



Mitchell Stingers Ringette Association

COVID PROTOCOLS

Mitchell Ringette Association is committed to getting our players back on the ice in a safe and organized manner.

The health and safety of our players, bench staff and the community is our number 1 priority.

- **Please note this is a Living Document subject to change as protocols evolve and updated information becomes available**

This plan covers the following areas:

1. Working with Public Health, Ringette Ontario and Ringette Canada Guidelines
2. Working with our Facilities
3. Working with Coaches and Bench Staff
4. Working with Parents & Players
5. Communication Protocols



Working with Public Health, Ringette Ontario and Ringette Canada Guidelines

Mitchell Ringette will be following all :Government of Canada :The Province of Ontario and The Huron Perth Public Health Recommendations and Guidelines; as well as all Ringette Ontario and Ringette Canada Guidelines.

We are working diligently and directly with the local facilities to adhere to the back to Play documents published and set out by both The Municipality of West Perth and Huron East (Town of Seaforth) Facilities – please find the links to all the above necessary guidelines and documents posted on our Website.

Huron Perth Health is aware of the back to Play (Arena) facilities reopening documents that each municipality has put forth. They have worked closely with the facilities to ensure a safe, healthy back to ice document.

- a) At this time, no A/AA level play will be formed until guidelines have been provided by Ringette Ontario.
- b) Mitchell Ringette Association plans to have no competition against other associations until approved by Ringette Ontario.
- c) Mitchell Ringette will investigate in our own association modified 3 on 3 play as well as with other associations at the same level as us once approved by Ringette Ontario to do so.
- d) We will explore and implement modified 5 on 5 with Associations within our health unit when approved by Ringette Ontario for Stage 3.
- e) Upon approval by Ringette Ontario Mitchell Ringette is hoping to return to the ice in October with Tuesday night as well as Saturday-Sunday ice times at the West Perth Facility and Saturday Ice times at the Seaforth Arena.
- f) October 3rd is the first day we will return to any ringette activities, skills or drills and only once Approved by Ringette Ontario.
- g) At this point we are not allowing any dry land or modified indoor training.
- h) Our Association will Return to modified 5 on 5 ringette play once local municipality is ready (issues letter of Approval) and gatherings of 50 or more continues to be allowed (currently we are at 50 people in our facilities), as well as needing to be approved by Ringette Ontario for Return to modified 5 x5 Play (STAGE 3).



Our Executive plans to work closely with both the Municipality of West Perth and the Huron East (Town of Seaforth) facilities to continue to monitor the evolving situation.

Please Find **Huron East Seaforth Arena** Guidelines on our Website. It includes the following as well as much more detail: Before entering the facility Organizations/renters must ensure their participants:

- Are not experiencing any symptoms of illness such as cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fever, chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, or new loss of taste and smell.
- Have not travelled to a highly impacted area in the last 14 days.
- Do not believe to have been exposed to someone with a suspected and/or confirmed case of COVID-19.
- Have not been diagnosed with COVID-19 and not yet cleared from self-isolation by local public health authorities.
- Follow recommended public health guidelines as much as possible to limit transmission of COVID-19.
- All participants will be expected to use the hand sanitizer stations at the entrance of the facility. Follow the Facility traffic flow plan
- Participants may not enter and exit through the same door. All participants are to exit through a designated door following traffic flow arrows marked on the floor.
- The lobby area is not a space for congregation. Lobby provides entrance and washroom access only. Crowd Control and Participant Limits
- All participants are encouraged to arrive at the facility dressed and ready to participate.
- There is limited space available within change rooms. To allow for physical distancing, change rooms will only accommodate the posted maximum amount of players at a time
- Additional seating will be placed outside of the change room door for skate tying. 2 change rooms will be available per hour allowing for maximum physical distancing of the maximum of skaters per rental. The total number of participants in the facility during an ice rental is 50 .

25 allowed on ice . This includes coaching staff and spectators.

