

JAY INSLEE
Governor



STATE OF WASHINGTON
Office of the Governor

TO: Interested Stakeholders

FROM: Governor Jay Inslee

DATE: October 6, 2020

SUBJECT: Updates to Sporting Activities – Proclamations 20-25, *et seq.*

This memorandum sets forth new parameters for sporting activities and is effective October 6, 2020.

After consultation with stakeholders, we have developed new **Sporting Activities – COVID-19 Requirements**. The requirements document updates the standards for recreational youth and adult sporting activities and applies the same standards to K-12 teams and programs. The standards for professional sporting activities remain unchanged.

In addition to updated health and safety standards, this memorandum incorporates the public health criteria used by school districts to determine allowable activities. In this way, sporting activities will be better aligned with school curricula.

This memorandum and requirements document stand in the place of any omission from and supersede any conflicting provision in Proclamations 20-25, *et seq.* and the Governor's June 4, 2020, memorandum on Professional and Recreational Sporting activities.

This memorandum and requirements document do not, however, supersede other Governor-issued documents that address sporting activities: all related requirements must be read in harmony. By way of illustration, these updates do not override the restriction on unstaffed outdoor tennis facilities nor do they amend the occupancy limitations for indoor fitness facilities.

This memorandum and corresponding requirements document remain in force as long as Gubernatorial Proclamations 20-25, *et seq.*, or any further extension thereof, is in effect or if adopted as rules by a federal, state or local regulatory agency.

The activities described herein may resume immediately if:

- a) **The businesses or organizations can meet and maintain all requirements, including providing materials, schedules and equipment needed to comply; and**
- b) **The businesses or organizations conduct only those activities that are allowed under their county's level of COVID-19 activity.**

General questions about how to comply with safety practices can be submitted to the state's Business Response Center [here](#).

All other violations related to Proclamation 20-25 can be submitted [here](#).

Miniature Golf, Putt Putt Golf, and Water Recreation Facilities (Public and Private)

COVID-19 Reopening Requirements

Summary of October 6 changes:

Water Recreation Facilities (Public and Private) has been significantly changed:

- Allows all water recreation facilities (WAC 246-260) to open except for activity pools with play features. Does not allow recreational water contact facilities (WAC 246-262) to open.
- All limited use pools (HOAs, assisted living facilities, apartments, hotels/motels) regulated under WAC 246-260 are allowed to open.
- Some of the pools within waterparks that are regulated under WAC 246-260 are allowed to open except for those considered activity pools with play features and recreational water contact facilities regulated under WAC 246-262.
- Appointments are required. If an appointment system is not feasible, maximum occupancy must be posted and it must be enforced by designated staff.
- Occupancy based on square footage based (162 square feet per person). 50 people max. In the case of a large pool complex with multiple pools and the maximum of 50 is not reasonable, the facility manager works with the local health department to determine a reasonable number that both parties agree on.
- One person per lane is still recommended. No more than two people are allowed in each lane except for people of the same household or individuals who require a caretaker to assist them.
- Swim instructors may break physical distance rule while instructing beginner swimmers if wearing a face shield with water-proof or quick drying cloth attached to it and limit the time the instructor is within 6 feet of a student to 5 minutes per student in each session. - Open swim allowed.

Included here:

- Miniature golf and putt putt golf
- Water recreation facilities for appointment only lap swimming and small group swim lessons (public and private)
- Scuba Diving centers/schools

Not included here: Waterpark-like features such as water slides or waterparks, lazy rivers, surf pools, wave pools or splash pads

General Requirements

All miniature golf and putt putt golf operators, water recreation facilities in Modified Phase 1 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. **Safety and Health Requirements**

All miniature golf, putt putt golf and water recreation facilities have a general obligation to keep a safe and healthy facility in accordance with state and federal law and safety and health rules for a variety of

workplace hazards. In addition, they must comply with the following COVID-19 worksite-specific safety practices, as outlined in Governor Jay Inslee's "Safe Start" Proclamation 20-25, *et seq.*, and in accordance with the Washington State Department of Labor & Industries [General Requirements and Prevention Ideas for Workplaces](#) and the [Washington State Department of Health Workplace and Employer Resources & Recommendations](#).

Employers must specifically ensure operations follow the main L&I COVID-19 requirements to protect workers, including:

- Educate workers in the language they understand best about coronavirus and how to prevent transmission and the employer's COVID-19 policies.
- Maintain minimum six-foot separation between all employees (and clients/customers) in all interactions at all times. When strict physical distancing is not feasible for a specific task, other prevention measures are required, such as use of barriers, minimize staff or customers in narrow or enclosed areas, stagger breaks, and work shift starts.
- Provide personal protective equipment (PPE) such as gloves, goggles, face shields and face masks as appropriate or required to employees for the activity being performed (when out of the water).
- Cloth facial coverings must be worn by every employee not working alone on the jobsite unless their exposure dictates a higher level of protection under Department of Labor & Industries safety and health rules and guidance with the following exceptions: when working alone in an office, vehicle, or at a job site; if the individual is deaf or hard of hearing, or is communicating with someone who relies on language cues such as facial markers and expression and mouth movements as a part of communication; if the individual has a medical condition or disability that makes wearing a facial covering inappropriate; or when the job has no in-person interaction. Refer to [Coronavirus Facial Covering and Mask Requirements](#) for additional details. A cloth facial covering is described in the [Department of Health guidance](#).
- Ensure frequent and adequate hand washing with adequate maintenance of supplies. Use disposable gloves where safe and applicable to prevent transmission on tools or other items that are shared.
- Establish a housekeeping schedule that includes frequent cleaning and sanitizing with a particular emphasis on commonly touched surfaces.
- Screen employees for signs/symptoms of COVID-19 at start of shift. Make sure sick employees stay home or immediately go home if they feel or appear sick. Cordon off any areas where an employee with probable or confirmed COVID-19 illness worked, touched surfaces, etc. until the area and equipment is cleaned and sanitized. Follow the [cleaning guidelines set by the CDC](#) to deep clean and sanitize.
- Post a sign at the entrance to the business so that it is immediately noticeable to all customers entering the store that strongly encourages customers to wear cloth facial coverings. Employers are encouraged to require customers to wear cloth facial coverings, in order to protect their employees.

