

Recreation Department non-camp activity safety plan

GUIDING RECREATION CONSIDERATIONS FOR COVID-19 PROTOCOLS

The CDC recommends a number of actions youth sports organizations can take to help lower the risk of COVID-19 exposure and reduce the spread during competition and practice. The more people a child or coach interacts with, the closer the physical interaction, the more sharing of equipment there is by multiple players, and the longer that interaction, the higher the risk of COVID-19 spread. Therefore, risk of COVID-19 spread can be different, depending on the type of activity. The risk of COVID-19 spread increases in youth sports settings as follows:

- **Lowest Risk:** Greatest ability to maintain physical distance and/or be done individually
Greatest ability to:
 - Avoid touching of shared equipment,
 - Clean/disinfect equipment between uses by different individuals,
 - Not use shared equipment at all
- **Moderate Risk:** Limited ability to maintain physical distance and/or be done individually
Limited ability to:
 - Avoid touching of shared equipment,
 - Clean/disinfect equipment between uses by different individuals,
 - Not use shared equipment at all
- **More Risk:** Within-team competition.
- **Even More Risk:** Full competition between teams from the same local geographic area. ●
- **Highest Risk:** Full competition between teams from different geographic areas. Least ability to maintain physical distance and/or be done individually

EXAMPLES OF RISK PROFILES

Lowest Risk Activities: Individual running; Batting cages; Hunting/ Shooting/ Archery; Golf/Mini-golf; Non-motorized boating; Singles tennis; Rock climbing; Horse events and competition; Individual swimming; Individual crew; Cross country running; Toss/bowl games (e.g. horseshoes, bocce, bean bag toss); Flying disc games (e.g. disc golf, frisbee); Ropes courses

Moderate Risk Activities: Baseball/ Softball; Doubles tennis; Racket games (e.g. badminton, racquetball); Gymnastics; Field hockey; Crew (2+ rowers);Rafting; Soccer; Non-contact lacrosse; Flag football.

High Risk Activities: Football; Wrestling; Ice hockey; Rugby; Basketball; Contact lacrosse; Volleyball; Martial arts; Competitive cheer/dance

Activity Restrictions:

As of now, low risk, moderate risk, and high risk activities may conduct the following:

- Individual or distanced group training or activities

- Organized no/low-contact group training (e.g. sport camps and clinics)
- Competitive team practices
- Games, meets, matches, scrimmages (e.g. organized leagues, pick-up sports)
- Travel for practice or play to, or from, any area within New York that has been designated as a red or orange zone may only be permitted following consultation with the respective state or local health authorities with consideration of the abovementioned factors. Travel for practice or play to, or from, any area within New York that has been designated as a yellow zone is permitted so long as it adheres to all applicable DOH guidance.

Assessment of Risk

When assessing the viability of programming within the community the following will be taken into consideration:

- Physical closeness of players, and the length of time that players are close to each other or to staff.
- Amount of necessary touching of shared equipment and gear (e.g., protective gear, balls, bats, racquets, mats, or water bottles)
- Ability to engage in social distancing while not actively engaged in play (e.g., during practice, on the sideline, or in the dugout)
- Age of the player.
- Players at higher risk of developing serious disease.
- Size of the team.
- Nonessential visitors, spectators, volunteers.
- Travel outside of the local community, county, region.

SAFETY PLAN

The goal of the safety plan is to promote behaviors that will reduce the spread of COVID-19 within the community.

COMMUNICATION

In partnership with community organizations, leagues, etc., establish a communication plan for employees, visitors, and participants with a consistent means to provide updated information.

- The recreation department will facilitate communication through the RecDesk software system on the protocols for safely administering programming. All communication to participants will be provided through email before the first day of participation within the program. The safety protocols will be outlined for the participants and will include instructions for pre-arrival procedures, arrival procedures, social distancing, hygiene and cleaning protocols, and contact tracing procedures in the event of a positive COVID-19 test by a participant or employee.
- All participants and staff contact information will be kept on file for contact tracing purposes

including (but not limited to), email, phone, and home address.

