

Last updated: February, 2021



**Tri-County**

Regional Centre for Education

Below are some common questions related to the community use of gymnasiums. This information is for TCRCE gyms that have opened for community use. The most up to date list of those schools is located here: <https://www.tcrce.ca/school-gyms-to-reopen-for-community-use/>

Only the gyms on the list are open for community use. We are working to secure additional custodial staff and when we do, the list above will be updated.

To ensure equitable access to facilities, rental fees are being waived for this school year.

*Why are gyms open for community use while there are still cases of COVID-19?*

We take our direction from Public Health who continue to monitor the health of our school community and the surrounding community. If changes are needed, Public Health will let us know and we will make those changes. It's important to note that community gym use happens after school is out for the day and there is appropriately cleaning done before students have access to it the following day.

*Are student sports teams permitted to play?*

For the most up to date information on what is permitted please visit NSSAF's website. Keep in mind, these regulations can change at any time at the direction of Public Health.

<https://sites.google.com/gnspes.ca/nssaf/covid-updates?authuser=0>

*Are spectators permitted?*

Please refer to Nova Scotia's public health guidelines for the most up to date information on spectators in school gymnasiums: <https://novascotia.ca/coronavirus/restriction-updates/>

*What times are gyms open?*

Gyms can open at 7 a.m. but due to cleaning protocols, those who use the facility during this time must be students of that particular school. Gyms are open for community use after the students of that school are gone home for the day and up until 9 p.m.

*Can gyms open on weekends?*

School gyms can only be open if custodial staff are booked to come in to clean after the group has used the facility. The gym must be cleaned between each different community group use. Hours on the weekend depend on the availability of cleaning staff but must not go outside the 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. window.

*Are gyms open for use other than sporting activities?*

Currently, gyms are only open for physical activity and sports. This means, gyms cannot be used for other social gatherings, such as birthday parties, knitting groups, community meetings, as examples. Community groups who use your gym are expected to [complete this form](#) and follow the rules and protocols outlined there.