- Users are permitted into the facility no sooner than 15 minutes before scheduled ice time and must depart within 15 minutes of completion of rental.
- The facility will remain locked. User groups are responsible for stationing a representative at the door to screen and control entrance limits.
- The total number of occupants in a facility is 50.
- For the 2020-2021 season all efforts will be made to maintain previous years allocated ice times.
- Staff will attempt to accommodate all user groups where possible. However, ice time may need to change due to facility needs.
- Face Coverings
- All patrons entering the facility will be required to wear face coverings whenever moving throughout the facility, in a change room or outside of the specific room reserved for their recreational program or private rental.
- Spectators must wear face coverings while viewing the ice pad from the stands.
- Cleaning and Sanitizing
- All public areas will be cleaned and sanitized daily following all public health guidelines and industry best practices.
- All high touch surfaces such as door handles, railings, sink faucets, and toilet flush handles will be sanitized regularly throughout each day. Programming spaces change rooms will be cleaned and sanitized before and after each program or rental.
- Additional staff will be scheduled to support this additional cleaning throughout the day.
- Hand sanitizing stations will be set up and all entry points as well as throughout the facility and all patrons will be expected to use these on a regular basis.
- Conditions of Use
- Groups are responsible for

following established health and safety protocols, including physical distancing guidelines, guidelines established by the Town Of Seaforth (please refer to the Facility Re- opening documents posted on our Mitchell Ringette WEBSITE) as well as their sport's governing body. •Leagues must contain no more than 50 participants total. If participants in a league exceed 50, the league may divide into smaller groups of no more than 50. As of now, players are not permitted to play outside of their league. •Anyone entering the facility is required to wear a face covering. Players can remove face coverings before entering the ice pad. •Dry land or warm up areas are not provided inside the facility. •Participants are encouraged to use their own equipment. Any shared equipment must be sanitized between uses. •Participants should practice proper hand hygiene techniques often. Proper respiratory etiquette should always be followed. •Spitting is prohibited. Users who spit will be asked to leave. •The concession booth will remain closed. •The use of the water fountains will be prohibited except to fill water bottles. •Participants must remove all waste/garbage with them as they depart the facility. Rules and Regulations •All participants must follow the direction of On Duty staff. •The municipality reserves the right to deny access to the facility to any person for any reason. •Failure to follow conditions of use, directional signage and arrows, command from staff on duty or appropriate physical distancing practices will result in patrons being asked to leave without refund.



Please find the **West Perth** reopening guidelines on our WEBSITE, it includes the following as well as much more detail.

We will follow all guidelines communicated by the facilities which include the following: Before entering the facility Organizations/renters must ensure their participants: •Are not experiencing any symptoms of illness such as cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fever, chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, or new loss of taste and smell. •Have not travelled to a highly impacted area in the last 14 days. •Do not believe to have been exposed to someone with a suspected and/or confirmed case of COVID-19. •Have not been diagnosed with COVID-19 and not yet cleared from self-isolation by local public health authorities. •Follow recommended public health guidelines as much as possible to limit transmission of COVID-19. •All participants will be expected to use the hand sanitizer stations at the entrance of the facility. Crowd Control and Participant Limits •All participants are encouraged to arrive at the facility dressed and ready to participate. •There is limited space available within change rooms. To allow for physical distancing, change rooms will only accommodate a maximum of 10 participants at a time. •The total number of participants in the facility during an ice rental is 50. This includes coaching staff and spectators. •User groups are responsible for stationing a representative at the door to screen and control entrance limits. •The total number of occupants in a facility is 50. In order to maintain this guideline and provide the most optimum amount of ice time per user, the on-ice rental limit is 50. Face Coverings •All patrons entering the facility will be required to wear face coverings whenever moving throughout the facility, in a change room or outside of the specific room reserved for their recreational program or private rental. •Spectators must wear face coverings while viewing the ice pad from the stands. Cleaning and Sanitizing •All public areas will be cleaned and sanitized daily following all public health guidelines and industry best practices. •All high touch surfaces such as door handles, railings, sink faucets, and toilet flush handles will be sanitized regularly throughout each day. •Hand sanitizing stations will be set up and all entry points as well as throughout the facility and all patrons will be expected to use these on a regular basis. Conditions of Use •Groups are responsible for following established health and safety protocols, including physical distancing guidelines, guidelines established by West Perth and our sport's governing body. •Leagues must contain no more than 50 participants total. If participants in a league exceed 50, the league may divide into smaller groups of no more than 50. As of now, players are not permitted to play outside of their Health Unit / leagues •Anyone entering the facility is required to wear a face covering. •Dry land or warm up areas are not provided inside the facility. •Participants should practice proper hand hygiene techniques often. Proper respiratory etiquette should always be followed. •Spitting is prohibited. Users who spit will be asked to leave. •The concession booth will remain closed. Rules and Regulations •All participants must follow the direction of On Duty staff. •The municipality reserves the right to deny access to the facility to any person for any reason. •Failure to follow conditions of use, directional signage and arrows, command from staff on duty or appropriate physical distancing practices will result in patrons being asked to leave without refund. West Perth will be using the Municipalities adopted R2 Policy to deal with any patron refusing to follow the Facilities guideline .Please find the R2 Policy link posted on our WEBSITE.