- All participants will need to register for programs through the Town of Ulysses RecDesk software system.
- All participants will be instructed to complete and submit a daily online screening form, which will be emailed directly to the participant daily, prior to attending the program.
- All employees/program staff in attendance will be instructed to complete and submit a daily online screening form, which will be emailed directly to the employee/staff daily, prior to attending the program.
- Employees, coaches, volunteers, players, spectators, and parents must affirm that he/she/they have reviewed and understood the state issued industry guidelines, and that he/she/they will adhere to them. Affirmation will be conducted online through the RecDesk software system and kept on record during programming.
- Signage will be posted, conspicuously when possible, inside and outside of the facility or area to remind personnel and patrons/players/spectators to adhere to proper hygiene, social distancing rules, appropriate use of PPE, and cleaning and disinfection protocols. The Town of Ulysses Recreation Department will ensure that completed safety plans are on site for every activity for the purposes of inspections and proper safety protocol.

SCREENING PROTOCOL

- The recreation department will implement mandatory health screening assessment (e.g. questionnaire, temperature check) for employees and, where practicable, for patrons/players/spectators/coaches/volunteers.
- At minimum, screening must determine whether the employee, coach, instructor, player, has had:

(1) COVID-19 symptoms in past 14 days,

(2) Tested positive COVID-19 test in past 14 days, and/or

(3) Any known close or proximate contact with a confirmed or suspected COVID-19 case in the past 14 days.

(4) Currently experiencing any of the following symptoms, unrelated to common allergies; Shortness of breath, loss of smell or taste, a new cough, fever, chills, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea, or other COVID-19 related symptoms.

(5) Recorded a temperature of 100.0 degrees in the last 10 days.

(6) Traveled to any other state subject to the incoming travel restrictions in the past 14 days.

Assessment responses must be reviewed daily and such review must be documented. Perform screening remotely (e.g. electronic survey), before reporting to the location, to the extent possible. Documentation will be completed online each day with a timestamp of completion.

A designated onsite safety monitor will be assigned whose responsibilities include continuous compliance with all aspects of the site safety plan (eg. program coordinator, lead instructor, coach). On-site screeners will wear appropriate PPE, including at a minimum, a face covering.

PHYSICAL DISTANCING PROTOCOL:

For any indoor sport or recreational activity, limit capacity to no more than 50% of the maximum occupancy for a particular area (or less as advised by the TCHD), inclusive of employees, patrons/players/spectators. No more than 2 spectators per player/participant. Ensure 6 ft. distance between individuals at all times, whether indoors or outdoors, unless safety or core activity (e.g. practicing, playing) requires a shorter distance. If a shorter distance is required, individuals must wear face coverings, unless players are unable to tolerate such a covering for the physical activity (practicing, playing); provided, however, that coaches, trainers, and/or other individuals who are not directly engaged in activity are required to wear face coverings.

When possible: Stagger schedules for patrons/players and/or teams to utilize facilities (tennis courts, track, fields). Employees at check-in/appointment desks must maintain six feet from other individuals, unless there is a physical barrier between them. Any time employees interact with patrons/players/spectators, they must wear acceptable face coverings.

When possible: Enact physical barriers (e.g. plastic shielding walls) at appointment desks, where they would not impair air flow, heating, cooling, or ventilation, in accordance with OSHA guidelines. Modify layouts and reduce bi-directional foot traffic of patrons/players/spectators walking through spaces by posting signs with arrows in narrow entry points, hallways, or common spaces.

Post signage and distance markers denoting spaces of 6 ft. in all commonly used areas indoors for employees/coaches/volunteers and any areas in which lines are commonly formed or people may congregate (e.g. common field entrances, equipment checkout areas, registration areas, locker rooms).

When possible: Prohibit the use of small spaces (e.g. behind cash registers, equipment checkout areas) by more than one individual at a time, unless all individuals are wearing face coverings. Encourage patrons to use touchless payment, pay ahead, or reserve options, when available, utilizing RecDesk for payment and attendance.

FOR OUTDOOR PROGRAMMING:

- Limit class sizes in accordance with the social gathering restrictions that are in effect within the region (currently 50 or less).
- Ensure patrons maintain a distance of 6 ft. from one another and instructor(s), when possible. Instructors/coaches/counselors must wear masks when the 6ft distance cannot be adhered to.
- Prohibit higher-risk activities where physical contact can't be continuously avoided (e.g. martial arts, boxing). Monitor and control the flow of traffic into the facility or area to ensure adherence to maximum capacity requirements. For sports/recreation activities that may involve group interaction, use remote check-in where applicable (e.g. to reserve courts, tee times).

