



ICE SKATING VICTORIA INC.
RETURN TO PLAY PLAN
- FIGURE SKATING -

Approved by the Vic Sport, Thursday 18 June 2020
Updated 23 June 2020

Organisation details

Organisation: **Ice Skating Victoria Inc.**

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Organisation type: **Figure Ice Skating State Sporting Association**

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1. Hygiene

What measures will you introduce to ensure all participants and spectators are maintaining personal hygiene?

<p>For all state and club run sessions, athletes will be required to separate their belongings along the ice rink barrier 1.5m apart. Where athletes might usually have used tissues stored on the barrier, these must be either in their pockets or put straight in bins. Athletes will not be permitted to share drink bottles, skate guards or other belongings. Athletes must not use each others phones or music playing devices during training sessions to limit the physical contact and touch point spreading.</p>

<p>For all state and club run sessions, hand sanitiser will be provided for athletes, officials, coaches and spectators.</p>
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<p>All athletes, coaches and spectators must wash or sanitise their hands before and after each session.</p>
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How will personal hygiene and cleaning of facilities and equipment be maintained to minimise transmission of coronavirus (COVID-19)?

<p>Ice Skating Victoria does not provide equipment to athletes.</p>

<p>All sessions are conducted at either one of the three Victorian ice rinks. These facilities will be responsible for maintaining a clean and safe environment for all athletes, officials and spectators. If ISV feels that the rinks are not providing a sufficiently clean environment, bookings will be cancelled and sessions will not be run in the facilities.</p>
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Have you increased regular cleaning schedules for common use areas?
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<p>Not relevant as all cleaning is conducted by the ice rinks which are independent businesses.</p>

2. Physical contact activities

Physical distancing decreases the risk of transmission by reducing incidence of contact with other persons through shaking hands, hugging or tackling. The Victorian Chief Health Officer's Directions require that participants take reasonable steps to maintain 1.5 metres distance from all other people.

For activities that contain physical contact, or close interaction with other people, what protocols or modifications to activities can be implemented to ensure physical distancing is maintained?

Ice Skating Victoria will be asking the Victorian Professional Skating Association (accredited figure skating coaches association) to communicate to their members that all coaches must maintain 1.5m from their students at all times. Assisting the athletes through touch will not be permitted nor will hugging or other breaches of social distancing.

Disciplines of figure skating that require close physical contact (pairs, ice dance, synchronized or theatre on ice) where one or more of the participants is over 18 years of age are permitted to train but must adhere to social distancing and maintain 1.5m of space around them at all times, until such a point that restrictions ease.

If both skaters in a pair or ice dance couple, or all members of a synchronized team are 18 years of age or under, training without social distancing is permitted for low risk maneuvers that do not require a coach to intervene. High risk maneuvers are not permitted. These can include, but are not limited to pass throughs, lifts and death spirals. These are not allowed as coaches may be required to spot athletes or help position them to avoid injury. High risk maneuvers also have an increased likelihood of injury requiring hospitalization.

In the instance of state ice time bookings, we will ensure our officials will be limited to only those who are essential to meet national and international requirements. All officials will be advised to maintain social distancing at all times. When conducting athlete test session they will be positioned 1.5m apart at all times and athletes will be required to stand back 1.5m when speaking with officials.

3. Arrival and departure of participants, officials, parents or carers

Physical distancing decreases the risk of transmission by reducing incidence of contact between people. The control of facilities and management of areas where people might gather will reduce the risk of coronavirus (COVID-19) transmission.

What measures have you put in place for managing entry and exit points, separating assembly areas, adjustments to activity timings and maintaining physical distancing of people?

The ice rinks will manage this aspect. We will adhere to any and all requirements they set out.

4. Spectators/gatherings.

Spectators, and other non-participants watching activities should not attend activities unless they have an essential role or they are parents and/or guardians. Public gathering limitations apply. Organisations should plan for activities without crowds to prevent the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19).

What protocols will be in place to restrict access to athletes and maintain recommended physical distancing?

Spectators must maintain 1.5m from each other and athletes at all times. Spectators will be only allowed to attend sessions for athletes under the age of 18.

When putting on their ice skates, athletes must ensure they maintain physical distancing of 1.5m from people not from their household. Younger skaters will require assistance from parents/guardians when putting on their ice skates.

Ice Skating Victoria officials will be instructed to ensure no more than 20 people gather in an enclosed space and no more than 10 people participate in the same group activity.

5. Sharing equipment

In combination with good hygiene practices, a similar pre-emptive measure is to promote behaviours such as not sharing drink bottles, towels, and limiting the shared use of equipment. Equipment that touches the head of face or cannot be effectively cleaned (for example, if made from soft materials or clothing) should not be shared. Where sharing equipment cannot be avoided, equipment with smooth surfaces should be cleaned between sessions.

What modifications can be made to ensure there is no transmission of coronavirus (COVID-19) through the sharing of equipment, contact with equipment and/or contact with any surfaces where participants may be at risk of infection?

As listed in section one, athletes will be advised to not share any items. They will also be encouraged to limit items on the barrier to only the essentials to undertake their training.

The ice rink will be responsible for cleaning contact points in line with DHHS restrictions and advice.

Do you have protocols in place for sports medicine staff who share medical equipment?

We do not provide any such services to athletes

6. Group/team activity

The Victorian Chief Health Officer's Directions currently limit gatherings to up to 20 people outdoors (plus a coach or the minimum number of support staff reasonably required to manage the activity) which impacts team or group activities.

For team activities, what protocols are in place to enable a staged return to activities of small groups (up to 20) in non-contact formats?

