RETURN TO PLAY PROTOCOL - PHASE 3

UPDATED: AUGUST 2020
BELL MTS ICEPLEX PROGRAMMING
PARTICIPANT PROTOCOLS

In preparing for the June 1 reopening, Bell MTS Iceplex made a commitment to ensure the health and safety of our guests and staff. Part of that commitment includes frequent review of our Return to Play Protocols to ensure not only the health and safety of individuals at the Iceplex but also to provide the best hockey experience possible under the province’s public health orders. As we approach fall and with Hockey Manitoba’s Phase Two Return to Play being approved by the Province, additional updates to the Iceplex Return to Play Protocol have been made.

Starting **August 24** all individuals entering Bell MTS Iceplex who are not participants in hockey programming will be required to wear a mask at all times. Participants are required to wear a mask while entering the facility until they reach the dressing room and again upon leaving the dressing room to exit the facility. Coaches and team officials are not required to wear masks while on the ice or behind the bench, however it is strongly recommended. Off-ice coaches and team officials (managers, volunteers) must wear a mask while in the facility at all times. Individuals under the age of ten do not have to wear a mask, however, it is strongly recommended. Masks are not required to be worn in The Pressbox Restaurant & Sports Bar, although they must be worn to and from the restaurant.

Focus Fitness members must wear a mask in all areas of Bell MTS Iceplex until they reach the changeroom and again upon leaving the changeroom.

Under phase two of the public health order, games and scrimmages are allowed requiring few changes to the game of hockey itself. The public health order requires that facilities implement measures to ensure members of the public at the facility are reasonably able to maintain a separation of at least two metres from other members of the public at the facility, excluding participants while they are actively engaged in a sporting activity.

As per Hockey Manitoba’s approved Return to Play document, minor hockey games are not allowed at this time. Any group associated with Hockey Manitoba is limited to scrimmages amongst their rostered players.

The health and safety of our employees and guests is our number one priority. All employees and guests are required to complete a self-screening tool before proceeding to work or to their activity.

Employees and guests will be advised to practice physical distancing by standing at least six feet away from other people throughout the facility or an extended stick length away while on the ice, as much as possible. Distancing markers will be located throughout the facility in areas where individuals are in lineups or skate-tying locations.

Enhanced traffic flow measures have been implemented to accommodate one-way traffic in the lobby. Visitors are asked to promptly enter and exit through and avoid congregating in the lobby. Spectators are asked to enter the arenas immediately upon checking in and should leave the lobby as soon as possible when exiting.

Hand sanitizer dispensers will be placed at key guest entrances and high-contact areas including the lobby, check-in desk, and other high traffic areas.
Employees and guests are instructed to stay home if they do not feel well and are instructed to contact a staff member if they notice a coworker or guest with a cough, shortness of breath, or other known symptoms of COVID-19.

All high-touch areas will be cleaned with increased frequency each day. Dressing rooms will be cleaned after every use. Public access washrooms will also be cleaned on a more regular basis when programming is taking place.

If you or anyone in your household are feeling sick, please do not come to the Iceplex. Your session will be rescheduled or if another session cannot be booked a refund will be provided.

To ensure you have the most recent information regarding Iceplex Return to Play Protocols, please visit our website prior to every visit.

**GENERAL PARTICIPANT PROTOCOLS**

Participants will not be able to enter the Bell MTS Iceplex until thirty (30) minutes prior to the start of their session and must vacate the premises within fifteen (15) minutes after the session has concluded. Dressing rooms will be available to all participants fifteen (15) minutes prior to their ice time for practices, however, participants are encouraged to come to the facility dressed for the ice. When games are able to resume under Hockey Manitoba’s third phase, dressing room access will be available thirty (30) minutes before warm-up for the following age groups: U15 AA (female only), U15 AAA, U18 AAA, High School, Junior and Senior. These groups must vacate the room twenty (20) minutes after the game has been completed. Dressing room showers and washrooms are not available for use at this time.

At this time, participants are asked to limit the number of spectators to two adults and siblings of the participant. Spectators are asked to stay in the arena they are attending while in the facility, except when utilizing the washroom, visiting the concession or The Pressbox Restaurant & Sports Bar. No outside food or beverage will be allowed in the facility. Spectators are expected to maintain physical distancing at all times when at the Iceplex.

Additional spectators can watch live action from Bell MTS Iceplex through the streaming services of livebarn.com.

