

FACILITY FOCUS



WHMIS 2015

Are You Treating Your Condenser Water? Legionella is a Serious Risk

A SMART Approach to Refrigeration Safety

How to Change Your Pool Filter Sand

Cleaning Up Body Fluid Spills on Pool Surfaces

Baseball/Softball Field Safety and Maintenance Checklist

Fall/Winter 2019



**Recreation Facility
Association
of Nova Scotia**

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WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Are you doing something new or cutting edge in your facility? Does your company have interesting or important information to share about recreation facility operations? Are you selling equipment or looking to post a job? RFANS wants to know!

We'd love to share your information with our members!

Contact Brittany at rfans@sportnovascotia.ca or 902-425-5450 ext. 330 to share.

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Facility Focus is the official publication of the Recreation Facility Association of Nova Scotia (RFANS). It is published twice per year and is issued to members of RFANS and others associated with the operations of recreation facilities in the Atlantic Provinces.

Articles within this magazine do not necessarily reflect the opinions or policies of the Board of Directors or the Association as a whole.

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RFA NS Mission Statement

To provide leadership in developing, promoting and advocating excellence in recreational facilities, operations and personnel.

Our commitment is:

- To promote and encourage the professional development of recreation facility personnel and provide opportunities for this development;
- To act as a unified voice for recreation facility personnel regarding issues affecting facilities and their management;
- To improve communication between facilities;
- To promote the provision of high quality, safe recreation facilities.

PROGRAMS AND EDUCATION

AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATOR (AED) GRANT PROGRAM

The AED Grant program provides sport and recreational facilities the opportunity to receive funding to help offset the costs of the purchase of an AED.

Applications are accepted on a first come, first serve basis.

CSA HOCKEY HELMET PROGRAM

This program helps recreation facilities provide participants with the helmets required to participate in school sponsored skates and public skates.

Application deadline is October 11th, 2019.

LOGBOOKS

Logbooks available for order are as follows:

- Pool Inspection & Maintenance
- Arena Inspection & Maintenance
- Skateboard Park Inspection & Maintenance
- Playground and Sport Court Inspection & Maintenance

Logbooks are available for order year round.



CERTIFIED POOL OPERATOR (CPO®)

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Zatzman Sportsplex, Dartmouth, NS

Registration closes October 23rd, 2019

SECOND CLASS REFRIGERATION

January 8th & 9th, 2020 (Orientation)

NSCC Akerley Campus, Dartmouth, NS

Registration closes October 18th, 2019

CERTIFICATE IN ICE FACILITY OPERATIONS



The Recreation Facility Association of Nova Scotia has partnered with the Ontario Recreation Facilities Association to bring a new Certificate in Ice Facility Operations to Nova Scotia.

The courses required for successful completion of the certificate are as follows:

- Basic Arena Refrigeration
- Ice Making and Painting Technologies
- Ice Maintenance and Equipment Operations
- Legal Awareness - Health and Safety for Supervisors in Recreation

Take advantage of the this opportunity to build your resume and expand your knowledge in the field of ice maintenance!

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PROGRAMS AND EDUCATION

SECOND CLASS REFRIGERATION FACTS

In order to get this ticket, you must:

- 1) Have Grade 12 or equivalent.
- 2) Have enough hours of actual operating experience. (2000 hours)

Did you know...

...you should get your Second Class Refrigeration ticket if you want to operate boilers, refrigeration compressors and air or other gas compressors?

...it only costs \$250.00 to take the Second Class Refrigeration Course and become ticketed through RFANS?

...you only need your 2000 hours experience by the end of June, when you write your exam?

...you get 1000 hours experience toward your ticket for successfully completing the online NSCC course?

...you can continue to accumulate your 2000 hours while you are taking the course?

...you get access to in class sessions and an NSCC instructor while completing the course?

...RFANS will look after registering you with the Nova Scotia Apprenticeship Agency, NSCC and the Department of Labour & Advanced Education to complete your ticket?

Have other questions? We have answers! Contact Brittany at 902-425-5450 ext. 330 or at rfans@sportnovascotia.ca



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PROGRAMS AND EDUCATION

ANTI-RACISM POLICY AND PROTOCOL TOOL

Racism and discrimination in sport has been an ongoing issue. While some initiatives have taken steps towards preventing racism/discrimination in sport, there has yet to be an initiative that aids in dealing with the issue once it occurs. We know that racism/discrimination is often perceived as uncomfortable and difficult to address. Therefore, a tool has been developed to empower people to deal with the issue promptly and properly.

