

## **East Montpelier Recreation Outdoor Skating Rink - Risk Management Practices**

To control liability risk associated with the operation of our outdoor skating rink, the following procedures and protocols are being implemented.

- Appropriate signage indicating hours of use and safety rules: Please see below for rink rules that will also be posted as signage at the Recreation Field Ice Rink:

### **Town of East Montpelier Ice Rink Rules**

- All visitors are skating and accessing the rink at their own risk.
  - The Town of East Montpelier does not assume responsibility for injury or for any loss, theft, or damage to personal items.
  - No form of hockey may be played on the rink; general skating only.
  - Skates must be worn on the rink. Guests without skates are not allowed on the ice surface.
  - No pets allowed. No glass containers allowed. No drugs or alcohol allowed.
  - Users are strongly encouraged to wear helmets and other protective equipment.
  - Please keep the rink tidy by using the trash and recycling bins.
  - The rink is available for use from sunrise until sunset.
  - Rink is closed when posted due to weather or ice conditions.
  - Skating in a manner that endangers or interferes with another skater's safety is strictly prohibited.
  - Skaters are not allowed to sit on or climb on the boards.
  - Please report any issues to rink administrator Mike Blanchard at: 978-270-7511.
  - For emergencies, please call 911.
- Safe access: Rink users will be available to access the ice rink by parking in the recreation field parking lot and ambulating from the parking lot to the ice surface (approximately 150 ft). Access to the rink will be maintained during the winter months with plowing of the recreation field driveway by the East Montpelier Highway Department when needed and scheduling allows. Rink users should use good judgement when attempting to access the driveway as plowing will occur as scheduling and time allows. Accessing the rink from the

recreation field parking lot may require users to traverse snow and will need to be done at their own risk. There is currently no plan in place to shovel or plow a pathway from the parking lot to the ice rink.

- Inspection and maintenance of the rink and ice condition on a daily basis: Evaluation of the ice conditions, access safety (icy, slippery) and condition of facilities and boards will be completed by rink administrator Mike Blanchard daily. The rink administrator will close the rink to public use (with clear signage) if unsafe conditions exist. The rink administrator will flood the rink periodically to maintain a safe ice condition. The rink will be closed (using signage and other obvious methods) when ice or other conditions render use unsafe.
- During installation and maintenance of the rink members of the Recreation Board will make sure the area is free from potentially hazardous objects, especially those that might be hidden by snow, prior to flooding.
- At this time the rink is open during daylight hours. Rink signage will be updated if operating hours are changed.
- Any boards used for the rink will be installed and maintained to minimize hazards.
- Although the rink will NOT be supervised by an attendant, a first-aid kit with no ingestible medicines will be available at the rink. Rink signage will include contact information for specific situations such as emergencies and possible rink closures. Any issues involving the rink should be directed to rink administrator Mike Blanchard.
- The town expects that all rink users follow the most current and up to date COVID-19 guidelines outlined by the State of Vermont regarding social distancing protocols and mask usage. The guidelines can be found here: <https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19>. Signage regarding COVID-19 guidelines will be posted at the ice rink.