



The Skating Club of Boston®

750 University Avenue
Safety Protocols
for Facility Operation
and Skating

Updated
September 4, 2020

Introduction

Given the ongoing global pandemic and the updated state and restrictions for the operation of non-essential businesses, the Club has established the following protocols for the operation of the Club's new facility at 750 University Avenue in Norwood. 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 at our Soldiers Field Road facility. 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 as we make this once-in-a-lifetime expansion of our operations and amenities. 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 resume participation in Club programming in Norwood for any reason should immediately contact Club management by emailing club.info@scboston.org. We understand that families and individuals may have ongoing concerns about their family's safety. Deciding not to return to the Club at this time will not negatively impact any member.

Construction Notice for September 2020

1. As previously mentioned in Club member communications, we are opening the Norwood facility before the entire facility is completed so as to accommodate the skating requirements of all Club members as soon as possible.
2. For the month of September, the Club will offer skating sessions on the Performance Center and East Rink in Norwood, and in place of the West Rink, at 1240 Soldiers Field Road in Brighton.
3. We will be following the same safety protocols at both facilities.
4. During the month of September, workmen will still be in the Norwood facility. They will be completing punch list items throughout the facility, while finishing construction on the West Rink and the Micheli Center.
5. Construction management and all sub-contractors have been informed that no workers are allowed to engage with any skaters or coaches at any time. This means no conversations, questions, or stopping to watch the skaters. This includes no photos and videos as well.
6. Club members must follow this exact same policy and may not interact with any workers in the facility for any reason.
7. If you are approached or asked to engage in any dialogue by anyone other than a Club staff member, please report the situation immediately to the front desk management team.
8. The new facility is fully equipped with security cameras that cover the entire facility outside of the locker room spaces.
9. Under no circumstances may anyone from the Club enter the West Rink, Micheli Center spaces while under construction.
10. The East Rink lobby entrance will also be restricted from members while the construction management team finishes the project.

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. If you have been outside of Massachusetts in the past 14 days, the state requires to you either show evidence of a negative COVID-19 or to self-quarantine at home for 14 days. You may not return to the Club unless you show dated proof of a negative COVID-19 test or until your 14-day period is over. This is in keeping with the Governor's restrictions for all residents. This request is only in effect for as long as the state's guideline is in effect. So much of this request depends upon the honor system if choosing the 14-day quarantine. We are all counting on the honesty and consideration of every Club member in this regard.
3. Exceptions will be made to the above guideline if your primary residence is in a neighboring state that the Governor has exempted, or you regularly commute to the Club from your primary residence and do not go anywhere else besides the Club when visiting Massachusetts. Again, we are all counting on the honesty and consideration of every Club member in abiding by this exception.
4. The Club will limit the total number of people on the ice, skaters and coaches, to different numbers depending on whether they are skating on the NHL or Olympic-sized ice surface. The rink surface areas are 17,000 square feet and 20,000 square feet respectively. The state guidelines are for 8 people per 1,000 square feet, or 125 square feet per person. At no time will the Club come close to approaching those rations, on the ice surfaces or in the facility.
5. The facility will not be open to the public. There will be no public skating at 750 University Avenue until further notice.
6. Skating Academy classes have now resumed for upper-level classes at all Skating Academy classes where the rinks are open. This will include the Club's Norwood facility. Beginner classes requiring high-touch contact with the younger skaters are not currently being offered. Skating Academy students will follow the same protocols as other Club members.
7. For the month of September, 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. Exceptions will be made for the specific purpose to use the lobby rest rooms.
8. With the greater spaces afforded in the Club's larger facility, skaters may remain in the Club at the conclusion of their skating session(s). There will be capacity limitations for the various rooms throughout the facility.

