Bloomington Ice Center will reopen Saturday August 1st and will do so in compliance with recommendations set forth by the Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity.
Information on the guidelines can be found at this link: http://dceocovid19resources.com/restore-illinois/restore-illinois-phase-4/youth-and-recreational-sports-guidelines/
As we move closer to the re-opening of the Bloomington Ice Center, we wanted to take this opportunity to inform our valued customers of the following changes in operating practices that we will be making due to COVID-19 concerns:

1. We have reduced our capacity/occupancy for total persons in the building to 50% of facility capacity and with groups of up to 50 on ice participants per the Restore Illinois Phase 4 Guidelines.
2. The Front Desk and Skate Rental areas will have clear partitions installed to protect our guests and staff. Please respect those spaces for the safety of all.
3. We are asking that all persons entering the rink wear a face covering at all times except when engaging in hockey or figure skating on-ice activities. Facemasks will be required for Public Skating sessions.
4. Children ages 12 & under must have a guardian in the building. Everyone in the building during Public Skating Sessions must pay the fee.
5. Please do not congregate at the front desk. If there is a line waiting to be served, please maintain the standard safe social distancing of six (6) feet. We will have taped markers on the floor for spacing guidance.
6. Hand Sanitizer Stations will be located through out and at the entrance to the building and the entrance to the rink and we ask everyone to frequently use them.
7. We have extensively disinfected the building and will maintain increased cleaning efforts during this period.
8. The Locker Rooms will ONLY be opened for 18 and older teams and official hockey games. Participants must exit the locker rooms no more than 15 minutes after their session ends. Signage will be present to demonstrate the 6 foot social distancing recommendations. Facemasks should continue to be worn while in the Locker Rooms. It is also strongly suggested participants arrive fully dressed and ready to go directly on the ice.
9. Facemasks must be worn during our Public Skating Sessions.
10. We will have Pick Up and Stick and Puck & Freestyle sessions but all participants must register on-line in advance. No Walk-ins will be allowed. No Locker Rooms will be available.
11. There will be no rental skates available except for Learn-To-Skate or Hockey Learn to Play classes and Open Skating.
12. Initially our staff will be restricting entry to the facility to
   a. players/skaters
   b. coaches
   c. parents or guardians who must assist their skater with getting ready
   d. we ask that non-skaters and non-players remain outside and do not congregate at the entry door.
13. We ask that all players conduct their warm up activities outside whenever possible at a safe socially acceptable distance from each other.
14. Our staff will regularly be disinfecting the bathrooms so please be patient with us if such spaces are temporarily closed for cleaning.
15. We will ask all persons in the building to maintain safe social distancing of six (6) feet between persons per the CDC recommendations.

16. All water fountains will be unavailable for use so please be sure to bring your own filled water bottle and please do not share any water bottles between persons.

17. Please do not come to the rink if you are experiencing a cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, fever of 100.4 or above, chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell or any other CDC-identified symptoms.

18. Recommendations from U.S. Ice Rink Association: Practice frequent and meticulous hand-washing with soap and water or alcohol-based hand rub.

Avoid close contact with anyone with cold or flu-like symptoms. Quarantine anyone who is sick (players, coaches, parents, roommates).

Handshake lines after games should include fist bumps with gloves on OR eliminate handshake line and consider a stick tap or clap to the other team as a sign of sportsmanship.

Use individual water bottles; do not share them

Towels should not be shared in any way

19. The Fifteen Minute Window – We are asking that players/skaters come into the building no earlier than fifteen (15) minutes prior to their scheduled ice time and leave within fifteen (15) minutes of its conclusion. That will help in controlling the number of persons in the building and assist in keeping everyone at safe distances.

20. The COVID-19 Waiver- All persons, without exception, will be asked to sign a COVID-19 Waiver, which is available for download on our website. If you are under eighteen (18) years of age, it must be signed by your parent or guardian as well. Please do this at home and bring to the rink prior to your ice session.

21. We ask that if you are paying with cash, please bring exact change.

22. Please realize our staff will be doing everything to assure a safe facility for themselves and everyone who enters. As such, please understand that they will be monitoring adherence to our rules. Comply with any requests they make. We’re in this together. We need to get through it together.

23. There will be NO Lost & Found. Any items left behind will be disposed or donated immediately.

We are excited to get back “ON THE ICE” and want to make sure we follow all the guidelines set in place so we can remain open. We appreciate all your patience as we all try to resume our normal activities with a safety first mentality.

Michael Hernbrott
Bloomington Ice Center Manager