Working with Coaches and Bench Staff

The support and participation from coaches and bench staff to ensure protocols are followed and successfully communicated will be key. The following are key areas for our bench staff.

- Each team will be required to name a **team** volunteer COVID leader designated as the main point of contact for COVID tracking and signed requirements for each practice.
- Warm up and cool down are to be included in the practice plan.
- Physical distancing on the ice must be maintained. Coaches are encouraged to provide the practice plan to their team beforehand so gathering for instructions on the ice is limited.
- Modified ringette scrimmages, including 3 on 3 or 4 on 4 are permitted if prolonged physical contact is avoided.
- In order to attend practice, players must confirm attendance at least 48 hours in advance using the web app RAMP provided by our website (or google docs if the web app is not ready). The attendance will be confirmed with the team COVID leader. Upon arrival or 8 hours ahead of time, each player must complete a COVID health questionnaire using either the paper form (on arrival) or the Health Check in app provided by our association website RAMP
- Before stepping on the ice for the first practice, all bench staff must have signed or provided the following:
 - o Bench Staff code of conduct
 - o Clean police check or 2020 2021 Volunteer Agreement with RO Annual Offense Declaration
 - o Ringette Ontario Release of Liability, Waiver of Claims and Indemnity Agreement.
 - o Ringette Ontario Informed Consent and Assumption of Risk Agreement.
 - o Ringette Ontario Declaration of Compliance – COVID-19
- Only players registered with Mitchell Ringette Association, and who have completed the required documentation, will be allowed on the ice.
- All bench staff will wear masks on the bench and ice unless dressed in full helmet and ringette mask.
- Coaches are to sanitize equipment after each use.
- Team personnel only in dressing room – minimum of 2
- There will be no shared equipment amongst individuals.
- All team jerseys must be washed after every use – hung to dry.
- Individual reusable water bottles, labeled – kids carry their own
- Hand sanitizer, masks, and gloves will be added to the first aid bags. This is to ensure protection when dealing with an injury.



Working with Parents & Players

It is the responsibility of all players and parents to understand and respect the rules and adhere to the public health guidelines. Not complying will result in players not being able to participate in activities.

- All players and parents/guardians will wear masks while inside the arena until full ringette gear is on. Any person entering without a mask will be asked to leave.
- All players, parents and those that enter the facility will use hand sanitizer provided at the entrance.
- In order to attend practice, players must confirm attendance at least 48 hours in advance using the RAMP app provided by our website (or google docs if the web app is not ready). The attendance will be confirmed with the team COVID leader. Upon arrival or 8 hours ahead of time, each player must complete a COVID health questionnaire using either the paper form (on arrival) or the Health Check in app provided by our association website.
- Players will bring their own water bottles and water bottles will not be shared.
- All players will provide all their own equipment and equipment cannot be shared. If a player forgets a piece of equipment, they should not borrow equipment and not go on ice unless they are in full gear.
- Individual player equipment should be cleaned regularly by the player after each practice.
- Anyone entering the arena must be tracked by the COVID tracking spreadsheet and complete a COVID health questionnaire using the app provided by our website or on paper upon arrival. If a player has been in contact with someone or traveled outside Canada, they must be identified and leave immediately.
- Before stepping on the ice, the player/parent must sign the following documents: 2020/2021 Registration form Ringette Ontario Informed Consent and Assumption of Risk Agreement o Ringette Ontario Release of Liability, Waiver of Claims and Indemnity Agreement o Ringette Ontario Declaration of Compliance – COVID-19
- Players will arrive fully dressed except for skates and helmets
- Spectators are limited to 1 person per participant
- If anyone has any symptoms, or not feeling well they will be instructed to leave. If a ride cannot come immediately for an unwell player the facility First Aid Room will be used to isolate until transportation arrives.