The Anti-Racism Policy and Protocol tool was developed by the Tripartite Forum as a resource to help sport and recreation facilities deal with incidents of racism or discrimination within their facilities. The Tripartite Forum and the Recreation Facility Association of Nova Scotia have partnered to bring this resource to sport and recreation facilities in Nova Scotia.

This resource consists of a policy template which can be used by sport and recreation facilities to update or create their own policy around racism and discrimination. Example Incident Report Forms are included as well. Also available are fantastic, free signage (see photo below) that can be placed within your facility to indicate you have a policy and are a safe, respectful environment that does not tolerate racism and/or discrimination.

We hope that you will take the time to review your current policies and help us move forward in the elimination of racism and discrimination.

For more details on this initiative please contact Brittany at 902-425-5450 ext. 330 or rfans@sportnovascotia.ca.



Thank you to the Department of Communities, Culture and Heritage for their continuous support. The Recreation Facility Association of Nova Scotia continues to offer training, programs and educational resources throughout Nova Scotia because of your contribution.



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PROGRAMS AND EDUCATION

HERE IS WHAT YOU HAD TO SAY ABOUT THE 2019 ORFA ICE COURSES!

Basic Arena Refrigeration

"If you are just starting in the rink industry this course will substantially boost your knowledge."

"Perfect base to start at for getting employees competent in the plant room"

"If you are genuinely interested in how your refrigeration plant works you need to start with this course."

"I have the ICE Cube system did not think it would tell me much about my plant. But it did help me understand more on the refrigeration. End of it helped me understand it. Great course."

"Take it. Worth every penny."

"Everyone working in this industry (plant rooms) should have this course."

Ice Making & Painting Technologies

"Even if you've been painting ice for 30 years or 3 years this course will help your techniques and provide you with a wealth of knowledge."

"It's a wonderful way to meet industry professionals all while learning from experienced instructors."

"Very well taught, informative, would recommend it to experienced as well as beginning ice makers."

Ice Maintenance & Equipment Operations

"Well worth the effort!"

"I thought I knew all there was to know about my Zamboni, but I learned a few more things I can share with my work colleagues."

"I already completed the Basic Arena Refrigeration, ice painting, and this was the course I was looking forward to the most."

"Very in depth understanding of operations & operation procedures"

"Very informative, well explained"

"Lots of important facts and knowledge on all topics."

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BUSINESS ACCESS-ABILITY GRANT PROGRAM

Dear Business Association and Operator,

Do you want to open your business to a growing market?

About one in five Nova Scotians identifies as a person with a disability. The Nova Scotia Government is now offering a \$1 million-dollar fund to support business owners who want to improve accessibility to their businesses.

The Nova Scotia Government will fund up to two thirds of projects that will make your business more accessible to persons with disabilities for trade or employment through **the Business ACCESS-Ability Program**.

Funding is available for:

1. **Built Environment and Accessibility Certification:** Removal of physical barriers for persons (customers and employees) to access business services, including the installation of ramps, accessible washrooms, door opener and other projects. (expense cap \$50,000)
2. **Accessible Communication and Information:** Ensuring that all customers, clients and employees can access information related to a business. (expense cap \$30,000)
3. **Assistive Devices:** Ensuring that employees and consumers who are persons with disabilities have the devices they need to effectively do their jobs and access places of business. (expense cap \$30,000)
4. **Universal Design Capacity Building:** Training in the field of Universal Design and professional technical service. (The NS Government will fund programs that build capacity and expertise in the accessibility sector)
5. **Accessible Transportation:** Providing support for businesses to make improvements, allowing for improved access to transportation services. (expense cap \$20,000).

Everyone has a role to play in making our province more accessible and it is encouraging to see the leadership displayed by business to do their part to help reduce barriers for persons with disabilities and provide more employment opportunities.

Promoting a more inclusive and accessible province is a vital part of government's culture strategy, Nova Scotia's Culture Action Plan.

An accessible province is good for everyone.

For information or to apply for funding please visit <https://cch.novascotia.ca/business-access-ability-grant-program>



This overview provides some basic information about WHMIS 2015.

Information that is common across Canada is available at WHMIS.org. This national WHMIS portal has fact sheets, FAQs, online courses, posters, and more.

WHMIS 2015 refers to the legislation that applies to the new system; WHMIS 1988 is used to refer to the old system of classification, labeling and safety data sheets for Hazardous Products.

Updating WHMIS to a global standard — GHS

Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System (WHMIS) is the Canadian hazard communication system that provides information on the safe use of hazardous products in Canadian workplaces.

Global Harmonization System (GHS) is an international initiative to standardize chemical hazard classification and communication globally.

