

# ABC's of Public Skating

**A**lcohol is not allowed. Any person under the influence of alcohol should not be permitted to participate in public skate.

**B**abysitting should not be the responsibility of your staff. Post signs in your facility stating children must be supervised by parents or legal guardians. If children are found alone or unattended staff will call the police.

**C**hairs, sleds, strollers, pylons and other obstructions are not permitted on the ice surface during public skate.

**D**o your Skate Patrols have the necessary training to identify poor ice conditions and the actions required to mitigate?

**E**gress – all exit doors must be clear at all times. Nets or any other item should never be stored in front of any point of egress.

**F**irst Aid – make sure you have adequately trained persons on site.

**G**ames such as tag, crack the whip or racing should not be permitted.

**H**elmets can prevent injuries. Recommend their use.

**I**ce shavings may contain bodily fluids; dispose of accordingly.

**J**ustify your rules to the public in terms of safety and legislation.

**K**eeep records of all inspections, maintenance and incidents.

**L**ights must be in working condition and should point towards the ice surface. Keep the ice surface well lit during public skate.

**M**usic played over your PA system is acceptable. But it should not be acceptable for any person to wear headphones or listen to a personal music source while public skating.

**N**o food or drink on the ice.

**O**n ice supervision is very important. On ice supervisors a.k.a Skate Patrols, Skate Guards or Cruisers should be wearing skates, helmet and visual vest. They need to stand out from the crowd.

**P**erform an inspection of the ice surface before the public skate. Have your Skate Patrols keep an eye on the ice conditions during public skate. Fix any problems as soon as possible.

**Q**uickly respond to any reports of unsafe conditions.

**R**esurfacing – no person should be permitted on the ice when the ice-resurfacing unit is in operation.

**S**kating aids should not be permitted on the ice during public skate under any conditions. “Learn to Skate” programs should be scheduled at different times.

**T**elephones should be available for emergency use.

**U**sing your facility for public skating is a common practice. Always remember – it's your facility. It's your responsibility. Therefore, the public needs to follow your rules.

**V**aguely written rules of conduct or policies and procedures can and probably will be used against you in the event of a claim. Be specific. Say what you mean and mean what you say.

**W**heelchair use during public skate should be permitted. Wheelchairs should not interfere with the flow of skaters. Set out a designate area – usually close to the boards.

**X'**plain and train your staff on your emergency evacuation plan and the procedure to be followed. They have to know what to do in the event of an emergency.

**Y**ou, as the occupier, have a statutory/common law duty to the user. Do not allow a dangerous condition exist.

**Z**ero-tolerance should apply to alcohol and any verbal/physical abuse by patrons or staff. These patrons should be immediately removed according to the procedures outlined in your “unruly persons” policy.

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