**The ABC’s of Outdoor Rink Maintenance**

**A**lcohol is forbidden at all ice rinks.

**B**enches should be provided for resting.

**C**racks, frost boils and chopped up surfaces must be repaired immediately.

**D**ocument all inspections, repairs and maintenance.

**E**ven surface preparation in the fall makes for a better skating surface in the winter.

**F**lood the rink as often as needed when weather permits applying light sprays of water.

**G**arbage containers should be provided or else the ice rink will become the container.

**H**ockey should not be allowed during public or open skating.

**I**ce shavings may contain bodily fluids; dispose of accordingly.

**J**ustify your rules to the public in terms of safety and legislation.

**K**now what the different colors of natural ice mean (blue, white, and grey).

**L**ights must be in working condition and should point towards the ice surface.

**M**aintain adequate water supply and equipment.

**N**o food or drink on the ice.

**O**nly maintained ice is safe ice.

**P**arking should be provided for users.

**Q**uick response to any reports of unsafe conditions can prevent injury.

**R**ules should be posted on signs, websites and in newspapers.

**S**ignage should advise when the ice is OPEN and when the ice is CLOSED.

**T**rucks are not the preferred method of clearing snow.

**U**sers of the rink should be encouraged to report problems with the ice.

**V**olunteers are crucial for any outdoor ice rink program.

**W**earing of helmets by all skaters is recommended.

**X**’plain your policies, procedures and incident reporting protocol to volunteers.

**Y**ou should train your volunteers as if they were your own employees.

**Z**ero tolerance to horseplay on the ice.