



September 17, 2021

ARENA COVID-19 SAFETY PLAN REVISED

In the August 2021 Village Newsletter, the following regulations in italics below were implemented for the Arena. The decision to require proof of vaccination for spectators, coaches and volunteers was based on communication from the B.C. Recreation and Parks Association (BCRPA) which provides information and direction to local governments who own and operate indoor recreation facilities. Since the newsletter was published, IHA provided clarification which enabled the following changes in blue below. **Please remember the Arena does not open until October 2, who knows what the future holds; therefore, these restrictions may be subject to change.**

ARENA & CURLING RINK: (From Newsletter)

- *Proof of vaccination is required for adult team sports for anyone over 19 years of age and older;*
- *Coaches, team managers, score keepers, referees etc. over the age of 19 require proof of vaccination;*
- *Minor hockey participants 19 years old and younger will not require proof of vaccination;*
- *Sticks and Pucks participants 19 years old and younger will not require proof of vaccination;*
- *Public Skate participants 19 years old and younger will not require proof of vaccination;*
- *All spectators 12 years old and older will require proof of vaccination.*

UPDATED ARENA

Due to the recently released information from Interior Health the following edits have been made to the Arena COVID-19 Safety Plan:

- Proof of vaccination **is required** for adult team sports for anyone over 22 years of age and older;
- Coaches, team managers, score keepers, referees etc. For Minor Hockey **DO NOT** require proof of vaccination;
- Minor hockey participants **DO NOT** require proof of vaccination;
- Sticks and Pucks participants **WILL NOT** require proof of vaccination;
- Public Skate participants **WILL NOT** require proof of vaccination;
- All spectators 12 years old and older **WILL NOT** require proof of vaccination, **but masks are mandatory.** (Maximum of 50 people are permitted on dry surfaces, **face shields are not substitutes for masks**)

Once again, we ask for your patience, staff is doing their best to navigate through various documents from multiple regulating bodies, some of which are contradictory. We will continue to engage in discussions with Interior Health, BC Parks and Recreation, the Provincial Health Office and the Province. Ashcroft's COVID-19 Facility Plan is a living document and may be amended from time to time dependant on other levels of government direction and as regulations change.

Staff strives to provide recreational opportunities in the village during these challenging times. The following information was clipped from the Interior Health Website.

“Wellness Awaits You”

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The following provincial and regional restrictions are in place in the Interior region to stop the spread of COVID-19. These [restrictions](#) are made by the Provincial Health Officer (PHO) and Interior Health Medical Health Officers under the Public Health Act.

You now need proof of vaccination to access some events, services and businesses with the [BC Vaccine Card](#).

Masks in public indoor settings

Schools

Personal gatherings

Organized gatherings

Exercise

Sports

- Youth sports participants (up to 22 years old) are exempt from proof of vaccination.
- Sports participants over 22 years, must show proof of vaccination (minimum one dose).
- **Officials, coaches and volunteers on the field of play are exempt from proof of vaccination for all age groups.**
- Spectators for ticketed sports events (youth and adult) require proof of full vaccination (2 doses)
- **Spectators for non-ticketed events (i.e. hockey practice) do not require proof of vaccination.**

Restaurants, pubs, bars, nightclubs and casinos

Travel

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Masks in public indoor settings

Masks are required in all indoor public spaces for people 12 years and older.

This includes:

- Malls, shopping centres
- Grocery and liquor stores
- Airports
- Coffee shops
- On public transportation, in a taxi or ride-sharing vehicle
- Libraries
- Clothing and retail stores
- Areas of office buildings where services to the public are provided
- Common areas of sport and fitness centres when not engaged in physical activity
- Common areas of post-secondary institutions and non-profit organizations
- Inside schools for all K to 12 staff, visitors and students in grades 4 to 12
- Drug stores
- Community centres
- Recreation centres
- City Halls
- Restaurants, pubs and bars when not seated at a table

Masks are required in schools for all K to 12 staff, visitors and students in grades 4 to 12

There are exemptions for:

- People with health conditions or with physical, cognitive or mental impairments who cannot wear one
- People who cannot remove a mask on their own
- Children under the age of 12
- People who need to remove their masks to communicate due to another person's hearing impairment

A face shield is not a substitute for a mask as it has an opening below the mouth.

Note: The order will be reassessed when [proof of vaccination and B.C.'s vaccine card](#) are fully implemented.