

# Ice Rink Risk Assessment

For period: Nov 2025-2026

Review Date	Name
06/11/25	Jessica Giles
13/11/25	Niamh Dale

Equipment/Facilities	Details of hazard	Who is at risk	Control measure
Ice Skates	Faulty skates or blunt blades leading to injury Passing of foot infections Poor fitting	Public	Skates are sharpened ahead of the season. Skates are checked daily and any faulty skates removed. To reduce blades becoming blunt the skate hire marquee has a rubber matting floor. Skates are sprayed daily with disinfectant, and all customers should wear their own socks with boots. We recommend public request their usual shoe size in a skate and for children with a foot size smaller than a youth 9 bob skates can be issued.
Ice Skate fitting	Blades on skate can potentially harm a person whilst they are putting on or taking off the Skates  Slipping/tripping whilst wearing skates (before/after skating on ice)	Public  Public	Person should be seated whilst fitting skates. Skates should be placed flat on the floor and feet slide inside from an upright position while seated to prevent injury to themselves and others. All buckles should be tightened before skating. Parents and guardians should assist children and young people to put on and take off skates. Skates should be removed while seated, buckles loosened and foot pulled out while flat on floor.  The skate hire marquee has a rubber matting floor to reduce slip/trip hazard. Skaters are also asked to remove skates before leaving the marquee (except to access the ice). Helmets are also available

			for hire for those who think they might need them as well as skating aids for customers under 1.2 meters.
Ice Pad	Uneven/Compromised ice surface	Public/ Event Staff	The condition of the ice is closely monitored and recorded by appropriately trained staff. Regular resurfacing is carried out using specialist equipment; access to the ice is not permitted by staff or public at this time.
Skating Aid	Slips/trips and falls	Public	Skating aids will only be issued to public under 1.2 meters to ensure they are sized to prevent slips/trips and falls
Helmets	Too tight	Public	Helmets available for hire, adjustable strap to ensure fitted but not tight, staff to assist parents with fitting if required.
Weather	Inclement weather compromising ice surface, creating slip/trip hazard to skaters.	Public/Staff	<p>The weather is monitored during opening hours and the ice maintained accordingly, keeping the surface in best possible condition.</p> <p>Changes in weather are recorded and monitored regularly throughout the day. Additionally, a record of ice condition and action taken are recorded regularly throughout the day by the Duty Manager. Chillers are changed temperature when needed to help maintain the surface condition of the ice rink. Access to the ice is controlled by Operations Manager or Duty Managers.</p> <p>In extremes of weather the ice rink may close for the safety of public and staff</p>

Activities	Details of hazard	Who is at risk	Control measure
Ice Skating	Injuries to skaters	Public/school groups	<p>Signage stating rules of the rink and safety can be found at the front desk and in the marquee.</p> <p>School groups- A briefing, on rules of the rink, is given to school groups before taking to the ice. Each session starts with a 5-minute tutorial and ice hosts are available throughout the session to supervise skaters.</p>
	Injuries caused by lack of awareness of other skaters	Public	<p>Ice hosts provide support and guidance to all skaters, especially novices. The correct direction and speed of skating is always monitored and addressed if necessary</p>

	Collisions/Slips/Trips	Public/Event Staff	<p>Skaters are asked not to skate in chains of more than two people, skate at excessive speeds, drop litter or throw snowballs.</p> <p>Skaters are also given advice on the correct fitting of skates.</p> <p>At least one first aider is on duty to attend to any injuries, there is also a dedicated first aid room in the Centre reception area.</p>
Access and Egress	Unauthorised access gained by members of the public causing danger to others	Public/Event Staff	<p>All entrances and exits are manned by ice marshals or staff to control entry and exit to ice.</p> <p>Ice hosts remain in radio contact with the Duty Manager.</p>
Time management and capacity	Over exertion and capacity breach	Public	<p>All customers are issued a maximum 45 minute session dictated by coloured tokens.</p> <p>All sessions are managed with a maximum capacity. Tickets are not sold over this amount per session.</p>

<b>Emergencies</b>	<b>Details of hazard</b>	<b>Who is at risk</b>	<b>Control measure</b>
Major Incidents	General risk associated with public events and nearby buildings	Public/All staff	All staff are trained on the evacuation procedures for the ice rink.
Staff safety	Violence, staff feel threatened.	Staff	Duress alarm installed under the till area in the boot hut. Staff trained in duress alarm procedure.
Fire	General fire risk associated with public events and nearby buildings	Public/All staff	All staff are trained on the evacuation procedures for the ice rink and boot hut in case of a fire which is documented. All doors in marque have lite up fire evacuation signs above A fire consultant has inspected the ice rink and marquee. These procedures reflect the established fire management strategy for the Centre for Life. Fire extinguishers are positioned in the marque for emergency use as well as within the centre. All managers are trained in using a fire extinguisher.
First Aid	Injury sustained whilst skating	Public/staff	At least one senior manager trained in First Aid is on duty to attend to any injuries as well as a number of other first aid trained staff, there is also a dedicated first aid room in Science Centre reception with access to a wheelchair.  If first aid is provided for anyone under 16 (who is not accompanied by an adult) we will ask for details of a responsible adult to be contacted if the situation requires it.

<b>Visitor Welfare</b>	<b>Details of hazard</b>	<b>Who is at risk</b>	<b>Control measure</b>
Personal Belongings	Theft of shoes left in skate hire marquee	Public	Shoes are exchanged for numbered skates, these skates must be returned to the marquee to retrieve shoes. Items are left at the owners own risk.
	Theft of personal belongings bags/coats etc	Public	Skaters have access to lockers at reception, for a small fee, to store valuables (Valuables are left at the owner's risk). Any customers who do not wish to hire a locker are advised to always keep their belongings with them.

Children	Children becoming lost/separated from group, parent, or guardian	Public	<p>All staff are briefed on the correct procedure for dealing with lost children.</p> <p>It is a requirement that children 9 years and under are accompanied by a responsible adult on the ice. Children of 9 to 12 years must always have adult supervision either on the ice or in the viewing area.</p> <p>Schools and groups are accompanied by responsible adults.</p>
Viruses and infections	Viruses and infection	Public and staff	<p>Outdoor skating rink. Viral particles diluted quicker by fresh air and fall to the ground rapidly.</p> <p>Sanitiser available in the marquee.</p> <p>Skates are sanitised with antibacterial spray regularly.</p> <p>Tickets can be booked online in advance.</p> <p>Skaters can walk up and pay on the day if there is availability.</p> <p>Regular cleaning of surfaces and handrails throughout the day.</p>