Parts of GHS have been adopted by many trading partners, including the United States.

WHMIS is comprised of both federal and provincial/territorial legislation:

- The federal Hazardous Products Act (HPA) and Hazardous Products Regulations (HPR) regulate **suppliers** of hazardous products (defined as persons who, during business, sell or import a hazardous product)
- Federal, provincial, and territorial (FPT) occupational health and safety (OHS) authorities regulate the **employer requirements** of WHMIS in workplaces.

Fully implementing WHMIS 2015 requires changes to the federal, provincial, and territorial OHS requirements for hazard communication — labels and safety data sheets (SDSs). The interlocking nature of the federal, provincial, and territorial WHMIS requirements involves the timing of implementation and the transition approach be coordinated across Canada. As each jurisdiction follows an independent legislative process, there may be a lag between the coming-into-force of the HPA and HPR and the timing of amendments to provincial and territorial legislation.

To address this issue, provincial and territorial OSH authorities have agreed to support a synchronized coming-into-force and transition across Canada until necessary changes are made to their legislation. Once finalized, each jurisdiction will communicate to its stakeholders what measures will be acceptable to ensure worker health and safety in workplaces.

Does GHS replace WHMIS?

No, GHS does not replace WHMIS. Rather, WHMIS will incorporate GHS concepts, specifically product classification, labeling, and safety data sheets (SDS). The result will be a new level of standardization.

WHMIS 2015

What areas are being

- Classification criteria
- Label requirements
- Safety data sheet (SDS) requirements — called material safety data sheet or MSDS under the WHMIS 1988 system

Although the intent of the new WHMIS 2015 is to construct a standardized hazard communication system across countries, there are still some differences between trading partners. This means that an (M)SDS and label that is compliant with the U.S. Hazard Communication Standard (2012) may not be sufficient for compliance in Canada.

Suppliers and employers must be compliant with the Canadian requirements. Health Canada's "Technical Guidance on the Requirements of the Hazardous Products Act and Hazardous Products Regulations," available on WHMIS.org, clarifies these variances.

What changes with standardization?

While WHMIS retains the same level of protection it previously offered, some classification criteria have changed for WHMIS 2015. For example, it incorporates new hazard classes, like Aspiration Hazard.

Supplier labels have a few new requirements. Most of the label elements are standardized. Most hazard classes and categories have a prescribed signal word, hazard statements, pictograms, and precautionary statements. Supplier labels continue to be required in both English and French.

Hazard communication is more standardized with prescribed hazard statements, signal words, pictograms, and precautionary statements. Pictograms immediately show the user of a hazardous product what type of hazard is present. It is a graphic image that, with a quick glance, you can see, for example, that the product is flammable, or if it might be a health hazard.



Most graphics have a distinctive red "square set on one of its points" border (diamond shaped). Inside the border is the symbol that represents the potential hazard. Together, the symbol and the border are referred to as a pictogram, and they are assigned to specific hazard classes or categories.

SDSs follow a standard 16-section format with specific information requirements. The SDSs must be accurate at the time of sale or import.

WHMIS 2015

Are Roles, Responsibilities, and Duties

No, current roles and responsibilities for suppliers, employers, and employees remain unchanged in WHMIS 2015.

Suppliers still provide labels and SDSs to customers.

Employers still

- ensure that all hazardous products are properly labelled
- make up-to-date SDSs readily available to workers
- provide worker education and training
- ensure appropriate control measures to protect the health and safety of employees

Employees still

- participate in WHMIS education and training programs
- take necessary steps to protect themselves and their co-workers
- participate in identifying and controlling hazards

When will WHMIS 2015 come into effect?

Changes to the federal Hazardous Products Act came into effect February 2015. Additionally, the old federal Controlled Products Regulations has been withdrawn and replaced with a new Hazardous Products Regulation. This has effectively made the new classification system, labelling system, and safety data sheets legally authorized for distribution in workplaces in Canada.

The federal legislation and regulation also provided for a transition period. During that period, products that conform to the previous legislation (WHMIS 1988) for classification, labels, and MSDS could be sold and used until the end of the transition period. Note that the transition period ended December 1, 2018.

Provincial and territorial authorities have been working with federal counterparts to develop a common approach to WHMIS regulation in local jurisdictions. In Nova Scotia, work continues to ensure that the revised WHMIS regulation is consistent with the requirements of the province and allows the overarching goal of ensuring a consistent approach with other jurisdictions to facilitate cross-border trade and a mobile workforce.

WHMIS 2015

Is there a need to provide education and in both old WHMIS 1988 and WHMIS 2015?

