

# ARENA CHECKLIST

Before and during your activity there is a responsibility to monitor the playing area for any potential safety hazards. The following are guidelines to help you monitor on-ice safety hazards with your activity:

<b>Dressing Rooms:</b>	Free from debris, cleaned regularly, properly lit and checked for any electrical or fire hazards.
<b>Walkway to Ice Surface:</b>	Solid, rubber padding or other non-slip surface is available for participants and officials to walk on from dressing room area to the ice surface, and hallways are properly lit and free from electrical and fire hazards.
<b>Spectator Area:</b>	Identify the location of Fire Exits and First Aid Kits within the arena facility, ensure that all Fire Exits are accessible. All wet floors and spills are attended to quickly to help make sure no one slips.
<b>Ice Conditions:</b>	The ice surface should always be clear of any debris. Check for any bare spots or ruts. Clarify arena policy on the timing and frequency of ice cleaning.
<b>Nets:</b>	Breakaway nets (nets that have anchors that allow the net to become dislodged with relative ease in a collision) should be utilized. If unavailable, when U7 or U9 teams are playing no conventional anchors be used, leaving the net free to move if a young player runs into it. Netting should be secured to the frame throughout, while the frame is connected throughout.
<b>Boards:</b>	Boards should be smooth all the way around the arena with no edges sticking out or splintering. Check to see that no nail or screw heads have worked loose and are sticking out from the boards.
<b>Lighting:</b>	Arena lighting should be consistent across the entire playing surface, with no dark spots.
<b>Benches:</b>	The bench area should be large enough to seat 14 dressed players at one time. Ensure there is no debris on the floor, such as tape, which could catch on a player's skate and cause an accident. Ensure the benches are secured to the floor and do not move.
<b>Gates:</b>	Gates to players' benches and penalty boxes should always open inward, operate smoothly and have a secure fastening device. All gates should be securely closed during all game and practice sessions.
<b>Glass enclosures:</b>	The glass is free of cracks or breaks. Glass enclosures should run down both sides of the ice as well as behind the nets to provide maximum protection for spectators. There should be glass enclosures at the back of the players' benches if spectators are seated behind the players. The glass should be of a sufficient height to protect spectators in the lower stand.
<b>Safety Netting</b>	Safety nets are recommended at the sides and ends of the arena at a reasonable height to protect spectators. Netting is connected to the ceiling of the building and the top of the glass.
<b>Air quality:</b>	The key issue here is carbon monoxide generated by ice-resurfacing machines. This odourless gas, if generated in sufficient quantities, may result in dizziness, nausea and headaches from carbon monoxide poisoning. It is also wise to make sure the arena can provide a supply of fresh air to replace the stale air being exhausted by the fans.
<b>Penalty Boxes:</b>	Doors should open and close securely. If there is one box for both teams, it should be divided in such a way that physical contact is impossible. The bench and penalty box areas are free from tape or other debris that may become fastened to or damage skate blades.