



COVID-19 Policies and Procedures

November 3, 2020

The Great Falls Community Ice Foundation is committed to providing a safe and healthy facility for our workers, customers and participants. To ensure this, we have developed the following set of COVID-19 policies and procedures. Individual Ice Plex users may have additional COVID-19 policies. The set of policies listed below is subject to change as required by federal, state or local mandates. Exceptions to these policies may be allowed in certain situations. Requests need to be submitted in writing by the user group's representative to the GFCIF Board of Directors for approval.

General Policies

- Anyone showing COVID-19 symptoms may not enter the facility. Symptoms include fever, shortness of breath, chills, cough, sore throat, unexplained muscle pain, vomiting, diarrhea, and loss of taste or smell.
- Rink staff will disinfect high touch surfaces every two hours with an EPA registered disinfectant.
- For youth events, a maximum of 100 persons will be allowed in the facility at one time. For adult and public events, a maximum of 50 persons will be allowed in the facility at one time.
- Face masks will be worn at all times when in the facility. Skaters, coaches, and on-ice officials may remove face masks once they are in the bench areas or on the ice.
- Floor markings, stanchions and signage will be in place to assist with distancing. Patrons are expected to adhere to these directions.
- No dryland or off-ice warmup activities will be allowed.
- Users will not be allowed to use the facility for group/team/parent meetings or discussions.
- Ice user groups must have contact information for all participants and are responsible for enforcing all rink policies.
- With the exception of water bottles for on ice participants, no outside food or beverages of any kind are allowed into the facility.
- Water bottles may not be shared and must be filled prior entering the facility.
- Bench areas will be disinfected at the end of each evening before closing.
- Only two persons are allowed in the score keeping area. Masks must be worn.
- Strict ice session schedules will be maintained. Under no circumstances will sessions be extended for any reason. Users will be billed only for time used.
- Restrooms will be disinfected every 2 hours and at the end of each evening before closing.

Arrival / Departure of facility

- Skaters and associated spectators will be allowed to enter the facility 15 minutes prior to their practice session or game. Goalies are allowed to enter the facility 20 minutes prior to their practice session or game.
- The user for each ice session will be assigned a door to enter and exit the facility.
 - If entering the **north** set of doors: Remain at the **north** end of the rink when preparing to get on the ice. Enter and exit the ice through the **north** bench. Exit the building through the **north** set of doors.
 - If entering the **south** set of doors: Remain at the **south** end of the rink when preparing to get on the ice. Enter and exit the ice through the **south** bench. Use of the restrooms on the north end of the building will be allowed. Exit the building through the **south** set of doors.
- If allowed, spectators can enter only until the maximum of 50 (adult event) or 100 (youth event) person facility limit is reached. All spectators are expected to follow social distancing guidelines by staying at least six feet away from other people who are not from your household.
- Children not participating in on-ice programs must remain with a family member or guardian at all times. Unattended children will not be allowed to roam the facility.
- Participants must exit the ice immediately after session has ended. It is expected that larger users start to leave the ice a few minutes earlier than the session ending time to allow for social distancing when exiting the ice.
- All skaters and spectators must exit the facility within 15 minutes after the end of their practice session or game.

Locker rooms

- Users can only enter the locker room(s) to which they are assigned.
- Participants are allowed locker room entry 15 minutes (goalies allowed entry 20 minutes) prior to their session start time, and must vacate the locker room no more than 15 minutes after session has ended.
- Masks are recommended to be worn in the locker rooms unless helmets are on.
- All skaters ages 10 and under are required to dress at home. Locker rooms will not be used for these age groups.
- All other skaters are encouraged to dress as much as possible at home.

Public Skate / Stick and Puck

- A maximum of 50 persons will be allowed in the facility.
- Skaters and spectators are required to sign in for contact tracing purposes.
- Skaters are asked to maintain a minimum six-foot distance from others while waiting to enter or exit the facility and ice surface.
- Rental skates will be disinfected after use.

Large events

The Great Falls Ice Plex is allowed to host events larger than 100 persons under certain conditions:

- The ice user must first submit a Covid-19 event plan to the City County Health Department (CCHD) of Cascade County for approval. Once approved, the plan will need to be submitted to the GFCIF President with completed GFCIF Large Event Cover Page at least 10 days prior to the event. The plan is subject to approval by the GFCIF Board of Directors.
- The user will be responsible to enforce the event capacity limit.
- The event plan must outline the user's procedures for protective measures and environmental controls to reduce the risk of Covid-19 transmission, including a strict requirement of six-foot physical distancing and assurance that the plan will be adhered to at the time of the event.
- Concessions may also be allowed but must meet CCHD requirements for food service operations.
- Certain permissions not otherwise allowed, such as earlier entry to the facility, dryland warmups etc., may be requested by the large event user. These permissions are subject to approval by the GFCIF Board of Directors.