

## RETURN TO RINKS OREGON #bringicebackoregon

### Parents and Skaters:

The decision to allow hockey/ice skating/ice rinks to return to opening for on-ice training rests in the hands of Oregon Governor Kate Brown. If your family supports a return to on-ice training or ice skating, we ask that you consider sending emails asking our leaders in Salem to bring back hockey/ice skating. Hockey, ice skating, and ice rinks do not have a lobby group or anyone to push our cause other than ourselves.

The residents of Multnomah, Washington, and Clackamas Counties (as well as Lane, Deschutes, Jackson, and Klamath Counties), have elected representatives in the State Legislature whose job is to represent our interest in Salem. This is why some thoughtful emails from some of our players and skaters (and/or families & friends) to our elected representatives in Salem asking them to push the Governor for the return of ice sports, specifically ice skating in our case, would be a good idea.

**Hand-written messages or letters to the Governor should also be sent by skaters or families and our State Senators and State Representatives should be directly contacted asking them for their help to communicate our request to the Governor.**

Our goal is to have ice skating/hockey recognized as a Phase 1 activity and ice rinks in a Phase 1 category, our athletes, coaches, rinks, and parents are able to follow CoVid protocols both off- and on-ice. Ice training should be no different than any other indoor training sport, such as fencing, swimming, karate, or a yoga studio, to name a few.

Personal messages to state leaders especially those from skaters emphasizing the desire to return to ice sports will likely have the most impact.

Some points and background to consider when crafting a communication.

- Multnomah, Washington, and Clackamas Counties are the only three counties that have not been allowed to return to ice or open ice rinks under the current Oregon Health Advisory (OHA) guidelines. Many of our elite skaters have travelled to other states (Washington, California, and Idaho) to train. Our own rinks in other counties in Phase 2 will not allow skaters outside of their county to skate at their rinks (not to mention most of the rinks are seasonal and have yet to reopen.)
- Every discussion that our ice rinks and ice managers have had with the County Public Health Officials have always ended with "we are following state guidance" on what is officially allowed.
- We know from studies and many of our own personal experiences, that from a mental health standpoint young people are already suffering from six months of virtual school learning, lockdowns and a suspension of extracurricular activities. The negative impact of continuing non-specific guidance on ice skating could have significant consequences. Not to mention the lack of physical activity for our trained athletes has a negative effect on their mental health.
- Most states in the country (47), including those surrounding Oregon, have already allowed ice rinks and ice skating to return in ways that adhere to strict health protocols that will protect skaters, coaches, and families. Oregon can do the same.
- Both Washington and California rinks are open (47 total states) and operating with CoVid protocols in place. The Rinks in Anaheim has been open and operating since mid-June, Sprinker Recreation Center Ice Arena in Tacoma, WA has been open since June 22nd, to name a couple.
- Other states are looking at sports individually and addressing risks accordingly. Ice skating does not have sustained close contact and nearly all hockey programming in the state is non-contact.
- Many elite skaters have had to leave their home state of Oregon to continue training. Some have missed opportunities to perform at virtual Team USA events due to their arenas not being open. ALL skaters have not been able to test in their own state. As other states continue to skate and our state does not, the continued development of our ice skaters stalls.

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- Modifications to the ice skating / hockey environment can be made to open safely: temperature checks, attendance records/contact tracing, cohort groupings, masks & face shields, on-ice and off-ice training while social distancing, etc.

Each email message should be a personal message driving home the main points associated with your family's position and whatever else the author of the message wishes to convey. Each email should also include the name and home address of the individual writing at the end so the legislative office knows this is someone that lives in their district.

### WHERE TO SEND IT:

For anyone wishing to also send a message to Governor Kate Brown and Raihana Ansary, here is a link to send messages to the Governor.