A site-specific COVID-19 Supervisor shall be designated by the employer at each job site to monitor the health of employees and enforce the COVID-19 job site safety plan.

A worker may refuse to perform unsafe work, including hazards created by COVID-19. It is unlawful for an employer to take adverse action against a worker who has engaged in safety-protected activities under the law if the individual's work refusal meets certain requirements. Information is available in these publications: [Safety and Health Discrimination in the Workplace brochure](#) and [Spanish Safety and Health Discrimination brochure](#).

Employees who choose to remove themselves from a worksite because they do not believe it is safe to work due to the risk of COVID-19 exposure may have access to certain leave or unemployment benefits.

Employers must provide high-risk individuals covered by Proclamation 20-46, *et seq.*, with their choice of access to available employer-granted accrued leave or unemployment benefits if an alternative work arrangement is not feasible.

Other employees may have access to expanded family and medical leave included in the Families First Coronavirus Response Act, unemployment benefits, or other paid time off depending on the circumstances. Additional information is available at [Novel Coronavirus Outbreak \(COVID-19\) Resources](#) and [Paid Leave under the WA Family Care Act and the Families First Coronavirus Response Act](#).

No business may operate until it can meet and maintain all the requirements in this document, including providing materials, schedules and equipment required to comply. Additional considerations may be adopted, as appropriate.

All issues regarding worker safety and health are subject to enforcement action under L&I's Division of Occupational Safety and Health (DOSH).

- Employers can request COVID-19 [prevention advice and help](#) from L&I's Division of Occupational Safety and Health (DOSH).
- Employee Workplace safety and health complaints may be submitted to the L&I DOSH Safety Call Center: (1-800-423-7233) or via e-mail to adag235@lni.wa.gov.
- General questions about how to comply with the agreement practices can be submitted to the state's [Business Response Center](#).
- All other violations related to Proclamation 20-25 can be submitted through [this website](#).

Miniature Golf and Putt Putt Golf

RESTART COVID-19 REQUIREMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Putters and balls must be disinfected after each use. All pencils and scorecards must be discarded or retained by the player after each round. Pencils and scorecards must not be reused or shared.
2. Please refer to the [memo](#) on customer logs.
3. Group play is limited to five participants per group. Groups should be staggered so that social distancing and facility occupancy limits are maintained.
4. Regularly sanitize counter tops, doorknobs, other common surfaces, including the course fixtures, and other frequently touched surfaces, including employee used equipment.
5. Remove all items not permanently affixed to the course, including garbage receptacles. Be creative with cup liners to avoid having players reaching into the hole to retrieve golf balls

6. Install signage to discourage group congregation and to limit numbers of people in a certain area of the facility. Golfers will be reminded to be especially mindful of social distancing in the parking lot, and around tees.
7. Keep up to date on all health and safety changes that are happening daily.
8. Marshall the course to ensure physical distancing by reminding golfers, and where necessary, warn repeat offenders.
9. Ask players to leave the facility immediately after playing to eliminate congestion and gathering on the property or in the parking lot.
10. Provide hand-sanitizing stations throughout the facility, so that players have easy access to hand sanitizer during play.
11. Ensure restrooms are frequently cleaned and appropriately sanitized throughout the day.
12. All food service must comply with the county's restaurant and food service requirements.

No miniature golf or putt putt golf business may operate until they can meet and maintain all the requirements in this document, including providing materials, schedules and equipment required to comply.

Water Recreation Facilities (Public and Private)

RESTART COVID-19 REQUIREMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

According to the [CDC](#), COVID-19 transmission is not likely through contact with properly disinfected water. All water recreation facilities should follow DOH's [guidance document](#), which focuses on reducing transmission through air and frequently touched surfaces.

1. All water recreation facilities are required to follow the current guideline from the Department of Health, those guideline documents are:
 - [COVID-19 Prevention Guidance and Reopening of Water Recreation Facilities in Phases](#)
 - [Guidance for Water Recreation Facility Occupancy](#)
 - All the October 6 changes listed above are detailed in the Department of Health documents linked here.
2. If the facility owner is required to provide lifeguards according to WAC 246-260-131(6)(b), the facility must have comprehensive lifeguarding plans in place in writing addressing not only COVID-19 related safety issues but also other issues related to day-to-day lifeguarding requirements.
[Washington Recreation & Park Association](#) has a [lifeguard plan](#) that has been reviewed by DOH and L&I to ensure it is in compliance. L&I's safety and health consultants are available to review safety requirements and provide professional guidance related to the plan. You can request a consultation [here](#).
3. All indoor water recreation facilities should stay updated on advice from national sports associations and the CDC as provided below. If there is any conflict between this document and any document provided below, the requirement in this document prevails.
 - [USA Swimming](#)

- [Divers Alert Network](#)
- [CDC](#)

All water recreation facilities must meet and maintain all the requirements in this document, including providing materials, schedules and equipment required, and all requirements in chapter 246-260 WAC, whichever is more strict, to comply.