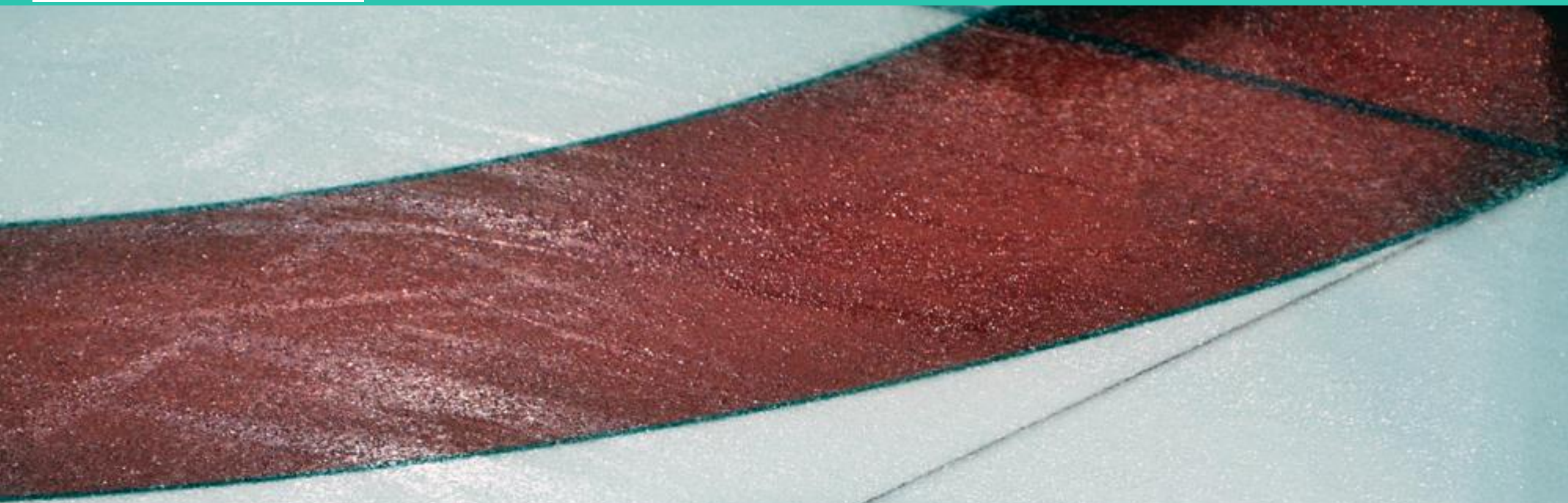




Ice Technician

Best Practices and Guidelines



ICE INSTALLATION & OPENING OF SEASON

→ COVID-19 RESPONSE ←



The [CurlON Ice Team](#) is a select group of highly qualified Ice Technicians available to CurlON member clubs at no charge to assist with any issues they may be experiencing with their ice, equipment or facility. Help for club Ice Technicians in getting more curl or less curl, getting rid of runs, etc. is only as far away as the telephone and if a personal visit is needed, that too can be arranged.

The Ice Team is also available at no charge to work with the club's Board of Directors to evaluate equipment and the facility and to give advice before large amounts of money are spent. Assessment of rocks and guidance on how to match rocks is also available.

Ice Team Club Visit

During a two-hour Ice Team visit, clubs can expect a visual inspection of:

Ice Shed

01

- De-humidification
- Heating
- Insulation
- Air Space



02

Plant

- Equipment inventory
- Water temperature
- Brine Test
- Assess Equipment State

Equipment

03

- Pebbling Can/Heads
- Scraper
- Blades: Nipper & Hand
- Monitoring:
Equipment & Controller
- Rocks



04

Knowledge

Addressing any club specific concerns.

Clubs will receive an [Ice Team Visit Report](#)

[Request an Ice Team Visit](#)



Presented by:

Don Powell

CurlON Ice Team



[Don Powell](#) is a 3rd generation ice maker and a Level 4 Certified Ice Technician with Curling Canada:

- Over 35 years of ice making experience
- Certified Advanced Refrigeration Operator
- Lead Course Conductor for OCC Ice Technician Program.
- Many championship ice-making crews including 11 Canadian Championships, 20 Provincial Championships, 5 Grand Slams and 5 Casino Rama TSN Skins events.



[Email your questions](#)

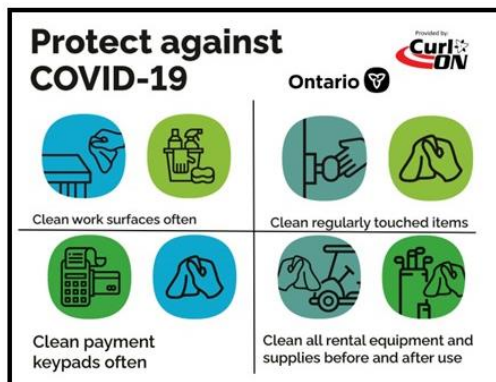
HOW CAN I PROTECT MYSELF AGAINST COVID-19?



