



September 23, 2020

Just like shopping is different and going to school is different, the activities at the Vollmer Complex are different too. To protect the safety of our employees and all visitors, we have taken a phased approach to re-starting activities at the Vollmer Complex.

At the end of August, we also welcomed participants with Skate LaSalle back with some changes. Spectators are not allowed, dressing rooms are not used, participants bring only what they need (ex. skates and water) and get dressed with their skates on before entering the building.

In early August, we also invited other ice users into the facility. This too looks and feels very different.

There are a number of guidelines in place for recreational facilities that have been declared by the Ontario Government and/or the Windsor Essex County Health Unit (WECHU). One is the restriction of the amount of people allowed into the building at one time. At the Vollmer Complex, this means that a maximum of 50 people can be in one space at any one time (ex. 50 people maximum inside each arena – this includes all players, coaches, volunteers and spectators). There are also guidelines to keep teams away from one another before getting on the ice, use of entrances/exits, maintaining of physical distancing and use of face coverings.

In order to control the number of people in the facility, spectators were not allowed to attend last weekend's hockey rentals. This enabled staff to monitor the flow of people into and out of the building, as well to monitor the ability to physical distance in the hallways.

We understand that there were concerns about not allowing a parent to watch their child participate which meant that LMHA cancelled some of their divisions last weekend. As stated, this is a phased approach. After reviewing the activities last weekend, beginning on September 26, one parent for each child in the U9 and under teams will be allowed to watch. This again will be monitored in order to determine the best way to get teams in and out of the Vollmer Complex in a safe manner.

Going forward, the plan is to open the dressing rooms on October 5 for a maximum of 9 skaters to put on skates only; participants must be dressed in their hockey gear before they enter the Vollmer Complex. As of October 5, one spectator for all participants will be allowed. It will be the responsibility of the rental group to ensure that the maximum capacity of people is followed. In addition, we have scheduled the opening of Rink A on October 5. This means more people will be in the facility at one time, and we will be working to maintain gathering numbers and physical distancing.

There is a 15 minute gap between ice rentals in order to allow staff to sanitize the dressing rooms and players benches, as well as to allow for safe traffic flow and physical distancing. This looks a lot different than last season, and will help keep our staff and all participants as safe as possible. This will be reviewed on an on-going basis.

In order to make this all work for everyone, cooperation is required:

- Arrive when scheduled.
- No food or drink, other than water, is permitted in the facility (sorry parents and coaches: this means no coffee at this time).
- Coaches must start their team on time and end on time – each rental is 50 minutes long and the best scenario is to ensure all equipment is picked up and the ice is cleared as the buzzer sounds. This sound means the ice resurfacer is coming onto the ice.
- Leave the facility as soon as skates are removed.
- Be kind and patient with everyone – we are all learning to adjust.

While activities are resuming at the arenas, staff are also working on plans to open the fitness centre, the pool and offer fitness classes. This is part of the phased approach to the reopening of the Vollmer Complex. We appreciate your support as we continue to work with our community groups to offer safe activities. We continue to monitor conditions as changes are made by the province and/or WECHU, and make adjustments to our guidelines when possible. For more information about the guidelines for use of the Vollmer Complex, please visit www.lasalle.ca/COVID19.

Town of LaSalle Administration