

Outdoor Recreation COVID-19 Requirements

Summary of January 2021 changes:

- New Phase 1 and Phase 2 for competitions guidelines.
- Guided activities now allowed for up to 12 participants.
- Some previous requirements regarding touchable surfaces eliminated.
- Overnight group summer camp guidance added and motorsports, zoos and aquariums moved to separate documents.
- Safety and health requirements updated to current language for all outdoor recreation at the end of the document.

Included Here:

- Staffed outdoor tennis facilities public and private
- Guided ATV, paddle sports, and horseback riding
- Guided fishing
- Gondolas/Lift Chairs—Downhill skiing and snowboarding
- Overnight group summer camps
- All other activities substantially similar in operation and equally able to meet the requirements in this memorandum.

Not included here:

- Pool specific guidelines. Pool and water recreation facilities should follow the [Department of Health's COVID-19 guidance for staffed pools](#) and the [Governor's Phased Guidance for pools](#).
- Golf
- Racing (non-motorized—biking, running and motorized--Go-kart tracks, ORV/motocross facilities, and participant-only motorsports)
- Zoos and aquariums

All businesses and organizations must adopt a written procedure for employee safety and customer interaction that is at least as strict as this procedure and complies with the safety and health requirements below, including recreation-specific guidance.

Staffed Outdoor Tennis Facilities, Public and Private

RESTART COVID-19 REQUIREMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Tennis Operations

Any facility must comply with the following:

All phases:

1. Utilize on-line or phone time reservation systems to pre-pay and limit interactions where possible. Utilizing non-cash payments and credit cards to limit interactions is recommended.
2. Regularly sanitize counter tops, door knobs, other common surfaces, cash registers, score posting kiosks, and other frequently touched surfaces including employee used equipment.
3. Install signage to discourage group congregation, or to limit numbers of people in a certain area of the club or pro shop or around the courts.

4. Keep up to date on all changes issued by the Office of the Governor, the Department of Labor & Industries, and the Department of Health.
5. Ask players to leave the facility after playing to eliminate congestion/gathering on the property or in the parking lot.
6. Increase the number of hand sanitizing stations throughout the facility.
7. Ensure restrooms are frequently cleaned and appropriately sanitized throughout the day.
8. Food and beverage service subject to current regional guidance restrictions. Pro shops and retail subject to current regional retail guidance restrictions.

Phase 1:

- For tennis tournaments, as long as an event organizer can have protocols in place to ensure no large gatherings (ex. scoreboard area, clubhouse, registration, etc.), organizations can conduct a tennis event. Any event must comply with all other provisions of this document.

Phase 2:

- For tennis tournaments Maximum 200 people allowed at competitions, including spectators.

Guided ATV, Paddle Sports, Horseback Riding, and other Guided Outdoor Activities

RESTART COVID-19 REQUIREMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Guide Operations

Businesses planning to reopen must comply with the following:

1. Utilize on-line or phone time reservation systems to pre-pay and limit interactions where possible. Utilizing non-cash payments and credit cards to limit interactions is recommended.
2. Guided activities limited to a maximum of 12 participants. Overnight trips are allowed. Physical distancing still required between participants of different households.
3. Create adequate space for physical distancing during tour check-ins, and when outfitting customers. Use visual markers for reference.
4. When outfitting participants with helmets, gear, protective clothing, and lifejackets, staff will maintain physical distance where possible. All gear must be sanitized between each use.
5. Where necessary, stagger tour departures to minimize contact between staff and groups of participants.
6. Develop cleaning protocols that allow for proper disinfection of helmets, gear, protective clothing, and lifejackets after use using CDC and EPA approved products. Regularly sanitize counter tops, hand rails, door knobs, and other common surfaces. Have hand sanitizer available for staff and clients.
7. Shuttle transportation allowed. Mixed household groups must be physically distanced inside the shuttle while transporting. Facial coverings required for all participants at all times inside shuttles and windows should be used for ventilation. See more guidelines details below under "Transportation" in Safety and Health Requirements.
8. Require customers to cancel if they have a fever, cough, shortness of breath, fatigue, muscle aches, or new loss of taste or smell and ensure that they can reschedule with no penalty when they are feeling better.

