

Helmet Policy for Hillsborough Arena

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1 Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to promote safety and reduce the risk of injury for all individuals participating in ice skating activities at the Hillsborough Arena. Public arenas are high-traffic recreational spaces where safety must be a priority to protect users of all ages and skill levels. This policy ensures that appropriate protective measures, such as wearing helmets, are enforced to minimize the potential for head injuries during ice-related activities.

This document outlines the requirements for helmet usage at the Hillsborough Arena, including definitions of key terms, the specific helmet policy, exemptions, staff responsibilities, and training protocols.

2 Scope

This policy applies to all patrons, participants and staff of the Hillsborough Arena.

3 Definitions

3.1 Canadian Standards Association (CSA) Approved Helmet.

A protective helmet certified by the CSA for ice sports, designed to provide maximum safety against impacts.

3.2 Participant

Any individual engaged in activities on the ice, including but not limited to skaters, coaches, photographers, and arena staff.

3.3 Exemption

A category of participants or activities explicitly outlined in this policy as not requiring helmet use under specific conditions.

3.4 Arena Staff

Employees responsible for the day-to-day operations, enforcement of policies, and safety at the Hillsborough Arena.

4 Hillsborough Arena Helmet Policy

4.1 Policy Statement

“All participants engaging in activities on the ice surface at Hillsborough Arena must wear a CSA-approved protective helmet for ice sports.”

4.2 Communication

This policy will be clearly communicated to all patrons and visibly posted at the arena entrance and at prominent locations around the Arena.

4.3 Enforcement

4.3.1 Monitoring.

Arena staff must monitor participants to ensure compliance with the helmet policy during all ice-related activities.

4.3.2 First Infraction.

- Staff will issue a verbal warning to the participant for a first infraction.
- The verbal warning must be delivered respectfully and documented for internal record-keeping.

4.3.3 Second Infraction

- For a second infraction, staff will ask the participant to leave the ice surface immediately.
- Staff must explain that continued non-compliance may result in the loss of arena privileges. This incident must also be documented and reported to management.

4.3.4 Escalation

- If the participant refuses to comply or becomes confrontational, staff must de-escalate the situation by remaining calm and professional.
- In such cases, the incident must be referred directly to management or the designated supervisor for further action.
- Management may decide to issue a formal written warning or temporarily suspend the participants' access to the arena, depending on the severity of the situation.

4.3.5 Prohibited Actions

- Staff are prohibited from engaging in arguments, using force, or escalating the situation themselves.

- If the situation cannot be resolved safely, staff should request assistance from law enforcement or security as a last resort.

5 Staff Training

All arena staff will be trained to understand and implement this helmet policy effectively. Training will include:

- Familiarization with this policy and its enforcement procedures.
- Techniques for de-escalating conflicts and handling disagreements with patrons professionally and respectfully.
- Regular updates and refreshers on safety standards, helmet regulations, and best practices for conflict resolution.

6 Review and Updates

6.1 Policy Review

This Policy will be reviewed regularly and updates as necessary.

6.2 Feedback

Feedback from Arena Staff and participants is strongly encouraged to improve this policy.