9. Skaters, coaches and employees may exit through the front of the building as long as they do not use the double door entry through which they entered. This will be very obvious once on site.
10. Only one skater, and one parent or guardian if present, will be allowed in the designated Club entry vestibule to complete the required paperwork. Please form a line to the LEFT of the entry doors and along the front of the building. Please allow six feet between you and the person next to you in line. We have not marked the new sidewalks with these distances, but we will if it becomes obvious that the social distancing minimums are not being followed.
11. 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.
12. 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.
13. 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.
14. All skaters may now warm up 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. We ask that skaters not warm up on the mezzanine during the month of September when workmen are still in the building. There is sufficient room rink side in both the performance center and the east rink, while still following social distancing guidelines of 6 feet in separation.
15. 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.
16. 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 has some masks available for

member use, but we cannot guarantee we will have a mask available for you at the exact time that you might need it.

17. Skaters are asked to arrive no more than 30 minutes before their session begins.
18. 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 continuing their on-ice training. As exciting as it may be to share the new facility with your friends, please leave socialization and extended communication with friends for when you are away from the Club. But only while the pandemic continues! This new building was designed for socialization, hanging back and sharing with friends.. Please blame the pandemic for this short-term inconvenience and not the Club.
19. Practice social distancing minimums of 6' separation at all times in and outside of the Club. This keeps you and everyone safer for when we are all in the Club.
20. Please leave the facility through the main lobby to the left of the entrance where you entered by the check-in desk. We are asking every skater to move quickly to take off their skates, gather their belongings and leave the facility after each session. At least in September when we have non-Club members also in the facility finishing construction. This will also 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 new 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 left of the entry doors and along the front of the building. Please allow six feet between you and the person next to you in line. We have not marked the new sidewalks with these distances, but we will if it becomes obvious that the social distancing minimums are not being followed.
3. The Club office has plexiglass dividers separating the office from the membership entry area. After registering, skaters and coaches will have their temperatures taken at the front desk before proceeding into the main lobby. Once cleared for entry, if you have any questions please step around the office to the second counter facing the main lobby.
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 their scheduled rink to put on their skates.

5. Please know on which rink you will be skating that day before entering the facility. Individual rinks Performance Center and East Rink only in September) are clearly marked on the ice schedule. Skaters will be directed to either the left side or the right side of the assigned 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 new drinking fountains are open and now feature filtered water and bottle fillers. For everyone's safety, please only use the bottle-filling feature. Please bring a personal water bottle labeled with your name.
8. Throughout the day, the Club's facility's team will regularly clean the rink board caps, door handles, and other high-touch surfaces in the facility.
9. After the last session of each day, regular cleaning will take place throughout the facility, including restrooms, rink boards, chairs, 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 served by the office.
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. As previously communicated, the West Rink and the Micheli Center will not open until as early as September 28th, or as late as October 1st.
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. (New lockers may be chosen at the front desk once skaters are in the facility.)

Spinner and Jump Harnesses

1. The pole harnesses 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 new spinner will not be available for use until its installation in the West Rink is completed at the end of September.

Off-Ice Strength Training

1. The Micheli Center will open for private and group strength training on October 1st. Once open, Club coaches may not strength train club skaters on Club property. This is both to protect the leasing rights of the Micheli Center, but also because the Micheli Center has hired highly-certified and well-experienced trainers that are specialized and focused solely on strength training. These trainers include Mike Cook and Ariel Fay-Gagnon. Many members who remember Mike Cook from when he previously trained skaters at the Club, and are thrilled that he is returning as a member of the Micheli Center. Ariel, of course, is a current favorite of many Club members.
2. More information on the Micheli Center strength trainers, class schedules will be available in September.

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 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.
3. Coaches are required to wear masks at all times they are in the facility, including while coaching.
4. 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.
5. Coaches should wash their hands after working with an individual skater, especially if they have had any close contact with the skater.

6. Coaches should plan any meetings or extended discussions with skaters and their parents outside of the Club facility.
7. 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 proactive that everyone can do to be part of the solution to keep the Club community safe.
8. Group coaching of 2 skaters per one coach is now allowed.

Skaters

1. 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 the ground near their chair. 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 continues to be 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 the building.