

OUTDOOR WINTER RECREATION

Overview

Under current Chief Medical Officer of Health Orders, businesses and entities are required to:

- implement practices to minimize the risk of transmission of infection among attendees;
- provide procedures for rapid response if an attendee develops symptoms of illness;
- ensure that attendees maintain high levels of sanitation and personal hygiene;
- comply, to the extent possible, with the [COVID-19 General Relaunch Guidance](#) and any other applicable Alberta Health guidance found at: alberta.ca/biz-connect.aspx.

This document has been developed to support operators of outdoor recreational areas in reducing the risk of transmission of COVID-19 among attendees (including workers, staff, participants/patrons, volunteers and, where relevant, members of the general public) while [Chief Medical Officer of Health Order 42-2020](#) is in effect. The guidance provided outlines public health and infection prevention and control measures specific to these activities.

In all settings, it is important that measures are implemented to reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19. This includes but is not limited to ensuring: physical distancing, barrier use (where appropriate), proper hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette, enhanced and appropriate cleaning and disinfecting, records management and building maintenance (e.g., ventilation). Operators should refer to the [General Relaunch Guidance](#) for information regarding how to implement these measures.

COVID-19 Risk Mitigation

Ski Hills	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ski hills can continue to operate so long as they follow all applicable public health orders and guidance, including the stronger public health measures that take effect on December 13, 2020.<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Gondolas and chairlifts can continue to operate following the Guidance for Gondolas, Trams and Chairlifts.• Ski chalets and indoor retail spaces (including gear and souvenir shops, ticket booths and equipment rental facilities) can remain open at 15% of fire code occupancy.<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Ski hill operators should calculate and post the number of occupants allowed in each indoor space, and ensure that the number of people in that space does not exceed 15% of fire code capacity.○ Retail operators must follow applicable guidance.○ Temporary and permanent warming huts and shelters can remain open at 15% of fire code occupancy.• Washrooms should remain open.• Restaurants, pubs, cafes and bars can stay open for take-out, “curb-side” pick up or delivery only; no table service is allowed.
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OUTDOOR WINTER RECREATION

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Patrons should be encouraged to limit their time inside. • Workspaces that are not accessible to the public (e.g. chairlift operating booths, offices, security) can remain open. • Onsite first aid and medical facilities can remain open. • Patrons and workers must follow provincial requirements for face masking in all indoor locations (e.g., chalets, shuttles, buses, gondolas). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ For greater clarity, a face mask means any medical or non-medical mask or other face covering that covers a person’s nose, mouth and chin. ○ Ski hill operators may also set additional requirements for the use of face masks in outdoor locations (e.g., during outdoor lessons, on chair lifts, in lift lines). • Transportation provided by ski hills, including guest shuttles, must have mandatory masking for all occupants and 2 metre physical distancing between people who are not part of the same household. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Transport operators are expected to follow the Guidance for Chartered Tour Buses, Multi-City Buses and Passenger Trains. • Where possible, ski hills should offer online or outdoor ticket sales and rental purchases to limit the number of people who must enter indoor areas or form lineups.
<p>Other Outdoor Recreation Amenities and Supporting Indoor Buildings/Structures</p> <p>(Skating Rinks, Nordic Ski Centres, Shooting Ranges)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outdoor recreation amenities can be open to public access unless specifically closed by public health order. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Examples of these amenities include, but are not limited to, outdoor skating rinks, sledding hills, Nordic ski areas, ice or glacier walks, hiking trails and golf courses for cross-country ski access. ○ Operators of smaller amenities with clear boundaries (e.g., skating rinks) should post capacity limits at the amenity entrance. Appendix A provides instructions for calculating skating rink capacity limits. • Indoor recreational buildings or structures that support outdoor recreation are closed to all types of public access except for the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Retail spaces (including rental and repair shops) can remain open at 15% of fire code occupancy and follow applicable guidance. ○ Indoor warming shelters (both temporary and permanent) can stay open at 15% of fire code occupancy. ○ Food service businesses can remain open for take-out, “curb-side” pick up and delivery only; there can be no table service. ○ Washrooms should remain open. ○ Any transportation offered that supports these amenities or buildings, such as shuttles or buses, can continue to operate. All occupants must

OUTDOOR WINTER RECREATION

	<p>wear face masks and maintain 2 metres' physical distance from people who are not part of their household. Transportation operators must follow applicable guidance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attendees must follow provincial requirements for face masks in all indoor locations. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Amenity operators may also set additional requirements for the use of face masks in outdoor locations. • Where possible, operators should offer options for online or outdoor ticket and rental purchases to avoid crowding in indoor areas.
Gatherings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Private social gatherings involving people from different households are prohibited in any indoor or outdoor location in the province. • Facility operators should post signage reminding patrons that gathering of non-household members is not permitted and to maintain 2 metres' physical distance from persons not from the same household when standing or seated.
Lessons, Training, Sport and Performances	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group lessons are permitted outdoors with up to 10 people. Participants who are not part of the same household must observe 2 metres of physical distance. • Outdoor team sports and performance activities must also be limited to 10 people or fewer and 2 metre physical distancing between participants must be maintained at all times. • One-on-one instruction for sports and performance activities can proceed indoors and outdoors but may not occur in facilities that are closed to public access.
Transportation (including Gondolas, Snow Crawlers, Sleighs)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any outdoor recreation that involves group transportation vehicles (for example, glacier walks, gondola rides, sleigh or wagon rides) can continue so long as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The driver and all other occupants wear facial masks at all times while inside a vehicle. ○ 2 metre physical distancing must be maintained between occupants who are not part of the same household at all times. ○ It is recommended that meals not be provided in side transport vehicles as it forces occupants to remove facial coverings. ○ The operator follows the Guidance for Chartered Tour Buses, Multi-City Buses and Passenger Trains.
Festivals and events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outdoor festivals and events (e.g., concerts, exhibitions, sporting events or competitions, fireworks displays, parades) are not permitted at this time unless they are in a 100% drive-in format and all attendees remain in their own vehicles.

