

## **Update to Members**

### **AAFSC COVID-19 SAFETY PROTOCOLS/GUIDELINES**

We hope you all are staying safe and well. With this writing, we would like to update you on our recent activities in preparation for the lifting of the stay-at-home restrictions and eventual reopening of the Ice Cube and the AAFSC. Please know that the leadership and management of the Club have been meeting weekly for several weeks to develop a plan for reopening.

Given the current global pandemic and the newly established federal, state, county, and city restrictions for the operation of non-essential businesses, the Ice Cube and the AAFSC have established new protocols for the operation of the Cube's facility and the Club's activities at 2121 Oak Valley Drive. These new procedures are intended to offer an increased level of safety, and are based on all currently available information from the Center for Disease Control, the State of Michigan, Washtenaw County, and the new operating guidelines from U.S. Figure Skating and the U.S. Ice Rinks Association.

These policies have been adopted in order to maximize the safety and well-being of the Club's members, coaches, and staff. They should in no way be construed as offering any guarantees by the Club that it can provide a virus-free environment. No activity involving people from outside your immediate social distancing group should be regarded as completely without risk. Skating at the Cube and with the Club must be an individual decision, and at each member's own discretion.

The new protocols will be enforced uniformly and without prejudice or favor. They are being instituted for the good of the Club community and its surrounding community, and will involve the same sacrifice and patience everyone has already been practicing outside of the Club. We also realize they may not be to everyone's liking. But it would make no sense to re-open the Club under anything but the most conservative, strict, and extensive practices. If the Club were to become a hot spot of infection, or to close due to even one confirmed case of transmission on-site, it would do no individual wishing to skate any good, let alone the rest of the community at the Cube and where we live. We must exercise maximum responsibility.

Finally, no matter what the Cube and the Club do to implement these and any safety measures, our success will still depend on the actions of each of us as individuals. We must respect our selves and our fellow community members by willingly, closely, and consistently following all of the established procedures that

are necessary to help protect our selves against the more challenging asymptomatic sources of transmission.

Everyone using the facility will be expected to know the procedures once they are published, and to follow them. Parents or guardians are responsible for and expected to explain the importance of these procedures to their children as a means of keeping them and their friends as safe as possible. The Club will update these procedures as additional information pertinent to the facility's safe operation becomes available.

If we all remain patient and understanding of our responsibilities to our selves and each other, we will successfully make it through this next phase of living with the pandemic. Returning to the ice is an individual choice. We understand that families and individuals may have concerns about returning to public spaces so soon after restrictions on businesses are being loosened. Deciding not to return to the Club at this time will not negatively impact any member.

Please stay tuned for the detailed protocols to be published soon. Thank you for your understanding, your cooperation, and your ongoing support of the Ann Arbor Figure Skating Club.

On behalf of the AAFSC Board, its management and staff, stay safe and well.

Ann Nicklas  
President, AAFSC