As per the provincial health order, all participants must be screened for symptoms prior to participation each day and are not allowed to participate if they present with COVID symptoms. To make this process as efficient as possible, the Iceplex has implemented an online screening tool that must be completed prior to entering the facility.
Using your smart phone you can access the online screening tool by scanning the QR code with your phone camera or by visiting https://cutt.ly/BMI-VSSAFForm.

When entering the Iceplex you are required to utilize the hand sanitizer station located at the entrance and proceed to the check-in desk. You will be greeted by a Bell MTS Iceplex staff member to confirm the online self-screening tool has been completed and direct you to your program area. If the online self-screening tool cannot be completed for any reason the staff member will complete a verbal screening process.

If any participant does not complete either the online or verbal screening tool they will not be allowed to participate and must leave immediately, no exceptions.

The main floor washroom will be available for users of the facility. All customers must bring their own water bottle to the facility. No water fountains will be available to participants or spectators.

Absolutely no spitting will be tolerated within the facility. You will be asked to leave the premises and may have your privileges for future programming suspended indefinitely.

Additional program specific protocols have been developed and should be reviewed prior to each day of activity as they will be updated on a regular basis.
ICE RENTALS - PRACTICES:

All users must adhere to the most current provincial health order and deviation from the public health order may result in the group being asked to leave the facility immediately and future ice rental privileges could be suspended indefinitely. Minor hockey associations are required to follow Hockey Manitoba’s Return to Play document at all times. If at any time the Iceplex Return to Play Protocols do not meet Hockey Manitoba’s minimum standards, associations must follow Hockey Manitoba’s protocols.

All participants will have to complete the online self-screening tool prior to entry and check-in with the Bell MTS Iceplex staff member to verify completion. Participants must indicate either the team or user group that they are playing with using the screening tool.

At this time, participants are asked to limit the number of spectators to two adults and siblings of the participant. Spectators are asked to stay in the arena they are attending while in the facility, except when utilizing the washroom, visiting the concession or The Pressbox Restaurant & Sports Bar. No outside food or beverage will be allowed in the facility. Spectators are expected to maintain social distancing at all times when at the Iceplex.

Access to the dressing rooms is limited to 12 players per room. At no time are more than 24 total participants allowed on the ice at once with a maximum of 20 skaters, two goalies and two coaches. The rooms are clearly marked to ensure physical distancing while in the room. Players are able to access the dressing room space fifteen (15) minutes before their scheduled ice time, however, participants are encouraged to come to the facility dressed for the ice. At this time there will be no access to the dressing room washrooms or showers. Players are asked to bring skate guards and to utilize the main washroom in the lobby. These areas are not secure so we ask that all valuables be kept at home.

All players and coaches must maintain physical distancing while in the facility and on-ice as much as possible, excluding participants while they are actively engaged in hockey activity.

Your dressing room space will be cleaned prior to every use. We ask that players do not share spaces or supplies at this time.

To enhance physical distancing players should use the same entrance nearest to their dressing area to get on and off the ice. Dressing rooms or skate-tying areas will be allocated to help distance one group from another.

The benches are available to teams and participants and have been expanded to accommodate more players during use. Participants are asked to maintain physical distancing in the benches as best as possible. Benches will be cleaned after every use.
GAMES & SCRAMMAGES

As per Hockey Manitoba’s approved Return to Play document, games are not allowed at this time. Any group associated with Hockey Manitoba is limited to scrimmages amongst their rostered players.

Under phase two of the public health order, games and scrimmages are allowed, requiring few changes to the game of hockey itself. The public health order requires facilities implement measures to ensure members of the public at the facility are reasonably able to maintain a separation of at least two metres from other members of the public at the facility, excluding participants while they are actively engaged in a sporting activity.

When sanctioned games are able to resume under Hockey Manitoba’s third phase, facility access will be provided forty-five (45) minutes before warm-up and dressing room access will be available thirty (30) minutes before warm-up for the following age groups: U15 AA (female only), U15 AAA, U18 AAA, High School, Junior and Senior. These groups must vacate the room twenty (20) minutes after the game has been completed. Dressing room showers and washrooms are not available for use at this time. For other sanctioned age groups and unsanctioned games teams will have access to their room fifteen (15) minutes prior to the start of their ice.

No more than 16 players per team are allowed during non-sanctioned games. If a team has more than 12 skaters, additional skate-tying locations may be made available if a dressing room is not. Please let the Iceplex know if you have more than 12 skaters. For sanctioned hockey games all roster sizes will be set by Hockey Manitoba’s Return to Play with approval of the Province of Manitoba.