OUTDOOR WINTER RECREATION

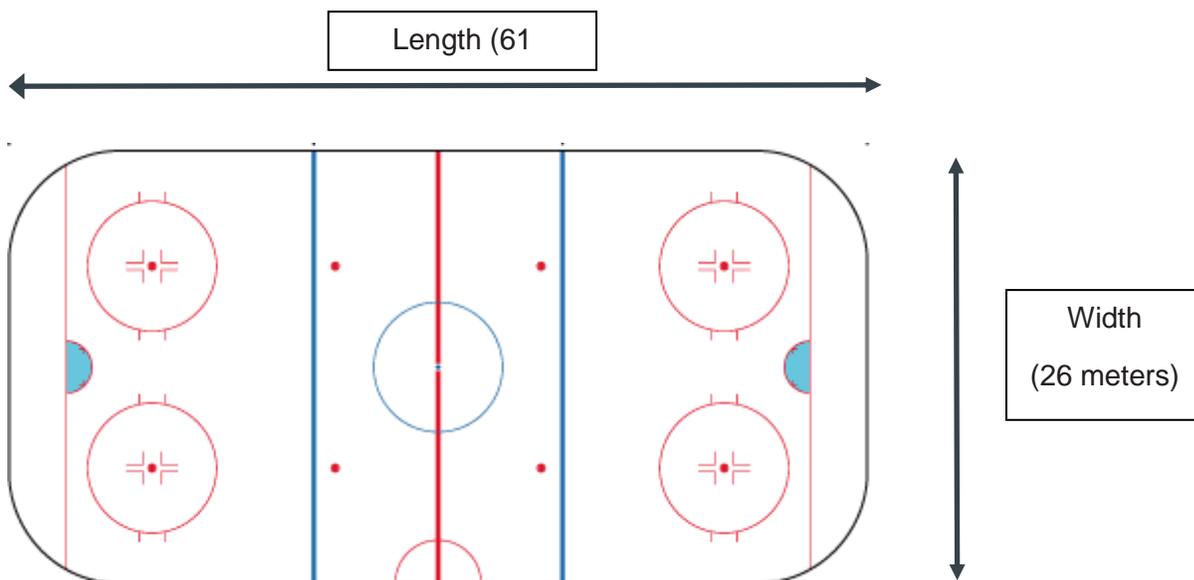
APPENDIX A: Formula for Calculating the Capacity of Outdoor Skating Rinks

Typically sized outdoor hockey rinks enclosed by boards (approximately 61m x 26m)

Rules for typically sized outdoor hockey rinks enclosed by boards:

- There is a maximum of 50 people that can be on the ice at one time (CMOH Order 25) for rinks of this dimension or greater.
- No competitions, games or events can occur (CMOH Order 39)
- No shinny, tag or pick-up games (CMOH Order 39)
- Non-household participants must be distanced by 2 meters (CMOH Order 26)
- No indoor amenities other than washroom use (CMOH Order 39)

How capacity is calculated for typically sized outdoor hockey rinks enclosed by boards:



Step 1: Calculate the area of the rink by measuring the length and width of the rink in meters.

$$61\text{m} \times 26\text{m} = 1586\text{m}^2$$

Step 2: Divide this number by 16m² (this is the amount of space required per individual)

$$1586\text{m}^2 \text{ divided by } 16\text{m}^2 = 99 \text{ people}$$

Step 3: Divide by 50% to account for movement of people

OUTDOOR WINTER RECREATION

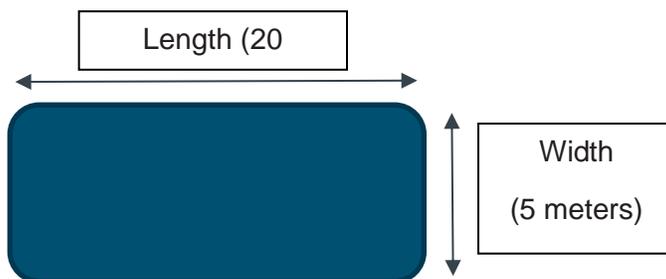
99 multiplied by 0.50 = 50 people

Smaller sized outdoor hockey rinks enclosed by boards (i.e. kids skating surfaces)

Rules for smaller sized outdoor hockey rinks enclosed by boards (i.e. kids skating surfaces)

- Establish, post and ensure that patrons follow set capacity limits
- No competitions, games or events can occur (CMOH Order 39)
- No shinny, tag or pick-up games (CMOH Order 39)
- Non-household participants must be distanced by 2 meters (CMOH Order 26)
- No indoor amenities other than washroom use (CMOH Order 39)

Sample calculation for smaller sized outdoor hockey rinks enclosed by boards:



Step 1: Calculate the area of the rink by measuring the length and width of the rink in meters.

$$20\text{m} \times 5\text{m} = 100\text{m}^2$$

Step 2: Divide this number by 16m² (this is the amount of space required per individual)

$$100\text{m}^2 \text{ divided by } 16\text{m}^2 = 6 \text{ people}$$

Step 3: Multiply by 50% to account for movement of people

$$6 \text{ multiplied by } 0.50 = 3 \text{ people}$$