Follow ALL guidelines from YOUR local Health Authority

- ➔ Create a sign off sheet for all personnel re COVID-19 symptoms etc.
- ➔ Keep a log of who is helping when and keep that log in case contact tracing is required
- ➔ Keep log of contactors and sign off sheet (ie refrigeration mechanic, electricians etc.)
- ➔ Ensure contractors read and adhere to any facility protocols as well as any protocols set by their employer
- ➔ Use only approved products, procedures, and PPE for surface disinfection

WHAT CAN I DO TO HELP PROTECT ALL IN CLUB SIGNAGE PROGRAM



Staff cleaning reminders (5 / club)



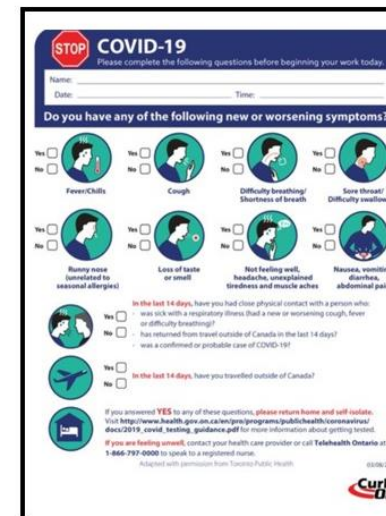
Handwashing (10 / club)



Front Entry warning (2 / club)



General Reminders (5 / club)



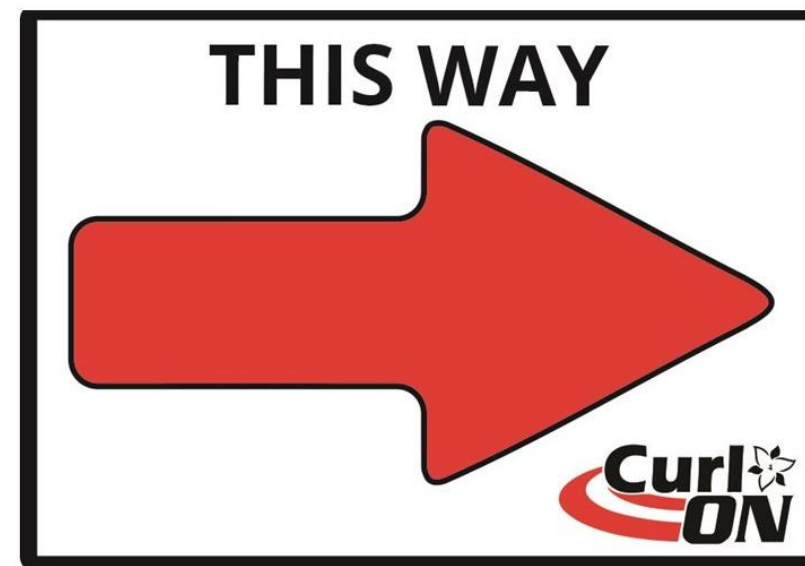
Daily employee declaration (50 / club)

Laminated

WHAT CAN I DO TO HELP PROTECT ALL **IN-ICE** or **CLUB FLOOR DECALS**



IN-ICE DECALS (4 / sheet)



FLOOR DECALS (5 / club)

WHAT CAN I DO TO HELP PROTECT ALL AGAINST COVID-19?



- ➔ **BE INVOLVED** with club in all discussions & protocols related to COVID-19
- ➔ **Walk through each task & establish “how” these tasks will be done safely**
- ➔ **Have a plan in case ice technicians and or assistants develop symptoms – communicate that plan**
- ➔ **Make it 100% clear that ANYONE showing symptoms should stay home**
- ➔ **Have a plan in case symptoms develop while at work (report immediately, isolate immediately, seek medical advice immediately)**

WHAT CAN I DO TO HELP PROTECT ALL AGAINST COVID-19?



Take Precautions:



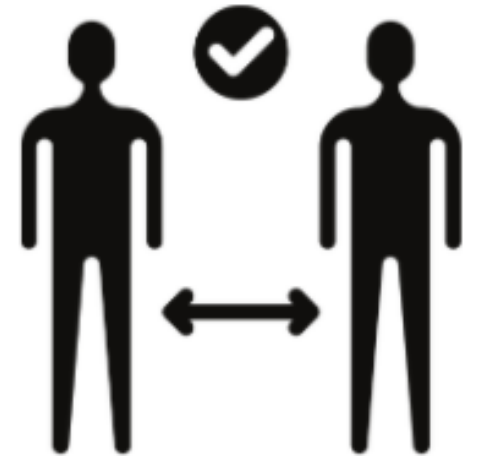
**WASH YOUR HANDS
FREQUENTLY**



WEAR A MASK



**STOP TOUCHING
YOUR FACE**



**MAINTAIN
PHYSICAL DISTANCING**

WHAT CAN I DO TO HELP PROTECT ALL AGAINST COVID-19?