No, as WHMIS 1988 has been entirely phased out, all workplaces must have WHMIS 2015 compliant SDSs and labels and employees must be instructed in the new system.

In the new WHMIS 2015, provincial regulations education and training are separated to make the requirements easier to understand.

Education refers to the delivery of general or portable information to workers such as what a supplier label contains, what hazard symbols/pictograms mean, what information is on a material safety data sheet or safety data sheet. Education is required under both WHMIS 1988 and WHMIS 2015. Because the information is different for each of these, when new WHMIS 2015 hazardous material enter your workplace, additional education will need to be provided so workers know the differences and understand what these new requirements mean in the workplace.

Training is the same in both WHMIS 1988 and WHMIS 2015, in that it is workplace specific and enables workers to know such things as the hazards of the products they are using, what protection is needed specific to the work they are doing, how to store products safely, and what to do in case of emergency. Workplaces must continue to monitor as new products enter the workplace and adjust the training when products are used in a different way or if new information becomes available.

For more information, visit WHMIS.org or contact the NS Department of Labour and Advanced Education:

novascotia.ca/lae/healthandsafety

1-800-9-LABOUR (1-800-952-2687)



ARE YOU TREATING YOUR CONDENSER WATER? LEGIONELLA IS A SERIOUS RISK.

Submitted by: Ron Marks, Millennium Water Management Ltd.

Legionella bacteria kills hundreds, if not thousands, of people every year in North America, including Canada, as witnessed in Quebec City several years ago. It is preventable and should be taken seriously before it happens in your community.

Cooling towers and evaporative condensers are two pieces of equipment that can grow legionella bacteria at an alarming rate with the warm waters of summer. With our changing weather patterns we seem to get warmer weather in the summer and warmer weather in the fall. Legionella can also survive in the cold water so don't be fooled by the temperature of the water. It can be present in our rink evaporative condensers all year long. That is it can be dormant until the temperature of the water reaches 68 °F. Legionella exists everywhere because it is prevalent in the soil found in all of our communities. When the wind whips up and blows soil dust into the air, the dust gets washed out in evaporative condensers and *cooling* towers. Now it has a place to survive and grow, sometimes at alarming rates.

The reason the evaporative condensers or cooling towers or



humidifiers can be the problem is because they have the right conditions for Legionella to grow and they are the sources or means of the small droplets of water that are breathed into our lungs where once again the bacteria can grow. It is the mist from the towers that becomes the bacteria carrier that enters our lungs.

The majority of people that get infected with Legionella bacteria and the pneumonia are over the age of 50, and those especially susceptible are people with compromised immune systems like those with diabetes, cancer, smokers and other illnesses. Fortunately it is treatable with at least one antibiotic – erythromycin (not penicillin) and perhaps newer ones that have been discovered lately.

Reducing the risk of Legionella bacteria in evaporative condensers and cooling towers requires the following:

1. Prevention of scale in the system where Legionella and other slimes might grow.
2. Prevention of corrosion in the system where Legionella and other living cells or slime might grow.
3. Prevention of biofouled areas where protozoa grow and since Legionella primarily grow within protozoa preventing this is important.

Depending on the quality of the makeup water, Legionella sometimes can be controlled simply by adding bugsticks to the system. By adding one or two bugsticks a week control of bacteria is available. To be sure a good water management control plan should be worked out and implemented.

Most recommendations for Legionella control require the feed of two different biocides, one oxidizing and one non-oxidizing. The need for the two different biocides is because some bacteria become immune to one biocide, therefore by alternating every two weeks the risk is minimized that the bacteria will become immune to one. Chlorine/Bromine would




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ARE YOU TREATING YOUR CONDENSER WATER? LEGIONELLA IS A SERIOUS RISK. continued...

Submitted by: Ron Marks,
Millennium Water Management Ltd.

be examples of oxidizing biocides and isothiazoline would be a non-oxidizing biocide. Additional information can be obtained from the OSHA (Occupational Safety and Health Administration), CTI (Cooling Tower Institute) and ASHRAE (the American Society of Heating, Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Engineers).

An example of good biological control can be found at the Antigonish Arena where biocide is added regularly for about six months of the year while the condenser water is above 68° F. The manager of this facility, Bud MacInnis, adds a single bugstick 2K7 to the condenser water on a routine basis and is able to keep very low biological counts.

What I have written is the fact. Legionella Bacteria is all around us. We all have heard of the problem in Quebec City where people died or Moncton where people became sick, all because of Legionella Bacteria. We sometimes are quick to say it will never happen here. That is what everyone says – “it can’t happen to me. It never has”. That is what we all say. Now we know it can and will happen unless we do something to prevent it from happening. Legionella Disease is preventable. Do something now before it is too late!