Guided Fishing and Charter Boat Excursions

RESTART COVID-19 REQUIREMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Guided fishing is an activity that is viable and relatively low risk, however there are additional precautions that need to be in place to ensure the safety of customers and staff. In order to operate, the following requirements must be implemented:

Guide Operations

Businesses planning to reopen must comply with the following:

1. Utilize on-line or phone time reservation systems to pre-pay and limit interactions where possible. Utilizing non-cash payments and credit cards to limit interactions is recommended.
2. Charter boats are permitted to host up to twelve customers. Boats with 8 or more customers are limited to one customer per nine feet of rail space. Physical distancing must be maintained.
3. Require passengers to bring and wear masks or facial coverings on the boats. Crew members are also required to wear masks or facial coverings on boats.
4. Consider the space provided for each customer when determining the maximum number of people allowed onboard. Ensure there is 6 feet of rail space between each person, or 9 feet of rail space if there are 8 or more customers onboard. Limit the number of passengers permitted in the cabin at any one time to provide adequate spacing unless there are safety issues such as weather or sea conditions.
5. Overnight boats are allowed. Physically distancing is still required between participants of different households. Members of different households not permitted to share bunks. The bunks pads and all bunk room surfaces and hand holds should be cleaned and disinfected between each trip.
6. Create adequate space for physical distancing during tour check-ins, and when outfitting customers. Use visual markers for reference.
7. When outfitting participants with protective clothing and lifejackets, staff will maintain physical distance. When social physical is not possible staff will wear appropriate PPE, including masks or facial coverings.
8. Where necessary, stagger tour departures to minimize contact between staff and groups of participants.
9. Develop cleaning protocols that allow for proper disinfection of fishing gear, protective clothing, and lifejackets after each use using CDC and EPA approved products. Regularly sanitize counter tops, hand rails, door knobs, and other common surfaces. Have hand sanitizer available for staff and clients.
10. Shuttle transportation allowed. Mixed household groups must be physically distanced inside the shuttle while transporting. Facial coverings required for all participants at all times inside shuttles and windows should be used for ventilation. See more guidelines details below under "Transportation" in Safety and Health Requirements.
11. Require customers to cancel if they have a fever, cough, shortness of breath, fatigue, muscle aches, or new loss of taste or smell and ensure that they can reschedule with no penalty when they are feeling better.
12. Keep up to date on all changes issued by the Office of the Governor, the Department of Labor & Industries, and the Department of Health.

Gondolas/Lift Chairs and Downhill Skiing and Snowboarding

COVID-19 REQUIREMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Operations

Businesses planning to reopen must comply with the following:

1. Operators of gondolas and chairlifts who offer winter-sports activities such as skiing and snowboarding must adhere to [dine-in restaurant and tavern guidelines](#) and [in-store retail guidelines](#) as well as current and future guidelines regarding busses, shuttles, and public transportation.
2. Adhere to the Secretary of the Department of Health [Face Coverings Order](#), and any other relevant DOH guidelines regarding hygiene, cleaning, ventilation, transportation, and records and contact tracing. [Department of Health Resources and Recommendation can be found here.](#)
3. Ensure operations follow the Labor & Industries COVID-19 requirements to protect workers. COVID-19 workplace and safety requirements can be found [here](#).
4. Arrange online or contactless payment options whenever possible to limit in-person transactions.
5. Guests will be asked to self-group and load the chair with their traveling party. Lift attendants will not require guests to ride a chairlift with people they do not know, high capacity chairlifts and closed cabin carriers may be the exception. High capacity chairs may be loaded in a way that allows for 2 seat spaces of physical distancing between people from separate parties.
Gondolas must be loaded with 6 feet of physical distancing between separate parties and it is strongly recommended that they have their windows open to maximize ventilation.
Lift que lines will be managed in a way that maintains 6 feet of physical distancing.
6. Regularly sanitize gondolas cabins, counter tops, door knobs, other common surfaces, cash registers, kiosks, and other frequently touched surfaces including employee used equipment. Install signage to discourage group congregation, or to limit numbers of people in a certain area. Patrons will be reminded to be especially mindful of physical distancing in the parking lot, and other areas with congestion. Warn frequent offenders, and ask them to leave if they do not comply.
7. Encourage frequent handwashing. Provide tissues, a receptacle for used tissues, and hand sanitizer for use prior, during, and after activities. Ensure any receptacles are emptied often to prevent any overflow especially in outdoor areas.
8. Ask visitors to leave the facility after they are done to eliminate congestion/gathering on the property or in the parking lot.
9. Increase the number of hand sanitizing stations throughout the space.
10. Ensure restrooms are frequently cleaned and appropriately sanitized throughout the day.
11. Inside a lodge, including hallways, restrooms, locker room areas and other interior spaces operators need to be prepared to limit occupancy in order to create physical distance and limit congregation. Operators also need to be prepared to make accommodations to ensure the availability of handwashing and hand sanitizer by installing additional handwashing and hand sanitizing stations as needed. Lodges must follow all current restaurant guidelines for serving food and retail guidelines for shops, stores, or rental operations.

