



# 2021 Risk Management Guidelines

## Your Quick Reference Guide to Changes



Edits in the original 2020 release of the WFTDA Risk Management Guidelines were limited to two areas - Penalty Box and team bench placement and the name change of the Safety Officer to the Risk Coordinator. In March 2020, WFTDA reviewed the requirements for medical apparatus, such as wheelchairs and knee scooters, and Section 5.8 regarding substances and impairment. Finally, in November 2020, WFTDA added a new section to address Safe Skating Skills, as the Minimum Skills Requirements and Skater Rules Test are phasing out in 2020 and will be replaced with a new skater curriculum.

This change document outlines the areas in which the current guidelines differ from previous releases in terms of verbiage and content.

November 2020 - 2021 Risk Management Guidelines Release	
Safe Skills for Participating in Roller Derby (New Section 2)	This new clause provides WFTDA recommendations on the very basic safe skills that a Skater or Skating Official must be able to achieve on skates before participating in any game or scrimmage. These skills include skating backwards and forwards, skating close to others and handling contact, stopping, controlling speed, falling safely and a basic knowledge of the rules of the sport.

March 2020 Risk Management Guidelines Changes	
Wheelchairs and medical apparatus	<p>Non-Skating Officials using medical apparatus may be located in the infield in clearly demarcated areas. Bench Staff using medical apparatus may remain in bench areas (even in the infield) and may travel in and out of other zones as applicable when active game play has stopped.</p> <p>Spectators must remain in zone F.</p>
Substances and Impairment	Persons may not participate in derby activities if they are impaired. Substances needed to treat conditions (therapeutic use) are not prohibited so long as they do not impair the person and are required to maintain the person's health.

# WFTDA Risk Management Guidelines

## Revisions History

January 2020 Risk Management Guidelines Changes	
Team bench and Penalty Box placement	Team bench and Penalty Box placement was originally required to be in Zone E, 15 feet (4.57 meters) from the Outside Track Line. With this new revision, this seating is allowable in Zone E at a minimum of 12 feet (3.66 meters) from the Outside Track Line. Any spectator seating structures must remain at 15 feet (4.57 meters) from the Outside Track Line.
Risk Coordinator	The position of Safety Director has been changed to Risk Coordinator to better reflect the duties of that position.

**Remember:** The WFTDA Risk Management Guidelines contain the minimum requirements. Leagues may add additional restrictions as they deem necessary for the safety of participants and spectators.

### 2020

- Added Section 2 to address Safe Skills for Participating in Roller Derby to align with the new skater curriculum being developed instead of the Minimum Skills Requirements and Skater Rules Test.
- Edited Table 2 to allow participants to use medical apparatuses such as wheelchairs or knee scooters in bench areas, and NSOs may use them in clearly demarcated areas in the center of the infield. Bench staff acting as Alternates may move between zones as applicable during game stoppages.
- Edited Section 5.8 to clarify that therapeutic substances necessary to maintain a person’s health are allowable as long as the substance does not impair the person’s judgment, ability or motor skills.

### 2019

- Included the term “Participants” to seating restrictions in Zone E in order to incorporate safety standards for placement of camera operators, photographers, volunteers and staff to be seated when in Zone E, even if they are working.
- Emphasized that posts may not be located in Zone D unless specific criteria are met.
- Added the term “Flat” to surface requirements.
- Added the allowance of taping over small indentations to smooth out a skating surface.
- Added requirement for coaches, bench staff and off-skates volunteers and officials working in Zones A, B, C, D and/or E to wear closed-toe shoes.

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## Revisions History

### **2017-2018**

- Removed the term “Safety Zone/Lane”
- Added and defined the term “Minor”
- Added and defined the term “Participant”
- Defined the difference between skating surface and competition surface
- Added zones and zone letter designations
- Updated distance measurements to refer to inner track line and/or outer track line
- Specified floor requirements in zone D
- Added medical staff seating requirements
- Added Barriers section