



COVID-19 POLICIES

The Ralph Engelstad and Huck Olson Memorial Arenas, managed by VenuWorks of TRF, is committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for all our visitors. Our goal is to mitigate the potential for transmission of COVID-19 in our facilities, and that requires full cooperation from our visitors.

Changes to our operations and business practices reflect recommendations and requirements at the local, state, and national level. These come from recommendations, requirements, and policies from the CDC, MDH, DEED and City of Thief River Falls, MN.

The following are required policies for our Ralph Engelstad and Huck Olson Memorial Arenas: (**Please note: Huck Olson Memorial Civic Arena will have ice beginning mid October 2020. Ralph Engelstad Arena ice date TBD.)

- For anyone not on the ice (fans, parents, spectators, vendors, penalty box workers, coaches on the bench) masks must be worn when they enter the building until the time they exit. State rules apply to any specifics about masks not detailed in this policy. [Minnesota Department of Health Face Covering FAQ](#).
- For skaters, masks must be worn up until the time they are ready to take the ice. At that point they can remove their mask and commence activity. Once a skater leaves the ice, masks are to be worn soon after removing their helmets and continue to be worn until they exit the building.
- Coaches are required to wear masks at all times while in arena.
- Each rink will have its own entrance and exit. You may only use the entrance/exit designated for your assigned rink. Exceptions are made for ADA accessibility. Group leaders are expected to relay the appropriate entrances to their group.
- Observe COVID-19 Best Practices for Ice Rinks posters that are strategically placed within the arenas.
- No hockey bags. One small bag is permitted, and storage of equipment is not allowed.
- User groups will be allowed to enter the arena no more than 10 minutes before their scheduled time and must exit the arena within 10 minutes after their scheduled end time.
- User groups are encouraged to be ready to skate. Come as fully dressed as possible (including protective equipment) minus your skates. A space to tie skates will be provided.
- For games, 2 adult spectators per player are allowed into the building. No siblings are allowed at this time. Spectators should enter the arena not more than 10 minutes prior to game start and exit immediately upon completion of game.

- Locker rooms and showers will not be accessible.
 - Benches will be available on each side of the arena for players to use to put on and remove skates and helmets.
 - No equipment can be left in the arena.
- Concessions will not be open
- Not all bathrooms will be accessible at this time.
- Groups must have a COVID plan in place and on file with the arena and must have a process for tracking participants.

On Ice Use:

- 25 skaters plus coaches/instructor are allowed on ice. All 25 may use the full sheet of ice.
- Up to two pods of 25 or less; if using split ice practice.
- Coaches/Instructors/Athletes will be requested to implement social distancing practices within reason for their user group during their scheduled event.
- Inter-squad scrimmages are allowed. The maximum of 25 skaters plus coaches applies.
- Games versus other teams are allowed per the Minnesota Hockey Return Play Guidelines as of November 21st, 2020.
- **Coaches must wear masks while coaching games from the player's bench and on the ice. Only 2 coaches allowed on the bench during games.**
- Coaches must make every effort to promote distancing on the ice through practice plans while providing instruction.
- Groups not following arena, CDC, MDH and other guidelines or directions given by staff may have their future ice time removed for a period of time.

The following are recommendations for customers entering Ralph Engelstad and Huck Olson Memorial Arenas:

- Drop and go. No chaperones should accompany skaters into the building if age and ability are appropriate.
- All payments will be handled online or over the phone when possible.
- Masks are required at all times for all visitors and participants.