OpenSafely

Stay Safe Against the Coronavirus



Sports and Activities and Outdoor Racing Events

***Refer to guidance provided for Amusement Parks, Sports Parks, Water Parks, Fairs, Festivals, or Carnivals, or similar activities for use of these facilities.**

***Refer to guidance provided for Swimming Pools and Aquatic Venues for use of these facilities.**

***Refer to guidance provided for Play Centers, Playgrounds, or Arcades for use of these facilities.**

START DATE: March 31, 2021

UPDATED March 30, 2021

The Office of State Fire Marshal is providing you with this update in conjunction with the Office of the Governor and the Louisiana Department of Health to keep you up to date with additional information and/or changes as it becomes available during our battle with COVID-19. These notifications are issued automatically and immediately to those who sign up through "OpenSafely" (https://opensafely.la.gov/).

Every attempt is being made to highlight critical changes that have occurred since the previously published notification for your convenience. However, please read through this entire document in context as these changes do not stand on their own and all of the additional general information and clarifications made may not be highlighted.

Preface:

This phasing plan applies to those non-essential businesses and activities that have been affected during the COVID-19 stay-at-home order. Essential (critical) infrastructure businesses are not further restricted by these new guidelines and may continue to operate under the current guidelines that are applicable to the specific business. Refer to: https://gov.louisiana.gov/assets/docs/covid/Essential-Infrastructure_fact-sheet.pdf for specific information regarding critical infrastructure businesses.

COVID-19 is a highly contagious and deadly disease. The fundamental concept of this phased opening plan is to slowly open businesses at reduced occupant capacities that will allow for social distancing and circulation to keep employees and patrons safe. Everyone's cooperation is critical to the success towards defeating this disease and revitalizing our economy.

The virus spreads primarily through person-to-person contact, from droplets that are formed by coughing, sneezing or other projections, or by touching infected surfaces and then touching one's eyes, nose or mouth. Individuals can carry the virus and be contagious for up to 14 days prior to having any symptoms. The guidelines outlined below for social distancing, face coverings and sanitation are proven methods of mitigating these modes of transmission. **THE MOST IMPORTANT FACT** to remember is that COVID-19 is still prevalent across the state. We must all continue to do our part to help slow the spread, protect the most vulnerable and continue to remain vigilant until a cure or vaccine is widely available to provide general immunity.

Every individual in Louisiana shall wear a face covering over the nose and mouth when inside a commercial establishment or other building or space open to the public, whether indoor or outdoor.

Below are a few additional public health recommendations to help businesses comply:

- See the Face Covering Guidance section below for a link to instruction on the proper use of face coverings.
- See the Referenced Documents section below for LDH's downloadable "thank you for wearing a mask" poster options 1 and 2 for business storefronts;
- Screen customers for symptoms before entry;
- Move to reservation systems to discourage congregating in groups while waiting for service;
- Adopt sick leave policies that reduce the disincentive for employees to try to come to work sick; and
- Allow employees in high-risk groups or who directly live with/care for a high-risk individual to work in areas without direct public contact.

Guidance:

Indoor and outdoor sports and activities and racing events must adhere to moderate mitigation standards and social distancing measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Six feet of separation from other individuals not within the same household is recommended. Measures such as face covering, hand hygiene, cough etiquette, cleanliness, and sanitation should be rigorously practiced. **Individuals 65 years or older, people of all ages with poor control of medical issues like high blood pressure, heart disease, obesity, or a weakened immune system are at a higher risk for getting very sick or dying from COVID-**

19 and should strictly adhere to all CDC guidelines, and are encouraged to stay at home as much as possible unless fully vaccinated - at least two weeks beyond receiving a full administration of COVID-19 vaccine. The specific requirements and guidelines for this service industry during this phase are listed below. These requirements and guidelines supplement and do not replace any directives or guidance provided by other state agencies, boards and commissions, or other authorities having jurisdiction. Where conflicts occur, the stricter of the requirements will apply.

- Refer to additional guidance provided by the Louisiana High School Athletic Association (LHSAA) for High School Fall Sports Events: https://cdn.lhsaa.org/uploads/images/Fall_Sports_COVID-19_Guidelines_8-31-2020.pdf.

- Refer to NCAA for additional resources regarding college athletics: http://www.ncaa.org/sport-science-institute/covid-19-coronavirus.

Limitations:

- Indoor and outdoor sporting events shall be limited to 50% of the current established seating capacity and to the Social Distancing and Safety Rules outlined below.