The benches have been expanded to reasonably allow social distancing. It is recommended that teams use the same door to enter and exit the ice.

Users will be required to be creative when it comes to penalties being served in the penalty box as only one player should be in the box at a time. Penalties in sanctioned hockey will follow Hockey Manitoba’s Return to Play document.

All players are asked to bring their own filled water bottle and players should not be sharing water bottles.

Team goal celebrations are strongly discouraged, including hugging and high-fiving. There will be no handshakes at the conclusion of the game.

Microphones will not be supplied to users by the Iceplex. Associations will have to work with their timekeepers to supply a microphone if they wish to make announcements during their game.
JETS HOCKEY DEVELOPMENT

To accommodate the training needs of as many Jets Hockey Development (JHD) customers as possible, a variety of sessions will be offered. To book sessions please email jhd@tnse.com. Due to provincial health regulations, limited capacity is available.

For JHD sessions, please enter the Iceplex utilizing the main facility doors located on the south side of the facility. Upon entering utilize the hand sanitizing station located in the entrance.

Access to the dressing rooms is limited to 12 players per room. The rooms are clearly marked to ensure physical distancing while in the room. Players are able to access the dressing room space fifteen (15) minutes before their scheduled ice time, however, participants are encouraged to come to the facility dressed for the ice. At this time there will be no access to the dressing room washrooms or showers. Players are asked to bring skate guards and to utilize the main washroom in the lobby. These areas are not secure so we ask that all valuables be kept at home.

Your dressing room space will be cleaned prior to every use. We ask that players do not share spaces or supplies at this time.

All staff are required to wear masks while at the Bell MTS Iceplex unless they are on the ice involved in programming. To further reduce the risk while on the ice, instructors and participants are required to maintain an extended stick length of distance from others as much as possible, excluding participants while they are actively engaged in hockey activity.

ICE LAB

To book available Ice Lab sessions please visit our website at https://www.bellmtsiceplex.ca/our-facility/ice-lab/, it is important to note that sessions become available regularly, so we encourage you to check the availability schedule on a regular basis.

Prior to entering the facility, Ice Lab customers should please call the Bell MTS Iceplex check-in desk at 204-926-5887 to confirm completion of the online self-screening tool. Please enter the facility using the Ice Lab entrance on the west side of the facility. Upon entering utilize the hand sanitizing station located in the entrance.

Players can enter fifteen (15) minutes before the start of their session to get dressed, however, participants are encouraged to come to the facility dressed for the ice.

At this time there will be access to Ice Lab dressing room washrooms, however, no access to Ice Lab showers will be provided. These areas are not secure so we ask that all valuables be kept at home.
Once you are dressed and ready you are asked to remain in the dressing room until the instructor greets you and welcomes you onto the ice.

All staff are required to wear masks while at the Bell MTS Iceplex unless they are on the ice involved in programming. To further reduce the risk while on the ice, instructors are required to maintain an extended stick length of distance from others as much as possible.

Focus Fitness customers will be required to complete the online self-screening tool and check-in process before proceeding to the fitness space. Focus Fitness members must wear a mask in all areas of Bell MTS Iceplex until they reach the changeroom and again upon leaving the changeroom.

All Focus Fitness members must book their class or program time online prior to coming to the facility per the provincial health order. We understand this is a new process for our customers so information will be provided on our website on how to book workout times. Unscheduled drop-in use will not be allowed for the foreseeable future.

Reoccurring monthly memberships and individual class drop-in passes can be purchased, and class times booked through our website at https://www.bellmtsiceplex.ca/strength-and-conditioning/.

Class and program times will be different from the past as we adjust our schedule to provide additional time for cleaning and disinfecting equipment between uses.

Focus Fitness space will be reduced to 50 percent of our normal capacity, or one person per 10 square metres, whichever is lower, with increased spacing between workout equipment and stations to ensure physical distancing is met.

Changeroom access will resume effective Aug. 24, however members will not be permitted to use the showers. Participants must bring their own water bottle as the water cooler will not be available.

Given the difficulty of properly sanitizing some equipment, foam rollers, yoga mats and rubber bands will not be available for use and participants are asked to bring their own if needed.

As per the provincial health order physical distancing of two meters must be maintained at all times, except for brief exchanges. For all close contact exercises, staff will be required to wear a mask.

Participants are asked to thoroughly clean all equipment after each use during their workout.