Remove from rink all unnecessary touch points:



- Necessary points must be disinfected with approved products.
- Hand sanitizer should always be readily available.
- Disinfect common touch points prior to each use (Pebbling back packs, scraper, nipper, mop, brooms, shovel etc.).
- Time **MUST** be built into the routine so this can be done effectively.
- Training must be provided and record of training (sign off sheet) kept.



This is not new!

WHAT CAN I DO TO HELP PROTECT ALL AGAINST COVID-19?



- Discuss with league convenors the time required between draws to manage the new normal (touch point cleaning along with all the “regular” ice prep. tasks)
- **Insist** that all curlers leave the rink before Draw change procedures begin and that no curlers enter the rink until ice technicians have completed all tasks.
- **DO A PRAVITICE RUN to establish the time requirements with manpower**
If these tasks are rushed, it will **not** be efficient **or** effective
- This season, more than ever, Keep the compressor room door LOCKED and only allow access to authorized personnel



WHAT CAN I DO TO HELP PROTECT ALL AGAINST COVID-19?



COVID-19



Should a Covid-19 case or outbreak occur in your facility, **EXPECT** scrutiny of your record keeping. This applies to all staff/volunteer training records. The Ministry of Labour takes the position that if proof of training is not available, they will assume that no training has taken place.



→ This is not new!

If your club does not have Health and Safety training program in place already – THE TIME IS NOW!

BEST PRACTICES FOR SAFE START UP Even Before COVID-19



Most of these *things should have been done* in the spring or summer but this is an unusual year:



- Check your ice making equipment, - hose, boom, flooding tube, hacks etc. >>> Make any repairs
- Check header connections, - lift boards, inspect brine pump coupler, turn pump by hand before starting (to ensure pump is not seized), start pump and inspect each brine connection - repair any leaks. Use PPE!
- Check brine level in balance tank – if it is gone – where did it go?
- Ensure that brine analysis has been completed and any adjustments are made. The health of secondary refrigerant is vital to the long-term health of the refrigeration system. This should be done at least on an annual basis.
- Prepare your floors – was the ice removed properly?

BEST PRACTICES FOR SAFE START UP Even Before COVID-19



SAND

- Pipes should be inspected. Pipes should be level, and uniformly spaced and secured.
- Paint layer should have been removed at ice removable. If not, carefully remove as possible.
- Sand should be levelled to the pipes.

CONCRETE

- Floor should be clean and dry. Inspect and repair any large cracks.
- Rent a floor scrubbing machine if necessary.

BEST PRACTICES FOR SAFE START UP

Even Before COVID-19



- Make arrangements with contractors (refrigeration mechanics), set date for start up. Allow ample time – could be a heat wave!
- Ensure dehumidification systems are ready – seal the building and get these going.
- Ensure water treatment systems are ready (exchange De-I tanks etc.).
- Order supplies (paint, logos etc.).
- Get blades sharpened including hand blades and nipper blades.
- Check batteries and operating condition of scraper.
- Set date with painting contractors – (with alternate date in case).
- **USE THE RIGHT TYPE and SIZE (id) OF HOSE AND A FLOODING TUBE THAT FITS YOU, AND IS MATCHED TO THE SIZE (id) OF THE HOSE (the flooding tube should be slightly smaller id than the hose).**

BEST PRACTICES FOR SAFE START UP

Even Before COVID-19



MAKING ICE

- Start with cleaning. Irrelevant of COVID-19, it is much easier to start in a clean environment.
- Inspect and clean heaters before cleaning the floor.
- Sand floors should be saturated as the brine return temp. is approaching about 38F.
- Do not waste good water saturating sand. Start using good water once pipes are covered. A few boom seals will lock any impurities down then continue with “good” water.
- Concrete floors should be sealed gently and not before the brine return temp is down to 19-20F Gentle spray should freeze on contact – called dry freeze.
- Measure and Install hack plates (if using removable hacks) during initial sealing (concrete floor).
- Measure and install hack plates once ice has built to ¼” above pipes.