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Advances in Emergency Preparedness A SMART APPROACH TO REFRIGERATION SAFETY

Written by: Ryan Moore, Account Manager CIMCO

Anyone involved in the recreational ice industry can tell you that safety for both workers and the public has always been a top priority. In recent years, this has become the driving force for anyone managing a facility with a refrigeration plant. Although ammonia refrigeration systems have been the primary focus, all types of refrigeration systems have dangers associated with them.

With recent changes in enforcement of the B52 refrigeration code, as well as new safety directives, facilities have been struggling to fill operator shifts. Finding qualified personnel with their operator's ticket has been difficult, not to mention the financial strain created by an increase in the number of staff. New employees can often get caught up in the whirlwind of the on-boarding and safety training process. It can take time for someone to feel comfortable with the correct procedures and responses in emergency situations. That being said, even a seasoned veteran operator can make the wrong decision when faced with the stress and pressure of a crisis situation.

What can facilities do to improve their odds so that an emergency situation can be dealt with correctly? Specifically, how can facilities address a refrigerant leak and prevent human error from becoming a contributing factor?

1. Training, training, and more training...

It's important that every facility schedules drills and refresher courses for employees, including staff that may not be directly involved with the refrigeration plant. It is just as important that staff at front desk understand how to respond to an alarm or evacuation.

2. Communication with local emergency services...

Simply having 9-1-1 listed on your response plan is not enough. Many smaller communities do not have the capabilities of responding to a refrigerant leak without the assistance of a trained Hazmat contractor. Knowing whether or not your community has the ability to respond to a refrigerant leak can make a significant difference in the outcome of an incident. Staff should be aware of the capabilities of their local emergency services and understand the correct procedure for emergency calls.

3. Using the latest innovations in safety equipment...

This can be achieved by using the correct PPE, maintaining your equipment to the manufacturer's specifications, and ultimately the overall design of your refrigeration system. It is important that your facility is taking full advantage of the latest options available for health and safety. Recent advances in technology and innovations in the industry have made it easier to mitigate the risks involved with refrigeration systems, particularly with automation and alarm systems removing much of the risk associated with human intervention.

CIMCO has been an industry leader when it comes to system design, safety and innovation. Founded in 1913, CIMCO has built over half of the arenas in the world and employs over 100 engineers. We pride ourselves on providing the industry with new and exciting products, keeping safety at the forefront of everything we do.



SMART TRANSFER Refrigerant Transfer System

Safety is every facility's #1 priority.

SMART Transfer isolates the charge in your refrigeration system, **automatically** when a leak is detected, or **on demand** while maintenance is performed. This provides safety for operators and peace of mind for everyone.



AUTOMATIC LEAK RESPONSE

Instead of relying on human decision-making to detect and/or diagnose the true severity of a potential refrigerant leak, SMART Transfer sensors use your pre-defined safety parameters to detect leaks. Then, the system can automatically transfer, hold and return the complete refrigerant charge as required, so there is no need for operators to enter potentially contaminated areas or risk exposure.

SMART Transfer Leak Response Process



1. DETECT

SMART sensors installed in the compressor room continually monitor the environment to detect leaks that exceed the predefined PPM threshold.



2. TRANSFER

If the leak reaches a predetermined severity level, or if the operator chooses to activate the transfer manually, refrigerant isolation is initiated.



