

Tourism, Heritage & Culture – Sport & Recreation Branch

The answers provided in this document reflect the Branch's efforts to provide as much clarity and guidance to our partners in the Recreation and Sport sector based on feedback from public health, requirements noted in the Mandatory Order, content that is and/or was available on the GNB webpage, feedback that was developed through the response process associated with the early stakeholder engagement calls, and content that reflects good interpretation of requirements associated with Operational Plans. The situation is fluid and the information changes regularly. The onus is on each organization to understand the restrictions set out by the Province as well as the recommendations and requirements of Public Health and the Guidelines for New Brunswick Workplaces issued by WorkSafe NB.

The health and safety of our citizens is of paramount priority, and the public is strongly encouraged to visit the Province's dedicated COVID-19 website for the most current information: www.gnb.ca/coronavirus.

COVID-19 FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

*** March 5th, 2021 ***

REGIONS IN LOCKDOWN

- Single household bubble only (indoor or outdoor)
- Indoor sport and recreation facilities are closed
- Outdoor individual activity or with members of household bubble permitted but people need to maintain 2m physical distancing outside their single household bubble (ie. public walking trails, snowshoeing, ice fishing, cross country skiing)
- Outdoor Public spaces (ie. rinks, snow hills, downhill skiing) are closed, so are outdoor warming stations and gathering locations
- Groomed mandate trails are closed (ie. snowmobiling and ATV)
- Only essential travel is permitted in and out of zones and within zones.

REGIONS IN ALERT LEVEL RED

- Indoor sport and recreational facilities, including other similar close contact sport or recreational businesses (pools, gym, fitness facilities, bowling alleys, escape rooms, yoga, dance studios, gymnastics, etc.), are closed.
- Outdoor recreational spaces where people can congregate are closed (i.e. ski hills, outdoor skating rinks, playgrounds, warming huts and lodges along public trails, etc.). Outdoor recreation that promote movement alone or within a single-household bubble is allowed (i.e. cross-country skiing, walking, snow shoeing, etc.).
- Only essential travel is recommended in and out of Red level zones. Organized sport is not considered essential travel. For additional clarification, dog parks and sliding hills are not required to be closed unless they are creating opportunities for public gathering.

ALERT LEVEL	GUIDANCE FOR REGIONS IN ALERT LEVEL ORANGE	GUIDANCE FOR REGIONS IN ALERT LEVEL YELLOW
1. Where can I find information on GNB COVID-19 response?	www.gnb.ca/coronavirus	
2. Is organized sport allowed?	<p>Yes. Recreation and Sport organizations may operate but are limited to practices and/or skill and drills within a single team. Intra-squad scrimmages are allowed within a single team/group but games, competitions, meets or races against other teams/groups are not allowed. Organizations must identify and implement means to limit the number and intensity of close contacts during the activity while strict physical distancing and mask use is required at all times off the field of play.</p> <p>The formation of new seasonal teams/groups/classes for the purpose of weekly activities is allowed for indoor and outdoor activities provided their operational plan addresses the risk mitigation measures identified in these FAQs. It is also recommended that organizations provide written communication of these directives to participants (parents/ guardians) including any details such as the</p>	<p>Yes. Organized sports may operate as long as they identify and implement means to limit the number and intensity of close contacts during play.</p>