Mitchell Ringette will be using RAMP for our COVID reporting tool

All participants **MUST** confirm attendance at least 24 hours before an event . If your player's attendance in the APP is not YES , they will not be permitted to participate, even if they update to YES after the cutoff time . All future events (dryland, ice time etc...) will follow this rule until further notice. Unfortunately, this is not negotiable (typing " attending" into the notes is not sufficient !) You must select "YES" and then answer the COVID questions . A note stating attendance without a yes will be treated the same as a non response.

Contact Tracing forms must be completed showing player name, email , phone and arrival/departure times. Each age level will be completing these forms upon arrival.

The Team volunteer COVID leader will be responsible for recording arrival and departure times of participants.

ONLY THE PARTICIPANTS WHO MEET THE ABOVE RULES WILL BE ALLOWED TO BE LISTED ON THIS FORM .



Communication Flow / Protocols

The Covid Leader along with the Ringette President plan To keep associations updated on all changes to protocols, updates from Huon East (Seaforth Arena) as well as updates from West Perth Facility. As needed Emails will be sent from the COVID Leader to the president of Mitchell Ringette then to the members - in order to keep association members updated on changes to protocols and procedural updates from the facilities and Huron Perth Public Health.

As needed information will be sent regularly to the Mitchell ringette Website/Facebook media officer - from both the COVID Safety Leader and the Mitchell Ringette President as it comes in- to keep the association members and community abreast of All RO and RC changes and updates, as well any Huron Perth Public Health updates, World Health Updates, Provincial updates and Government of Canada updates.

Any new information which results in changes to protocols for our Associations or Teams or players that is directed from any of the above mentioned sources will be sent to Players, and association members via a minimum of a Semimonthly Email, as well as updated on Mitchell Ringette website/Facebook.

When necessary the President of Mitchell Ringette or the COVID Safety Officer will send individual emails- pertaining to updates for specific team members or teams. Members, coaches or individual team Covid leaders must advise the COVID Leader or President immediatlty on health Status changes, Team Concerns or Reports.

The COVID leader must communicate immediately to the Association president who will communicate immediately with The Facility and Health Unit any updates, concerns or health status changes from any Mitchell Ringette team or individual - that includes all concerns or issues. This information will be shared as soon as possible to help facilitate all instructions and actions necessary. Any of the above concerns or issues will be communicated immediately to Ringette Ontario by the COVID leader or the Association President.



As needed Emails and phone calls will be used to communicate with the Municipality of West Perth, the Seaforth Community Centre and the Huron Perth Public Health. They will be initiated by the COVID Safety Leader or the President of Mitchell Ringette in order to report or ask questions as well as used to gain instruction or action if necessary. We will ensure that the procedures which apply to non-injury related illness and all other return to play guidelines specific to injuries still apply.

POSITIVE TEST OF COVID-19 Public Health is the first to receive a positive test result. Upon getting a positive, Huron Perth Public Health will initiate the case and contact management process. HPPU will determine high and low risk contacts and initiate follow up accordingly. Huron Perth Public Health will not ask the association or the sick person to contact anyone on their behalf. Record keeping aids the case and contact management process.

Participant Feels Ill at the Facility/Activity Participant advises team staff/COVID Safety Leader immediately. Participants receive a mask and wear it immediately. Anyone caring for the participant should also wear a mask. Parents/Guardians are advised to take the participant home. IF the participant is an adult, they will leave immediately if well enough to drive. If there is a delay in leaving the facility Participant they should find an area to isolate.

Our Facility first Aid room will be used to isolate until transportation can arrive.

They are encouraged to contact their physician. If they don't have a healthcare provider, they can contact Huron Perth Public Health. Their healthcare provider will provide an assessment and decide whether testing is recommended.

CONTACTS – please see the Mitchell Ringette website for all Key contacts Information.

Coach/ Bench Staff Protocols – please see our WEBSITE for more information.

Player protocols – please see our website link for more information.

Waivers – please see our website for the link to all Waivers – no player shall be allowed on the ice until all are signed and the player is registered under Mitchell Ringette RAMP registration.

Please find all necessary information on our WEBSITE <https://mitchellringette.com/>