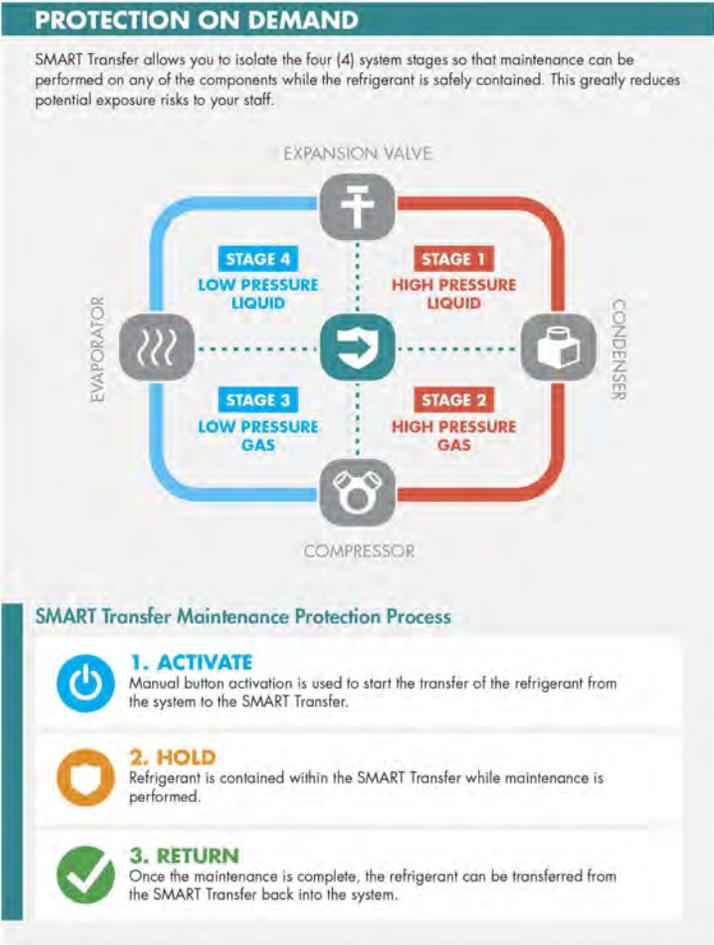
3. RETURN

Once the leak has been resolved, the refrigerant can be transferred from the SMART Transfer back into the system.

Advances in Emergency Preparedness

A SMART APPROACH TO REFRIGERATION SAFETY continued...

Written by: Ryan Moore, Account Manager CIMCO



requiring only a few modifications to your existing refrigeration system. During a refrigerant leak, the advanced gas detection monitor will activate the SMART Transfer pump-out protocol. This will remove all refrigerant from your leaking system and store it safely in the on-board containment vessel. Once the leak is repaired, the refrigerant can then be transferred back to your refrigeration system. There is no need for intervention from facility operators or emergency services, as the process can be monitored remotely. Not only does this eliminate exposure to harmful refrigerants, but it eliminates the need for facility staff (veteran or new-hires) to make difficult decisions in an emergency situation.

The future of recreation ice has never been safer, and by staying current with changes and innovations in the industry, we can keep Canada's recreation facilities safe and welcoming.



Over the last year, we have been developing a new approach to mitigating the risks associated with refrigerant leaks. The idea was simple: "How can we prevent an ice facility operator from having to respond to a refrigerant leak, or even avoid calling emergency services all together?" With the benefits of today's automation and controls capabilities, we were able to design a system that does just that.

The SMART Transfer is the latest offering in the SMART Rink Connect line-up and can be installed in any new or existing recreation facility. The patent pending SMART Transfer design is based on the portable refrigerant pump-out unit that has proven itself in the field on a regular basis. We created the SMART Transfer by combining the portable pump-out unit with a weatherproof enclosure, a self-contained control system, and an on-board containment vessel.

The SMART Transfer is a permanent fixture in your facility,





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HOW TO CHANGE YOUR POOL FILTER SAND

Written by: **McBurney Pools & Spas**

Everyone wants their pool to look and feel as clean as possible. For this reason, you should ensure your sand filter is changed when needed.

The more the filter is used the more the sand particles get worn and broken down. If the sand particles aren't large or jagged enough it will allow debris to pass through – exactly what you don't want!

Sand should be changed or replaced every 2-4 years to keep your pool water sparkling clean. We know this is all easier said than done. To help you through the process here is a basic list of steps for changing your sand filter:

1. Shut off power to the pool for added safety
2. Remove the drain cap from the filter and allow all the water to filter out
3. Remove (unscrew) the piping connected to the multiport valve by hand
4. Loosen the screws holding the multiport valve to the filter. Carefully twist and lift the valve off the filter (don't use too much force – don't want anything breaking!)
5. Place some tape over the standpipe to prevent sand or debris from getting in and use a shop vac to remove all the used sand
6. Carefully remove the standpipe and laterals from the filter. Inspect them for cracks or damage and give them a thorough (yet gentle) cleaning
7. Once clean, put the standpipe and laterals back into the filter and secure them back into their place
8. Fill the filter half-full of water, then pour the new sand into the filter until you reach the tanks recommended capacity
9. Remove the tape from the standpipe and reattach the multiport valve
10. Reattach the piping to the multiport valve
11. Set the handle on the valve to 'backwash' before turning the pool pump back on
12. Restore power to the pool
13. Prime the pump, and turn it on for two minutes to flush out any impurities from the sand
14. Turn the pool pump off, set it to 'rinse' and watch through the sight glass in the multiport valve until the water in the sight glass has turned clear
15. Turn the pool pump off one more time, set the handle to 'filter', turn the pump back on and you're ready to go!