BEST PRACTICES FOR SAFE START UP

Even Before COVID-19



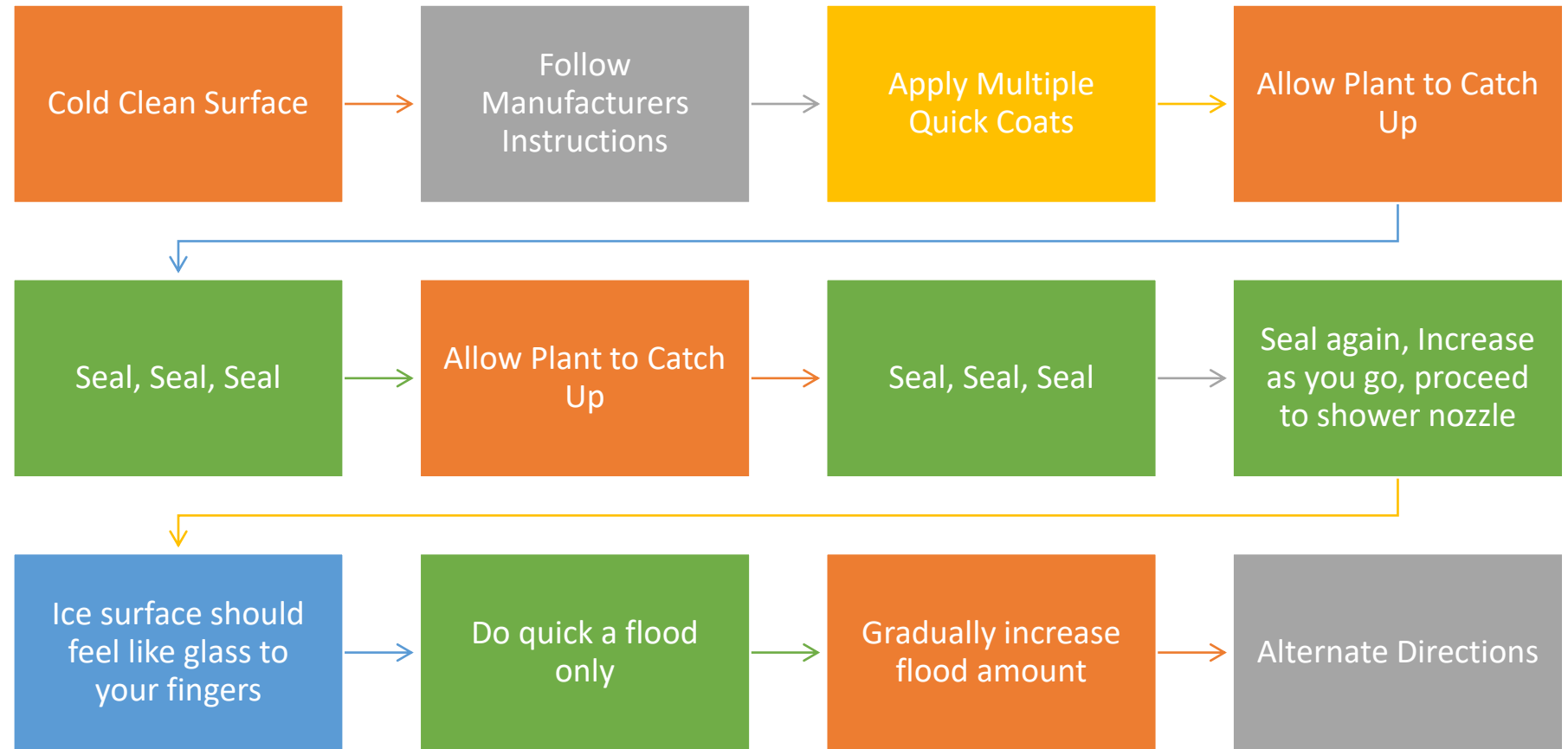
- Perimeter must be sealed. Lost water is detrimental to your efforts. Drywall tape is cheap and easy to install and it works great.
- Sand floors require thicker ice than concrete floors.
- Level ice takes precedence over thickness:
Get level >> then paint.
- Flood both ways. Alternate which end of the rink/sheet you start from.
- Make a flooding spreadsheet, record GPM, time of flood start to finish, total gallons, and running total, pH, and TDS.

BEST PRACTICES FOR SAFE START UP

Even Before COVID-19



Keys to good paint job:



REMINDERS

- Have a valve at the operating end of the hose.
- Use camlocks wherever possible.
- Always train assistants to make a figure 8 when pulling in the hose.

BEST PRACTICES FOR SAFE START UP Even Before COVID-19



- Have rocks in rink as building is cooling and ice making is taking place. Do not get them wet. Do they need some maintenance? As floods are freezing is a good time to do this.
- Once ice is completely level, and your done flooding put rocks on mesh to cool. Leave them for a day.
- Flat and Level are not the same thing
Flood to achieve level >> Pebble and scrape to achieve flat
- Use the biggest size pebble you have. Don't worry about temp. Cold water works fine.
- Pebble and scrape and repeat until the entire surface has the same surface texture and no pebble remains.
- Clean hacks, move rocks from mesh onto ice, pebble using game size pebble, then nip.