When Possible:

- Program participants will be assigned to smaller pods or groups that will not mix with other

assigned pods during programming to reduce the risk of COVID - 19 transmission.

- Encourage participants to bring their own equipment (e.g. rackets, soccer balls, baseball gloves, helmets, etc.), or clean/disinfect equipment that is made available for participants after each use/activity.
- Implement staggered scheduling when necessary in which individuals sign up for designated times to participate in smaller spaced activities and develop cohorts that remain consistent (i.e. the same set of people working together each time).
- Discourage hands-on adjustments (e.g. physical touching). Adjust program hours as necessary to enable enhanced cleaning/disinfection procedures.

PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT:

Ensure individuals not participating in sports or recreation activities (e.g. coaches, spectators) wear appropriate face coverings when they are within less than 6 ft. of other players and individuals, unless a physical barrier is present. Employees, coaches, and volunteers must wear face coverings any time they interact with patrons/ players/spectators, regardless of distance.

Employees, coaches, and volunteers will be provided with at least one (1) acceptable face covering at no-cost to the employee and have an adequate supply of coverings onsite in case of need for replacement. Acceptable face coverings include but are not limited to cloth (e.g. homemade sewn, quick cut, bandana) or surgical masks. Staff will clean, replace, and prohibit sharing of face coverings regularly. When possible staff will use a different mask per day of supervising or instructing activities.

Constant and consistent monitoring of changes in the NYS and CDC guidance for additional information on cloth face coverings and other types of personal protective equipment (PPE), as well as instructions on use and cleaning and disinfection.

EMPLOYEE, COACH, AND VOLUNTEER TRAINING:

Train employees, coaches, and volunteer staff on how to put on and remove, clean (as applicable), and discard PPE.

Instruct staff on limiting the sharing of objects (e.g. equipment) and discourage touching of shared surfaces (e.g. registration tables); or, when in contact with shared objects or frequently touched equipment, wear gloves (when appropriate or medically necessary for first aid); or, sanitize or wash hands before and after each contact.

HYGIENE, CLEANING, AND DISINFECTING OF COMMONLY SHARED EQUIPMENT AND/OR SPACES:

Adhere to hygiene and sanitation requirements from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Department of Health (DOH) and maintain cleaning logs on site that document date, time, and scope of cleaning.

Cleaning logs will be kept digitally when possible, with the date, time, responsible individual,

equipment/space cleaned, and the scope of the cleaning. Logs will be separated by program/session of the program when applicable.

Programs will provide and maintain hand hygiene stations, including handwashing with soap, water, and paper towels, as well as an alcohol based hand sanitizer containing 60% or more alcohol for areas where handwashing is not feasible. Hand sanitizer must be placed throughout the site for use by employees and coaches/players/spectators.

Programs will provide and encourage employees, coaches, players, volunteers, and spectators to use cleaning/disinfecting supplies before and after use of shared and frequently touched surfaces and equipment, followed by hand hygiene. When possible, participants will be asked to wash hands with soap and running water after shared use of equipment. Staff will be responsible for cleaning and disinfecting equipment at the conclusion of the activity and prior to use by another separate group of participants.

Programs will discourage and when appropriate, prohibit shared food and beverages among players, coaches, spectators, volunteers, and employees (e.g. self-serve meals and beverages), encourage participants to bring lunch or snack from home, and reserve adequate space to observe social distancing while eating meals and snacks. All/any food or snacks provided by the program will be single use products or water. Water fountain use will be prohibited, unless the water fountain has the ability to “no touch” fill water bottles.

Conduct regular cleaning and disinfection and more frequent cleaning and disinfection of shared objects and surfaces, as well as high transit areas, such as dropoff and pickup areas, restrooms, common areas, using (when possible) Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) products identified by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as effective against COVID-19.

If cleaning or disinfection products or the act of cleaning and disinfection causes safety hazards or degrades the material or machinery, personnel should have access to a hand hygiene station between use and/or be supplied with disposable gloves.

Resources:

Empire State Development Corporation NY Forward Sports and Recreation Reopening guidelines.

CDC - Considerations for Youth Sports