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Cleaning Up Body Fluid Spills on Pool Surfaces

Body fluids, including blood, feces, and vomit are all considered potentially contaminated with bloodborne or other germs. Therefore, spills of these fluids on the pool deck should be cleaned up and the contaminated surfaces disinfected immediately.

Appropriate Disinfectants

Bleach

One of the most commonly used chemicals for disinfection is a homemade solution of household bleach and water. Since a solution of bleach and water loses its strength quickly, a fresh mixture should be made before each clean-up to make sure it is effective.

Other Disinfectants

A listing of other approved commercial disinfectants can be found at www.epa.gov/oppad001/chemregindex.htm and www.fda.gov/cdrh/ode/germlab.html. These disinfectants are effective when used according to the manufacturer's instructions.

Recipe for Bleach Disinfecting Solution

9 parts cool water
1 part household bleach
Add the household bleach to the water. Gently mix the solution.

Clean-up Procedure Using Bleach Solution

1. Block off the area of the spill from patrons until clean-up and disinfection is complete.
2. Put on disposable gloves to prevent contamination of hands.
3. Wipe up the spill using paper towels or absorbent material and place in plastic garbage bag.
4. Gently pour bleach solution onto all contaminated areas of the surface.
5. Let the bleach solution remain on the contaminated area for 20 minutes.
6. Wipe up the remaining bleach solution.
7. All non-disposable cleaning materials used such as mops and scrub brushes should be disinfected by saturating with bleach solution and air dried.
8. Remove gloves and place in plastic garbage bags with all soiled cleaning materials.
9. Double-bag and securely tie-up plastic garbage bags and discard.



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BASEBALL/SOFTBALL FIELD SAFETY AND MAINTENANCE CHECKLIST

Written by: SportsTurf Managers Association



The Foundation for Safer Athletic Fields

Baseball/Softball Field Safety and Maintenance Checklist

Prior to practice or a game, assess the following field characteristics and make the necessary corrections to the statements marked, 'No/Needs Attn' before allowing players on the field. If your field is experiencing major problems, including excessive wear, drainage issues, design flaws, etc., contact the STMA at ph. 800-323-3875, or STMAinfo@STMA.org for a referral to a local STMA chapter volunteer in your area for advice.

Skinned Areas

- | Yes | No/Needs Attn | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | The soil is not too loose and provides good running traction. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | The soil surface is loose enough around sliding zones for safe sliding. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | The soil is not too abrasive for safe sliding. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | The soil is not too compacted to provide good drainage. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Running paths and sliding zones near bases are level and not worn. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Batter's box and home plate areas are in good condition. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Pitcher's mound is in good condition. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | The skinned area is level and does not have low spots or holes. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | There is no hazardous soil buildup (lip) between the skinned area and the turf. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | The skinned area is dry. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | When moist, the skinned area is not too sticky and does not adhere to shoes. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Coach's box is level with surrounding area. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Coach's box is not excessively hard. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | On-deck or walkway from dugout is not excessively hard and compacted. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Unsafe obstacles such as hard gravel and framing boards do not exist in on-deck or walkway areas from dugouts. |

Comments

Pitcher's Mound

- | Yes | No/Needs Attn | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | The mound conforms to league requirements. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Platform area behind the rubber is large enough. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | "Push off" and "landing" areas are constructed with specialized clay. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | "Push-off" and "landing" areas are not dished out and in need of repair. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | There is not a hazardous soil buildup (lip) between the mound and the infield grass. |

Comments

BASEBALL/SOFTBALL FIELD SAFETY AND MAINTENANCE CHECKLIST

Written by: SportsTurf Managers Association

Baseball/Softball Field Safety and Maintenance Checklist

Playing Surface

Yes No/Needs Attn

- Maintenance equipment, such as rakes, hoes, etc. have been removed from the field.
- Litter and unsafe debris have been removed from the field and player/spectator areas.
- The sprinkler heads should be installed as per manufacturer's recommendations with no protrusions on the playing surface.
- If there is an irrigation system, it is timed correctly to irrigate the appropriate amount of time prior to play.
- The field was constructed according to recommended industry specifications.

Comments

Turf Areas

Yes No/Needs Attn

- There is at least 75 percent coverage of turfgrass on the field.
- There are no bare spots with a hard soil surface exposed.
- Soil is well drained with no standing water.
- Turfgrass is uniform in color, height and density.
- Turfgrass has strong root system, limiting "blow-outs."
- There are no weeds with thorns, bristles or burrs.
- There are no holes or mounds made by moles, gophers, or other animals.
- There are no ruts or trenches caused by equipment use or field wear.
- There has been communication between the maintenance staff and coach/facility user.