<https://www.oregon.gov/gov/Pages/contact.aspx>

By e-mail:

Gov. Kate Brown Attn: Leah Horner & Raihana Ansary

[Leah.Horner@oregon.gov](mailto:Leah.Horner@oregon.gov)

[Raihana.ANSARY@oregon.gov](mailto:Raihana.ANSARY@oregon.gov)

CC : [info@winterhawkssc.com](mailto:info@winterhawkssc.com)

Sample Outline:

1. Dear Governor Brown & Leah Horner & Raihana Ansary,
2. Name, Age, where you live, if you ice skate/hockey, why you are writing/what's the ask, etc
3. Request that they take time to review guidelines for ice skating to allow some form of activity in Phase 1.
4. Personal feeling/view on topic/desire for ice skating/hockey to return, etc.
  - Athlete mental/physical health
  - Following the footsteps of activities like : fencing, swimming, karate and yoga.
5. A request to please make this issue a priority and ask the Governor that the time has come to bring ice skating/hockey back to Oregon, etc.
6. Thank you,
7. Name, address, etc

### Here is information on representatives by area:

Sample outline...

1. Dear Senator/Representative XXXX,
2. Name, Age, where you live, if you ice skate/hockey, why you are writing/what's the ask, etc
3. Request that they take time to review guidelines for ice skating to allow some form of activity in Phase 1.
4. Personal feeling/view on topic/desire for ice skating/hockey to return, etc.
  - Athlete mental/physical health
  - Following the footsteps of activities like : fencing, swimming, karate and yoga.
5. A request to please make this issue a priority and ask the Governor that the time has come to bring ice skating/hockey back to Oregon, etc.
6. Thank you,
7. Name, address, etc

### Washington County

- Representative Sheri Schouten, [rep.SheriSchouten@oregonlegislature.gov](mailto:rep.SheriSchouten@oregonlegislature.gov)
- State Senator Mark Hass, [sen.MarkHass@oregonlegislature.gov](mailto:sen.MarkHass@oregonlegislature.gov)
- State Senator Elizabeth Steiner, [sen.ElizabethSteinerHayward@oregonlegislature.gov](mailto:sen.ElizabethSteinerHayward@oregonlegislature.gov)
- State Senator Ginny Burdick, [sen.ginnyburdick@oregonlegislature.gov](mailto:sen.ginnyburdick@oregonlegislature.gov)

### Multnomah County

- Senator Kathleen Taylor, [sen.kathleentaylor@oregonlegislature.gov](mailto:sen.kathleentaylor@oregonlegislature.gov)
- Senator Lew Frederick, [sen.LewFrederick@oregonlegislature.gov](mailto:sen.LewFrederick@oregonlegislature.gov)

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- Senator Michael Dembrow, [sen.MichaelDembrow@oregonlegislature.gov](mailto:sen.MichaelDembrow@oregonlegislature.gov)
- Senator Laurie Monnes Anderson, [sen.LaurieMonnesAnderson@oregonlegislature.gov](mailto:sen.LaurieMonnesAnderson@oregonlegislature.gov)

**Clackamas County**

- Senate Majority Leader Rob Wagner, [sen.RobWagner@oregonlegislature.gov](mailto:sen.RobWagner@oregonlegislature.gov)
- Senator Shemia Fagan, [sen.ShemiaFagan@oregonlegislature.gov](mailto:sen.ShemiaFagan@oregonlegislature.gov)
- Senator Chuck Thomsen, [sen.ChuckThomsen@oregonlegislature.gov](mailto:sen.ChuckThomsen@oregonlegislature.gov)

**Lane, Deschutes, Jackson, and Klamath Counties**

- Deschutes Senator Tim Knopp, [sen.TimKnopp@oregonlegislature.gov](mailto:sen.TimKnopp@oregonlegislature.gov)
- Klamath Senator Dennis Linthicum, [sen.DennisLinthicum@oregonlegislature.gov](mailto:sen.DennisLinthicum@oregonlegislature.gov)
- Deschutes Representative Jack Zika, [rep.JackZika@oregonlegislature.gov](mailto:rep.JackZika@oregonlegislature.gov)
- Lane Senator Floyd Prozanski, [sen.FloydProzanski@OregonLegislature.gov](mailto:sen.FloydProzanski@OregonLegislature.gov)
- Lane Representative Paul Holvey, [rep.PaulHolvey@oregonlegislature.gov](mailto:rep.PaulHolvey@oregonlegislature.gov)
- Jackson Representative Pam Marsh, [rep.PamMarsh@oregonlegislature.gov](mailto:rep.PamMarsh@oregonlegislature.gov)

For further clarification or your area is not

listed: <https://www.oregonlegislature.gov/findyourlegislator/leg-districts.html>

Thank you.

Wishing you and your family health,

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