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	<p>process for arrivals and exits, spectators, etc in order to alleviate any confusion prior to the start of the activity.</p> <p>Sessional sports and recreation clinics and camps are not allowed. For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sessional activities that are not scheduled on a regular/seasonal ongoing basis (PD day camp, skills clinics, etc) Sessional activities that do not have a consistent group of participants on a weekly basis <p>Each respective organization/club should limit their activities so that individual members only take part in one consistent group per organization during the Orange phase.</p> <p>For an individual who is a member of more than one organization/club that holds weekly activities, he or she should consider limiting their number of social interactions but may continue their activities in both organizations/club.</p>																			
3. If an individual travelled outside of New Brunswick are they allowed to return to their organized sport activities?	<p>No. Individuals who have travelled outside of New Brunswick who are required to “self-isolate” or “work-isolate” are not allowed to participate in sport and recreation activities from 14 days from the time of arrival in New Brunswick. More details are available in the GNB Mandatory Order.</p> <p>Household members of individuals who are self-isolating MUST self-isolate if they are unable to limit direct contact with the individual who is self-isolating. For example, a parent caring for a young child.</p> <p>Household members of individuals who are work-isolating can continue sport/recreation activities but should self-monitor for symptoms. To do so, all guidance in this document must be followed. If anyone in the household develops 1 symptom, all members of the household must then self-isolate until they receive the result of a COVID-19 test.</p> <p>However, organizations can adopt stricter requirements to mitigate risk if they feel it is required.</p>																			
4. If an individual travelled to a region in an orange/red Zone are they allowed to return to their organized sport activities in their zone? See zones here: Regional Health Authorities	<p>Travel is now permitted between zones in the Orange alert level for training purposes only and should be limited to seasonal teams/groups that meet on a regular/weekly basis. Individuals who reside within a region that is in orange, red or lockdown alert levels cannot travel outside of their public health zone to participate in competitions.</p> <p>See table below for a simplified summary of what is allowed depending on the zones in which they reside/work/participate.</p>	<p>Individuals from a region in the red or lockdown alert level should not travel to a region in the orange or yellow alert level for organized sport or recreation activities (or vice versa).</p> <p>Each of us are individually responsible to follow public health guidance to ensure public safety, however, organizations can adopt stricter requirements to mitigate risk if they feel it is required.</p>																		
	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 25%;">Place of Residence</th> <th style="width: 25%;">Location of Sport Activity</th> <th style="width: 50%;">What is allowed?</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Orange Zone</td> <td>Other Orange Zone</td> <td>Can participate/coach in practices</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Orange Zone</td> <td>Yellow Zone</td> <td>Can participate/coach in practices (not games)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Yellow Zone</td> <td>Orange Zone</td> <td>Can participate/coach in practices</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Yellow Zone</td> <td>Other Yellow Zone</td> <td>Can participate/coach in practices and games</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Red Zone</td> <td>Orange/Yellow Zone</td> <td>Cannot participate** or coach in a different zone</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Place of Residence	Location of Sport Activity	What is allowed?	Orange Zone	Other Orange Zone	Can participate/coach in practices	Orange Zone	Yellow Zone	Can participate/coach in practices (not games)	Yellow Zone	Orange Zone	Can participate/coach in practices	Yellow Zone	Other Yellow Zone	Can participate/coach in practices and games	Red Zone	Orange/Yellow Zone	Cannot participate** or coach in a different zone
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	<p>Note: A participant or coach who travels to a red (or lockdown) zone regardless of the reason cannot participate in the activities in their residential zone (yellow or orange) for 14 days or until there is a lessening of restrictions in the zone of travel.</p> <p>**An exemption is for students who commute daily within the province to school in a different public health zone. New Brunswick students who commute daily for school within the province can participate in activities in their school region, but they must follow the guidance for the color phase in which they reside.</p>	
5. If a child travels outside of New Brunswick for custodial agreements, is he/she allowed to participate in organized sport activities?	<p><u>Inter-Provincial travel for custodial agreements:</u></p> <p>Although it is still under evaluation, at this time guidance is that asymptomatic children subject to cross-border custody arrangements, who have traveled into New Brunswick from another Canadian province or territory are exempt from the requirement to quarantine and must monitor for symptoms for 14 days. They may participate in sport activities. Parents in such situations are asked to take special care that their children do not contact others outside their households. Each of us are individually responsible to follow public health guidance to ensure public safety, however, organizations can adopt stricter requirements to mitigate risk if they feel it is required. Note: the parent who resides outside of New Brunswick is required to self-isolate for 14 days if he/she decides to come visit their child in NB. That parent is not permitted to attend any of the child's activities in NB.</p>	
6. What do I do if I find out a facility we were in or a team we played against had a positive case?	<p>Public Health will advise anyone who has been exposed to someone diagnosed with COVID-19 and identify any control measures that are required to be put in place. Regional public health will lead the process of tracing the identity of other persons that may have been exposed. Advice to anyone that may have been in the same proximity of another patron who is diagnosed with COVID-19 would be to self-monitor unless Public Health requires them to self-isolate. As always, organizations can adopt stricter requirements if they feel it is required.</p>	
7. What facilities and outdoor venues are allowed to open?	<p>Outdoor recreational activities are allowed, including campgrounds, ATV or snowmobile trails.</p> <p>Gym, fitness facilities, yoga studios, ski hills, cross-country skiing centers, etc. may operate under a COVID-19 operational plan with additional public health measures, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two metres of physical distancing, with masks, in low-intensity fitness classes such as yoga, tai chi, and stretching; three meters of physical distancing of high-intensity activities such as spin, aerobics and boot camp. • Active screening and record keeping of patrons when applicable • Locker rooms/commons areas may open if monitored (see question # 19) 	<p>All facilities and outdoor venues are allowed to open.</p>
8. Is there guidance available for the operation of outdoor rinks?	<p>The guidance for outdoor skating rinks is currently the same as other public spaces such as playgrounds, soccer fields and trails in the event of unorganized physical activity. Screening and collections of names is not required, and every individual uses such venue at their own risk. An operational plan is required.</p> <p>Should an organization rent the outdoor ice surface, an operational plan is required and they should follow the same return to play guidance of the Provincial Sport Organization that is used for indoor rinks.</p>	

