the spinner, the coach should first notify the front office so that appropriate social distancing can be determined and post-use cleaning can take place.
3. You may not extend a skater's time in the facility with the use of the spinner. Coaches and skaters must use a skater's scheduled time on the ice for use of the spinner so as not to adversely impact the overall capacity limitations for total number of people in the building.

Off-Ice Strength Training

1. Please consult your trainer about outdoor training in the Club parking lot. While the strength training room is closed, only limited, approved Club equipment can be used under the supervision of a Club trainer.
2. Skaters must wear masks when training in a group or private session on Club property.
3. During the initial re-opening, if any equipment is used, it may not be shared between skaters.

Ice Schedule

The following sessions have been cancelled until further notice:

- Public Skating (Tuesday 9:40pm, Saturday 12:50pm)
- Skating Academy/Bridge (Sunday 3:00pm, Monday 6:30pm, Saturday 2:00pm, Saturday 4:00pm)
- Club Ice/Dance (Friday 6:10pm, Friday 8:00pm, Friday 9:00pm, Sunday 1:10pm)

In lieu of these sessions, additional free-skate sessions will be made available for members seeking additional ice from the restrictions caused by lower capacities on other sessions. Once ready, a revised 2019 Fall/Winter/Spring schedule will be available on the Club website under [Schedules](#).

Coaches

1. Please come dressed to coach. Choose a seat for putting on your skates and keep all your personal belongings close to your seat.
2. Coaches will be pre-assigned permanent “home” spots along the boards, every 16 feet. This will leave 8 feet to each side of them. Coaches who work together will be assigned adjacent spots. Coaches may leave their assigned area to work with a skater for a short amount of time elsewhere on the ice, but only if there is sufficient space at that time, and it is safe to do so.
3. Coaches are expected to look out for the safety of their skaters and fellow coaches by watching for social distancing requirements of a minimum 6’ feet of surrounding space when stopped anywhere on the ice. Do not skate with your skater! Coaches who are not properly observant will be warned. Coaches consistently violating social distancing requirements will be required to stay in their assigned area, or teach from the boards from off the ice.
4. Coaches are required to wear masks at all times they are in the facility, including while coaching.
5. Coaches are asked to keep a distance between them and their skater while coaching, and to keep any close interactions with their skater to a very short duration. Verbal cues should be given wherever possible, with physical content only in exceptional circumstances.

6. Coaches should wash their hands after working with an individual skater, especially if they have had any close contact with the skater.
7. Coaches should plan any meetings or extended discussions with skaters and their parents outside of the Club facility.
8. Coaches should confirm that a skater has washed their hands before starting their lesson. They should also remind skaters of the importance of consistently following all published guidelines to keep themselves and other skaters safe. This is something positive and pro-active that everyone can do to be part of the solution to keep the Club community safe.
9. Group coaching of 2 skaters per one coach may be allowed under certain circumstances in the near future. But for the Club's immediate re-opening, we are limiting lessons to one skater per coach.

Skaters

1. As a reminder, skaters are asked to warm-up outside the building, weather permitting. In the event of inclement weather, the bleachers have been pushed back to create additional warm-up areas inside the building. When warming up inside, skaters must follow the standard social distancing policy of 6' distance from each other. If choosing to warm up inside the facility, you must do it within the allotted time of your skating session so as not to exceed total capacity restrictions.
2. Skaters are required to wear masks while on the ice. We recognize this may not be a welcome restriction and it may impose some limits on your immediate training. While not a U.S. Figure Skating requirement, the Club believes it is a local necessity given the continued high rate of infection in our state and city. This restriction will be lifted once the risk of transmission is reduced in our current environment.
3. Once directed to the left or the right side of the facility, please use the chairs that have been placed rink side to put your skates on and off. You may leave your things in the immediate space around your chair while you skate.
4. Locker rooms may not be used for changing or putting on your skates. They may only be used for their restroom facilities. If you need to access your locker to get your skates or other equipment, please do so and bring your equipment to your rink side seating area.
5. We recommend that every skater bring a towel with them to lay out on a table or the tops of the retracted bleachers near where your coach is stationed in the rink. Water bottles, garments and skate guards may be left on your towel. This will offer you added protection.

6. Please do not congregate anywhere in the facility. The Club's primary purpose at this point in the pandemic is to open safely for the express purpose of members resuming their on-ice training. As exciting as it may be to see friends in person after two months, please leave socialization and extended communication with friends for the outdoors or by other means.
7. When you are done with your last session, please quickly take off your skates and gather your things and exit through the rear of the building.

Access to Ice

With the reduced capacities now necessary in the building and on the ice, we are prioritizing ice assignments with first priority being offered to contracted skaters. Contracting skaters have made a commitment to the Club, and when it has been inconvenient or impossible for them to skate, they have still met the obligations of their contract. In good faith, the Club will also keep its commitments to these skaters.

To begin, contracted skaters will be limited to 2 sessions each. A third session may be added for interested skaters once we are certain that we have made every effort to get every Club member at least one of their requested ice sessions per day. In assigning third sessions, priority will be given to any competitive skaters with international assignments, followed by skaters with other levels of commitment to U.S. Figure Skating. In speaking with Club coaches, many believe reducing 3 session per day skaters to 2 sessions per day will have the benefit of encouraging the skaters to get more out of each ice session.

Management is currently reviewing the lists of contracted skaters on all sessions. Working with your coaches, they have been re-assigning those skaters that have the flexibility to skate on other sessions during the day. As required, new leveled sessions will be created in the morning and early afternoons to accommodate the re-assigned contracted skaters. After all contracted members interested in skating have been assigned, the office team will come up with opportunities for all skaters on the permanent waitlist. After that, opportunities will be open to all skaters who wish to still walk on to a session.

Members interested in skating on a walk-on basis may call the Club office each morning starting at 5am to schedule sessions for that day. They may request up to two sessions. Walk-on sessions should be paid for at the time they are booked and not on-site in the Club office. As always, walk-on skaters will be assigned sessions as available space permits on each session.