- Alcohol sales shall be allowed inside the stadium, sports complex, or arena under the following conditions:
    - All patrons purchasing an alcoholic beverage shall be required to return to their ticketed seats for consumption and shall not be allowed to stand or congregate in open areas to consume alcohol.
    - Crowd managers and signage shall be utilized to instruct patrons of the above requirements.
    - Alcohol should not be sold to a patron who is not wearing a face covering.
    - This allowance does not supersede any additional local jurisdiction restrictions.

- Face coverings are required for all attendees and spectators.

Social Distancing and Safety Rules:

- Spectator seating shall be provided and shall be arranged so that a minimum of 6 feet of distance between individuals and small household groups is maintained. Facilities may consider restricting access to bench seating and require spectators to bring their own seating.

- Do not allow physical contact between coaches and players, or between staff and spectators.

- Eliminate gatherings in the areas while entering, exiting, or moving about.

Checklist for Management:

☑ Actively enforce the capacity, masking, and social distancing requirements and manage the visitors' movements.

☑ Ensure the exterior waiting areas are not blocked.

- ☑ Maintain social distancing requirements explained in this document.

- ☑ EPA recommends that building owners and managers take proactive steps to protect public health by minimizing water stagnation during closures and taking action to address building water quality prior to reopening: https://www.epa.gov/coronavirus/information-maintaining-or-restoring-water-quality-buildings-low-or-no-use

Checklist for All Staff:

- ☑ Check for fever or respiratory symptoms daily.

- ☑ Keep at least 6 feet from other employees and visitors.

- ☑ Wear face coverings.

- ☑ Frequent handwashing is the most important hand hygiene that can be done to stop the spread of COVID-19. Gloves are recommended when touching products, goods, money and credit cards, but are otherwise not recommended for tasks that do not normally require gloves. If gloves are worn:
    - Hands should be washed before putting gloves on and after removing gloves.
    - Gloves should be changed often, changed between tasks, changed when they are obviously soiled, and changed after each interaction with a new individual.

- ☑ If gloves are not available, use hand sanitizer between each task and after client interaction.

- ☑ Clean and sanitize items you touch often.

- ☑ Clean and sanitize surfaces that customers touch often, like gate handles, handrails, chairs, etc. Current evidence suggests that SARS-CoV-2 may remain viable for hours to days on surfaces made from a variety of materials. Cleaning of visibly dirty surfaces, as well as high-touch surfaces, followed by disinfection is a best practice measure for prevention of COVID-19 and other viral respiratory illnesses in community settings. Follow the CDC guidance for proper cleaning and disinfecting. https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/organizations/cleaning-disinfection.html

- ☑ Clean and disinfect the restrooms regularly.

- ☒ Do not touch the spectators or players.

Face Covering Guidance:

Refer to Louisiana Department of Health guidance here:
http://ldh.la.gov/assets/oph/Coronavirus/resources/CDC-DIY-cloth-face-covering-instructions.pdf

Steps for Cleaning Areas and Other Items:

1. First, clean the area or item with soap and water or another detergent if it is dirty.

2. Then, use disinfectant.

    - If possible, use EPA-registered household disinfectant.

    - Follow the instructions on the label to ensure safe and effective use of the product.

      Many products recommend:
        - Keeping surfaces wet for a period of time (see product label).
        - Precautions such as wearing gloves and making sure you have good ventilation during use of the product.

      Diluted household bleach solutions may also be used if appropriate for the surface.
        - Check the label to see if your bleach is intended for disinfection and ensure the product is not past its expiration date. Some bleaches, such as those designed for safe use on colored clothing or for whitening, may not be suitable for disinfection.
        - Unexpired household bleach will be effective against coronaviruses when properly diluted.
        - Follow manufacturer's instructions for application and proper ventilation. Never mix household bleach with ammonia or any other cleanser.
        - Leave the solution on the surface for at least 1 minute.

      To make a bleach solution, mix:
        - 5 tablespoons (1/3rd cup) of bleach per gallon of water; or
        - 4 teaspoons of bleach per quart of water.

      Alcohol solutions with at least 70% alcohol may also be used.

The CDC offers this additional guidance for cleaning: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/organizations/cleaning-disinfection.html

Referenced Documents:

- ❑ Essential (Critical Infrastructure) Services remain operational with guidelines in place. See: https://gov.louisiana.gov/assets/docs/covid/Essential-Infrastructure_fact-sheet.pdf
- ❑ Face mask sign option 1: http://ldh.la.gov/assets/oph/Coronavirus/resources/Face-Mask-Sign-Option-1.pdf
- ❑ Face mask sign option 2: http://ldh.la.gov/assets/oph/Coronavirus/resources/Face-Mask-Sign-Option-2.pdf

Signage Samples:





