

Lunenburg Recreation & Arena Ice Season Frequently Asked Questions

LUNENBURG WAR MEMORIAL ARENA: ICE SEASON 2020/21

Why does the Arena have a delayed opening this season?

In alignment with Hockey Canada's Safety Guidelines and the Province of Nova Scotia's COVID-19 Return to Sport Guidelines, Hockey Nova Scotia has developed a return-to-hockey framework specific to the sport of hockey in NS. Hockey teams typically consist of 6 players on each team on the ice (5 players + 1 goalie) and a referee, which would exceed the maximum group size of 10. In addition, there are typically players as substitutions and coaches on the bench, which would not comply with Hockey NS's current regulation (see below).

Hockey Nova Scotia: "Rebound Play" for Ice Hockey

- Groups of 50 with physical distancing
 - Maximum group of 50 include parents/guardians in the facility
 - Players and coaches must physical distance on the ice at all time
- Groups of 10
 - Multiple groups of 10 (including coaches) are permitted on the ice as long as they do not interact with other groups. If multiple groups of 10 are on the ice, the groups must physical distance from other.
 - Encourage that groups of 10 remain consistent during a training period (i.e.: players remain with the same group at each session).
 - This includes: on-ice players, coaches, goalies and referees.

After extensive consultation with our long-term renters and the Provincial government, this difficult decision was made until Provincial restrictions are eased. Unfortunately, we find ourselves in a similar situation to other smaller Arenas across the province, where current Provincial recreation gathering limits – especially on-ice – have significantly impacted our facility use.

What financial implications would COVID-19 current restrictions have on the Arena opening?

It was projected that there would be a minimum additional deficit of **\$74,000** to re-open the Arena in October given the current hockey gathering restrictions described above.

When would the ice season typically begin?

The arena ice season historically opens the beginning of October and closes at the end of March. We are hoping to re-open as soon as possible for this ice season, which may include a spring season extension.

RECREATION DEPARTMENT

What is the Recreation Department responsible for?

Recreation facility management, daily operations and maintenance of the following recreation facilities in Lunenburg:

- Lunenburg War Memorial Arena
- Lunenburg Community Centre
- Sport fields (soccer, baseball, and track)
- Trails (Back Harbour and Front Harbour)
- 4 playgrounds and skate park

Organize, promote and implement over 12 annual community special events, such as Canada Day, Fishers' Memorial Service, Volunteer Recognition, Flag Raisings, etc.

What Recreation opportunities are currently available?

- The Community Centre is open for Fitness Class and Senior Fitness (fall sessions resume Sept. 9, 2020); drop-in sport programs (pickleball and badminton), and rentals for the auditorium and fitness studio.
- Sports fields, trails, skate park and playgrounds are open.
- The Town has continued to organize special events for the public, now held virtually. The next event is the Fishers' Memorial Service on Sept. 13 at 2:00pm.
- Fall online programming and weight room reopening are upcoming- stay tuned!
- The Lunenburg Farmers' Market has their market and online orders available on Thursdays.

Additional services offered by the Recreation Department:

- Organize and implement PRO Kids (Positive Recreation Opportunities for Kids) program, which provides financial assistance to children and youth from the Town of Lunenburg who, due to lack of funds, are not able to participate in sport, recreation and cultural activities.
- Partners with community organizations to co-lead programs, such as Learn to Curl, Bikes for Kids, Jumpstart, eco-friendly programs, etc.
- Supports other community groups and leaders to deliver programs such as karate, zumba, gymnastics, dance, ball hockey, etc.
- Scheduling, booking rentals, administering payments, maintenance, safety, community engagement/relations, policy development, budgeting and promotion of programs/activity available to general public.

For more information, please contact the Lunenburg Recreation Department:

Phone: (902) 634-4006

Email: kcunningham@explorelunenburg.ca

Website: <https://explorelunenburg.ca/recreation.html>