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9. Do municipalities, schools/operators have the right to not open facilities even when restrictions are lifted?	Yes. When there are no restrictions, the opening of recreation and sport facilities is at the discretion of the facility owners.	
10. How many participants are allowed in a facility or on an outdoor field for organized recreation and sport activities?	<p>Although social gatherings outside are set at 50 or fewer, organized sport is considered a controlled activity and as such does not require the 50 person limit as do “gatherings”. Occupancy limit is set at 50 or fewer for organized sport and buildings, depending upon the size of the venue and the ability to ensure two metres of physical distancing, with continuous mask use and record keeping.</p> <p>There could be a wide range of layouts of multipurpose facilities. Each would have to be assessed on its own individual basis. For example, an indoor facility may have multiple sporting spaces separated from each other entirely. If spaces can be physically separated and controls are in place to avoid traffic from one to another, the participants can be based on space with a limit of 50 people per space.</p> <p>Where facilities (indoor or outdoor) have more than 1 space per entrance/exit, a staggered schedule is required to limit the amount of patrons entering/exiting at one time.</p> <p>In addition, a single team is defined as a group having no physical interaction with another group. For example, if the space allows for it, two teams can be on the same playing surface for their practice as long as they do not interact with each other. The size of the group should be determined based on the ability to maintain 2m physical distancing during practice.</p>	<p>Outdoor informal and formal gatherings must be limited to 50 people or fewer with physical distancing.</p> <p>Indoor formal: Occupancy of any facility must be based on the ability to maintain physical distancing between people who are not members of the same household or Steady15 and must not be no more than 50% of the facility’s capacity. Venues with indoor events with controlled entry and/or controlled seating, are required to capture contact information on persons using the facility.</p>
11. Are organizations required to collect information on the participants in their activities?	<p>Yes. The current mandatory order requires that organizations maintain a record of the names and contact information of all persons who attend and must make those records available to Public Health Inspectors upon request.</p> <p>For more guidance: Collection of names and contact information</p>	