Comments

Bases and Anchoring

Yes No/Needs Attn.

- The base coverings do not have unsafe rips or gouges.
- The base framework or hardware is not loose or damaged.
- The base ground stake is safely below the surface grade.
- The base ground stake is firmly secured in its concrete footing.
- The base, ground stake and its footing are installed according to the manufacturer's requirement.
- The bases seat properly with the ground elevation and are seated securely.
- The concrete footings will not twist out of place in the ground.
- The surface of home plate is level with the surrounding surface.
- The pitcher's rubber is level with the surrounding surface and is secured safely in the ground.

Comments

BASEBALL/SOFTBALL FIELD SAFETY AND MAINTENANCE CHECKLIST

Written by: SportsTurf Managers Association

Baseball/Softball Field Safety and Maintenance Checklist

Fencing

(If your field does not have fencing, skip this section)

- | Yes | No/Needs Attn. |
|--------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> Fences are securely set in the ground. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> Fence posts are outside of the playing area. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> There are no concrete footings exposed above ground. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> Fencing is securely attached to its posts. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> There are no large gaps in the fencing, or between the ground and the fence. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> Top and bottom tension wires are in place to secure the fence. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> The wire ends of the fence are not exposed at the top or corners. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> There are no damaged areas that protrude, are sharp or loose. |

Comments

Lighting

(If your field does not have lighting, skip this section)

- | Yes | No/Needs Attn. |
|--------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> Lighting has been installed and inspected by a trained engineer or technician. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> All lights are working. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> The light's beam adequately and uniformly covers the field. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> The lighting foot candles meet industry recommended specifications. |

Comments

Bleachers/Facility

(If your field does not have bleachers/facility, skip this section)

- | Yes | No/Needs Attn. |
|--------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> Nuts and bolts are tight and in sufficient number. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> Guard rails are securely in place. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> The plank or railing end caps are securely in place. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> There are no splinters or worn areas (wooden bleachers). |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> There are no hazardous protrusions or sharp edges. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> The supply and location of waste cans is adequate. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> There is appropriate signage notifying players and spectators of rules, appropriate behavior and deficient conditions. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> There are public telephones or staffed office for emergency situations. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> Areas under repair are identified and posted appropriately. |

Comments

General

- | Yes | No/Needs Attn. |
|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> There is a flag or other signaling system to alert players to leave the field if inclement weather or other danger is imminent. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> Skinned foul lines are in good condition. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> The chalking material is not irritating to eyes. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> There are public telephones available for emergency situations. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> Areas that are hazardous or under repair have been blocked off or identified. |

Comments

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

GFL - NEWPORT RECREATION CENTRE



Who are you?

The GFL Centre is run by the Newport & District Rink Commission, which is a volunteer board of people from the community that brings various skills to the facility. Managed by Shane Rogers and located in Newport, Village of Brooklyn, Hants County.

What are some recent accomplishments of your facility worth noting?

We have been here since the early 1970's, but we lost our rink in the winter of 2014. The community and various groups pulled together and re-built on the same lot this amazing, modern centre. We are an NHL size ice surface with 350 stadium seats and a capacity of about 800. We are fully accessible and sport a very comfortable warm room and canteen. Our main clients are West Hants Minor Hockey, Riverview Skating Club, we recently signed on King's Edgehill Hockey and serve our local Men's and Rec League hockey.

What is the greatest challenge you have had to overcome in the industry in the last 5 years?

With this August of 2019 being the start of our 4th season in

this building, one of the biggest challenges has been learning this facility and continuous monitoring of all aspects to reach a budget that we know can work. Some areas with this building has brought a rise in costs we weren't expecting, one being our heating system. We found the funding and are having a geo-thermal system placed which will help alleviate those costs.

"I think with all Recreation facilities, the biggest challenge is the fine line of wanting to keep your rental costs as low as possible for your users, but also educating your users that the facility does have costs to be able to be here. There is very little funding opportunities available for us."

Why did you join RFANS, and what keeps you involved?

When I started here 8 years ago, I was turned to RFANS by people I met from the industry. Joining this membership has easily been one of the best decisions we have made. Every situation we can run into, RFANS has someone to help you through it. The arena or rec centre specific training is perfect for managers and employees to meet others and learn the many different areas of the job.

What do you see for the future of your facility?

Our future here looks bright. The addition of King's Edgehill will bring some very high end hockey to our facility. Our Minor Hockey and Skating associations are strong. We will continue to do our part in always looking to ways of better Energy Efficiency to ensure we stay as cost effective to our users as possible without losing the clean and friendly standard we have set.

Shane Rogers
Manager
Newport Arena



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