

ONTARIO SPEED SKATING

June 28, 2019

Dear Club Presidents,

On June 18, we were made aware that, the regulation under Rowan's Law was filed and that certain sections of both the law and the regulation will be in effect on July 1, 2019. Attached please find both the law and the regulation for your reference. I have also attached the outline we received regarding the requirements required to comply with Rowan's Law. (Please know I would have shared this with you sooner but I only received the requirements from the Ministry on Tuesday afternoon and have been working on getting everything together since then)

What this means for your club and members:

1. Any **new** participant under the age of 26 who registers with your club after July 1st 2019 needs to do the following two things:
 - a. Confirm they have read a Ministry Approved Concussion Awareness Resource and
 - b. Confirm they have reviewed, and committed to, the Ontario Speed Skating Concussion Code of Conduct.
2. Participants that have registered prior to July 1st can continue to participate in activities.

However all participants will need to confirm they have read a Ministry Approved Concussion Awareness Resource and confirm they have reviewed and committed to the Ontario Speed Skating Concussion Code of Conduct the next time they register to be a member of your club and the Ontario Speed Skating Association. Both of these requirements will need to be confirmed on a yearly basis.

3. Coaches/Instructors need to:
 - a. Confirm they have read a Ministry Approved Concussion Awareness Resource and
 - b. Confirm they have reviewed, and committed to, the Ontario Speed Skating Coach Concussion Code of Conduct.

They have until August 30th to complete these confirmations. Both of these requirements will need to be confirmed on a yearly basis.

4. If you have a "team trainer" which is defined as an individual who is assigned by a sport organization to respond to athletic injuries they are also required to meet the same requirements as coaches.

Below are the Ministry Approved Concussion Resources for your participants and coaches. They are also attached as a PDF.

[Concussion Awareness Resources Ages 10 and under](#)

[Concussion Awareness Resources Ages 11 to 14](#)

[Concussion Awareness Resources Ages 15 and up](#)

The law very clearly states that the Concussion Awareness Resource has to be a Ministry Approved item. At this point, the Ministry has only produced these e-booklets; however, we understand a video and module are coming from them at some point over the summer. They have indicated they are not planning to approve any other resource, training or qualifications under this legislation. As more resources become available from the Ministry, or if their position changes, we will communicate that with all our member clubs.

Attached are the Ontario Speed Skating Association Concussion Codes of Conduct. They are based on the templates provided by the Ministry of Tourism Culture and Sport to meet the requirements of the legislation. **All clubs and members are to use the attached Codes of Conducts.**

Given the short time frame the Ministry has provided, we have focused on the July 1, 2019 requirements. Additional components of the law, Removal from Sport and Return to Sport Protocols come into effect July 1, 2020. I am currently reviewing our Return to Sport Protocol and will have it updated by the end of July 2019. After we receive the updates from the Ministry regarding Removal from Play and Return to Play later this summer or early fall we will amend our protocol to ensure we are compliant with the legislation.

There are no rules within the law about how to collect and store the signed Code of Conducts but you do need to keep a record that the participants and coaches have completed the requirements.

All resources and expectations will also be posted on our website. I will keep you posted with any new information I receive from the Ministry.

If you have any questions please let me know. Have a wonderful long weekend!

Warmest regards,

Mary Frances