

REBOUND TO SKATING WEBINAR SERIES



Rebound to Skating Webinar Series “Season Planning Considerations for Clubs & Skating Schools”

Wednesday August 4, 2021

Skate Ontario COVID Waiver

As part of your registration, every participant for any on ice or off ice activity, is required to sign the [Skate Ontario Waiver \(Acknowledgement, Release, Indemnity, and Assumption of Risk Regarding COVID-19\)](#). All skaters, volunteers, coaches, and officials are required to have read and signed the waiver. Clubs/skating schools are required to have any guest skaters or non home club members read and sign the waiver prior to participating in any activities.

Clubs/skating schools can collect the waivers by one of three ways:

1. Physical copy – signed and dated by skater or parent/guardian
2. Electronic signed copy – fillable PDF version signed and dated by skater or parent/guardian, either emailed or faxed
3. Utilize your online registration system for collection – requirements for this option are outlined below

Our partners at [Uplifter](#) developed a feature last season which allows our member clubs/skating schools to utilize their registration system to collect the [Skate Ontario Waiver \(Acknowledgement, Release, Indemnity, and Assumption of Risk Regarding COVID-19\)](#).

Uplifter, upon the direction of Skate Ontario, now has the following features that will enable proper digital collection of the Skate Ontario Waiver:

- Digital signature capability
- Prompt to acknowledge identity – participant or parent/legal guardian
- Scroll through requirement by user

These three features are ***mandatory*** for all clubs/skating schools to incorporate into the online collection of the Skate Ontario Waiver through Uplifter.

Uplifter has recorded a video of the step-by-step process for implementing this waiver into your registration procedure for this season. To view the video, please click [here](#).

The language that needs to be included in the waiver can be found [here](#).

We understand that not all Skate Ontario clubs/skating schools utilize Uplifter as their online registration system. To utilize a different online registration platform for the collection of the Skate Ontario Waiver, a club/skating school will need to ensure the following parameters are met by the registration platform to proceed with an online collection of the waiver:

1. A simple check box for acknowledgement of the waiver is **not** acceptable.
2. The waiver acknowledgement needs to be associated/linked with a participant's and/or a parent/legal guardian's account which is time/date stamped upon completion.
3. The platform needs to demonstrate evidence that the participant or the parent/legal guardian of a participant under 18 years of age has scrolled through and read the language of the waiver to add a digital signature to the waiver.
4. The platform needs to include language that confirms the participant or the parent/legal guardian of a participant under 18 years of age, is consciously signing the waiver by utilizing a digital signature option.
5. Clubs/skating schools must use the following language in the waiver acknowledgement section, please click [here](#) for the waiver language.

If a club/skating school is implementing a digital waiver collection system, it is their responsibility to ensure that the above parameters are met. If a club/skating school cannot guarantee the above, they must not include the waiver in their online registration process. In that situation, a club/skating school can utilize the fillable PDF version of the Skate Ontario Waiver for members to complete and send the waivers to a specified email address for collection.

Skate Ontario clubs/skating schools have the responsibility to ensure that all registered members or the parent/legal guardian of participants under 18 years of age, have read and acknowledged the Skate Ontario Waiver by signing it (digitally or physically) prior to starting any type of programming. The method of collection of waivers (digital versus physical) will be an organizational decision made by each club/skating school.

Rowan's Law Requirements

All club/skating schools within the province of Ontario must ensure prior to the first day of skating that all skaters under 26 years of age and parents/guardians of skaters under 18 years of age acknowledge that they have reviewed the Government of Ontario Concussion Awareness Resources (there are three (3) different resources depending on the age of the skater) and Skate Ontario's Concussion Code of Conduct for Athletes and Parents/Guardians.

For skaters under 18 years of age, an acknowledgement from both the skater and parent/guardian is required.

It is the responsibility of the club/skating school administrators to collect these acknowledgements either manually or by electronic means and securely file them with their records. These acknowledgements should be retained on file for a minimum of 7 years. For those clubs/skating schools who wish to have their members manually acknowledge their review of the resource, Skate Ontario has created a template for your use which can be found [here](#). For electronic collection of member acknowledgements, club/skating school administrators need to ensure the following are included:

1. There is an acknowledgement “check box” that must be checked by the **skater**.
2. There is an acknowledgment “check box” that must be checked by the parent/guardian of each skater under the age of 18 years old.
3. Parents/guardians must check the acknowledgement for each individual skater in their family. A single “family” or “combined” acknowledgement is not permissible under the legislation.
4. The system collecting electronic acknowledgements MUST be able to provide a report (audit trail) that clearly shows the date when the athlete checked the acknowledgement and, where applicable, the parent/guardian checked the acknowledgment. Clubs/Skating school must provide a report if requested by either Skate Ontario and/or the Government of Ontario.

Please Note: Skaters and their parents/guardians who are registered in CanSkate, CanPowerSkate and STAR 1-4 programs are exempt from this requirement.

Skate Ontario also requires all Ontario coaches and officials to complete the required concussion awareness training module and acknowledgement form through Skate Canada’s eLearning platform. This will be recorded on their Skate Canada file. Clubs/skating school **do not** need to collect the Concussion Acknowledgement Form for coaches and officials who are either employed or register with your organization.