Overnight group summer camps and similar activities

COVID-19 REQUIREMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

All phases: Regular operation with individual campers not permitted. Operations limited to:

- Household cohort group camping where members of a single household occupy a sleeping cabin with a maximum of 10 people per household group. All members of a household group must reside at the same address.
- All meals are eaten outdoors or provided as take out to be consumed in the household cabin.

All organized activities are outdoors and must follow the same guidelines as established for summer day camps: <https://www.doh.wa.gov/Portals/1/Documents/1600/coronavirus/DOH-OSPI-DYCF-SchoolsChildCareGuidance.pdf>

Safety and Health Requirements for all outdoor recreation

Stay home when sick or if a close contact of someone with COVID-19

Staff and participants should be required to stay home if they feel unwell, show any signs of COVID-19, or are a close contact of a confirmed case. Screening should consider [symptoms listed by the CDC](#). Any person with symptoms of COVID-19 or who is a close contact of someone with confirmed COVID-19 should not be allowed to participate and should contact his or her primary care provider or other appropriate health-care professional.

Masks

Masks required for staff and participants at all times.

Physical Distance

A minimum of 6 feet of physical distance must be maintained between staff and clients at all times where possible. This distance should be increased when clients are engaged in high-intensity aerobic activities. A minimum of six feet of distance must be maintained among participants when not engaged in fitness and training activities.

Hygiene

Staff and participants to practice good hygiene including washing their hands frequently and covering their sneezes and coughs. Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds before and after practice, especially after touching shared objects or blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing. Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth. If soap and water are not readily available, use a hand sanitizer that contains 60-95% alcohol content. Cover all surfaces of your hands and rub them together until they are dry.

Provide handwashing or hand sanitizing stations at training and contest locations.

Limit the use of locker rooms to handwashing and restroom use only. Showers should not be used due to potential spread of aerosolized droplets. If use of locker rooms for changing is necessary, maximize ventilation and use tape, spots, or cones to signal 6 feet of distance for participants who need to change. If locker rooms are used cleaning protocols must be included in the facility safety plan. Limit occupancy of the locker rooms to avoid crowding.

Cleaning

Clean high touch surfaces and disinfect shared equipment before and after each use. Ensure restrooms are cleaned and disinfected regularly. Current CDC guidance for cleaning and disinfection for COVID-19 states that disinfectants should be registered by the EPA for use against the COVID-19. Find the current list here: [List N: Disinfectants for Use Against SARS-CoV-2 \(COVID-19\)](#). Disinfectants based on hydrogen peroxide or alcohol are safer than harsher chemicals. The University of Washington has a [handout with options for safer cleaning and disinfecting products that work well against COVID-19](#).

Ventilation

Ventilation is important to have good indoor air quality. Ensure that ventilation systems operate properly. Increase air circulation and ventilation as much as possible by opening windows and doors. Offer more outside time, open windows often and adjust mechanical ventilation systems to bring in as much outside air as possible. Increase filters to MERV 13 if the HVAC can accommodate. Use of fans for cooling is acceptable. In indoor spaces, fans should only be used when windows or doors are open to the outdoors in order to circulate indoor and outdoor air. They should blow away from people.

Outdoors locations are preferred to indoors locations, and should be utilized to the greatest extent possible to allow for maximum fresh air circulation and social distancing. Outdoor temporary structures may be used. Outdoor structures, in order to be considered outdoors, should have no more than two walls to provide appropriate ventilation unless they meet this ventilation requirement; Structures can have three walls if another opening exists that is large enough to create cross ventilation.

Transportation

Limit exposure to those outside the household unit during travel. Encourage only those in the same household to travel together, and if not in the same household, travel in separate vehicles if possible.

For travel groups, (groups that include more than one household in the same vehicle whether in a carpool or on a bus) all members of the travel group, including the driver, must wear a face covering and spread out as much as possible within the vehicle. Limit travel groups to those who have been in regular contact (e.g. team members). Encourage family members to sit together. Maximize ventilation in the vehicle by opening windows.

Buses and shuttles should install safety barriers (such as plexiglass shields) between the driver and passengers or close (block off/leave empty) the seats nearest the driver to ensure 6 feet of distance between the driver and passengers. Passengers should board from the rear door when possible. Buses should improve air filtration where possible. Buses should be cleaned and disinfected daily after use with attention to frequently touched services (doors, rails, seat backs).

Records and Contact Tracing

Keep contact information for staff and participants to assist with contact tracing in the event of a possible exposure. Contact information must be kept on file for 28 days after each class or use of the facilities.

Employees

Employers must specifically ensure operations follow the main Labor & Industries COVID-19 requirements to protect workers. COVID-19 workplace and safety requirements can be found [here](#).