As we are a purely indoor sport, we will be abiding by the indoor sport restrictions that come into effect on the 22 June. When conducting state training sessions or test sessions we will ensure we limit participants and officials to the restrictions current at the time of the session.

Are changes required to participant behaviour during sport activities in addition to no shaking hands and high fives?

Yes, team and group skating disciplines must adhere to social distancing requirements in line with the restrictions at that point in time.

7. Indoor physical recreation facilities (including gyms)

Activities reintroduced to indoor stadiums, gyms, fitness centres or health clubs need to be done so in a cautious and methodical manner. The principles of physical distancing, personal hygiene measures, cleaning equipment and implementing the density ratio of one person per four square metres still apply.

For information and procedures on cleaning and disinfection requirements, visit the [Environmental cleaning and disinfection principles for COVID-19](#).

How will you control access to the facility to ensure separation of 20 people per enclosed space and up to 10 people per group/activity?

Ice Skating Victoria and its members will be adhering to the individual ice rinks policies. Ice Skating Victoria does not own, operate, nor have any stake in any ice skating rink. All use of the facilities is done via hiring ice time on a per hour rate. Ice rinks provide staffing, cleaning etc for all bookings and will continue to do so. If a sufficiently clean facility is not provided, bookings will be cancelled.

In addition to rink processes, Ice Skating Victoria officials will be instructed to ensure no more than 20 people gather in an enclosed space and no more than 10 people participate in the same group activity.
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How will you monitor physical distancing of 1.5 metres between each person and the density ratio of one person per four square metres inside the facility?

We will advise our athletes and spectators to maintain 1.5m of social distancing at all times, and that they must also follow the rules set in place by the ice rinks.
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What are the cleaning protocols and procedures for high contact areas and the ability for sanitisation between each contact?

This is being managed by the individual ice rinks hired by Ice Skating Victoria.
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8. Public Aquatic Centres (indoor and outdoor)

Swim centres or public aquatic centres must consider the possibility that coronavirus (COVID-19) might be transmitted through visitors or in the workplace. Owners, operators and swimming clubs must be prepared to respond appropriately, effectively and consistent with advice from health authorities. Life Saving Victoria is preparing tools and resources to guide businesses and facilities plan for a phased reopening of public pools. Visit lsv.com.au for further information. Check with your local council to find out if your swimming pool is open, the hours of operation and the processes your local council has in place to protect your health and safety.

How will you control access to the swimming pool and the centre to ensure 3 persons in each lane and 20 patrons per swimming pool is maintained?

NA

What education and communications for swimming clubs and recreational users will be available to support effective implementation of the records, cleaning and signage requirements?

NA

Have you consulted with Life Saving Victoria about specific guidance for the safe operation of swimming pools during the period of restrictions?

NA

9. Travel

Travel is allowed for permitted activities, including day trips and overnight stays in private residences, subject to private gathering restrictions. Overnight stays are permitted in tourist accommodation provided there is no use of communal facilities.

How can your return to play plan ensure travel is minimised and participants stay in the local neighbourhoods and towns?

At this point in time Ice Skating Victoria will not be holding, nor allowing to be run, any event that requires athletes or officials travelling.

10. High injury risk activity

To reduce the strain on Victoria's health and emergency services, common sense should be used in avoiding activities that have a high risk of injury that may result in hospitalisation.

What measures are in place for high injury risk activities that may result in hospitalisation?

We will be advising our athletes to ensure they are properly warmed up, well rested and fully alert when training to minimise risk of injury and any possible strain on the health system.

11. Protocols

What protocols or processes are in place to check if participants are free of coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms?

Before all Ice Skating Victoria sessions, and before access is granted, we will be asking all athletes if they are experiencing any of the COVID-19 symptoms, have recently travelled or come into contact with anyone who has a confirmed case of COVID-19. Any athlete who fails the check will not be permitted to enter or participate.

What protocols do you have in place for people who present to training with symptoms consistent with coronavirus (COVID-19) (fever or respiratory symptoms such as cough, sore throat and shortness of breath)?

They will be asked to leave immediately and isolate and contact their health care professional for the next steps. Any athlete who comes into contact with that person will be advised to isolate until the all clear is given.

Ice Skating Victoria and it's affiliated clubs will also collect details of all people participating in state and club events to ensure contact tracing can be completed. Ice Skating Victoria will be instructing all ice rinks to follow the same process.

How will you coordinate and communicate and changes to the directions to your clubs, members and stakeholders?

We will provide updates on our website and social media as well as emails to all members.

12. Communication

Communicating coronavirus (COVID-19) risk mitigation strategies to participants is vital. Setting and promoting expectations for required behaviours prior to recommencing activities will be crucial to ensuring activities remain safe for all participants.

List the measures you will use to communicate and provide guidance to participants and clubs?
We will provide updates on our website and social media as well as emails to all members. Any requests for guidance from clubs can be channelled through their club representative that is a voting rights member of the council.
Do you have protocols to advise participants, officials and parents or carers to not attend if they are feeling unwell? Yes/No
Yes. We will be emailing all participants prior to each session we run reminding them of their requirements.
Do you have strategies to address non-compliance? Yes/No What are they?
If a member turns up and we believe they may be carrying COVID-19 we will ask them to leave. If they don't, membership could be revoked as well as alerting authorities. Any non-compliance with any of the processes outlined in this document may result in disciplinary actions including cancellation of membership and exclusion from participating, attending or coaching at ALL Victorian Figure Skating competition, training session or other Figure Skating related events.

Version history

- Version 2, 23 June 2020
 - Updated to allow 18 years and under athletes participate in ice dance, pairs and synchronized skating without social distancing.
- Version 1, 18 June 2020
 - Initial release.