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12. What type of screening is required for our activities?	<p>Active screening is required for organized sport and recreation activities and for patrons of indoor venues such as gyms, fitness centres, yoga studios and dance studios. Active screening must be conducted by a designated individual who asks the screening questions and requires a response. An electronic active screening system that prompts the person to respond and documents the response is permitted.</p> <p>In addition, the volunteer must request all patrons to sanitize their hands upon entrance to the premises.</p>	<p>A modified approach to Active Screening is now required for Organized Sport activities which includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Passive screening using the screening questionnaire must be conducted at home prior to leaving for the activity. • For activities involving youth, upon arrival at the activity, a volunteer must conduct an additional check by asking the child if the passive screening took place prior to coming to the activity and asking them if they are experiencing any symptoms of COVID-19. If it did not, the volunteer must conduct the screening with the child (parent) prior to their entrance. • In addition, the volunteer must request all patrons to sanitize their hands upon entrance to the premises. <p>Note that screening may be done using an electronic system (eg. Teamsnap) provided the participant is prompted to respond to the questions and the system records the answers.</p>
13. Is my organization required to maintain 2m physical distancing measures during its activities?	<p>Organizations must identify and implement means to limit the number and intensity of close contacts during play. Physical distancing remains important and effort should be taken to reduce physical contact. Team benches should not be used unless they maintain 2m physical distancing.</p> <p>For close-contact sports (e.g., pairs dance, combat sports), additional precautions are required to mitigate risk. Close-contact sports may continue to engage in the sport by assigning up to a maximum of 2 individuals to a group that is not interchangeable provided that additional risk mitigation measures be added including but not limited to conducting active screening and requiring participants to provide informed consent and commitment to respect preventative measures during sports activities as well as in their daily lives.</p>	<p>All reasonable attempts shall be made to respect physical distancing measures except brief contact on the field of play. This precaution should apply to all activity taking place during practices and competition. For close-contact sports (e.g., pairs dance, combat sports), additional precautions are required to mitigate risk. Close-contact sports may continue to engage in the sport by assigning up to a maximum of 4 individuals to a group that is not interchangeable provided that additional risk mitigation measures be added including but not limited to conducting active screening and requiring participants to provide informed consent and commitment to respect preventative measures during sports activities as well as in their daily lives. The following sport specific guidance must also be applied: where the sport occurs in pairs, keep them consistent as much as possible within the group of 4, focus training sessions on brief contact as much as possible; keep the duration of the activity/ bouts/ sparring to a minimum.</p>

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	Other important considerations include: no team cheers, no team huddles, players must have their own water bottle and those bottles must be clearly identified. A layered approach to risk mitigation that combines effective modifications for physical distancing; mask use; enhanced cleaning and disinfection of high-touch surface areas; screening; staying home when sick or required to self-isolate and good hand and respiratory hygiene is required. Physical distancing is required at all times before and between practices and games, arrivals/ departures, changerooms, and travel to the activity.	
14. Is my organization allowed to group participants in “bubbles” where they wouldn’t need to maintain physical distancing?	<p>“Bubbles” without physical distancing are not permitted for sports. This is based on public health evidence (current and emerging) associated with transmission of COVID-19 and the risk mitigation measures to protect community and sport-participant health.</p> <p>For close-contact sports (e.g., pairs dance, combat sports), additional precautions are required to mitigate risk (see Question 13)</p>	
15. Is my organization allowed to have day camps?	Sessional sport clinics/camps that host children/participants who are not together on a seasonal/weekly basis are not allowed. Exemptions for the formation of new groups only apply to schools and licensed daycare providers.	This is currently under review and further information will be communicated once received.
16. How does the mask policy impact organized sport and facility operators?	Wearing face masks is mandatory in public spaces, both indoors and outdoors. Outdoor public spaces include parks, playgrounds, markets, festival sites, dog parks, and walking trails. A mask is not required while walking, jogging, cycling, etc. with people in the same bubble, where they are unlikely to encounter people, or risk coming within two metres of, people from outside their bubble. Spectators must wear masks at all times.	Community face masks must be worn in public spaces (including retail businesses, malls, service centres, public transport, etc.) and at unofficial indoor gatherings in NB. However, community face masks are not a substitute for physical distancing. Spectators must wear masks at all times.
	<p>For Sport:</p> <p>While masks are not required by individuals while participating in high-intensity organized sport, they must be worn indoors at all other times, including between practices. For low-intensity activities where mask use is tolerable and practical, masks are encouraged. Team benches should not be used unless they maintain 2m physical distancing.</p>	<p>For Sport: While masks are not required by individuals while participating in an organized sport, they must be worn at all other times, including between practices and games, etc. If some sports are able to incorporate wearing a mask into play, this will be encouraged. Participants are not required to wear masks while on the team bench during game play, but if feasible, this should be enabled. Where team benches cannot be adapted to allow for physical distancing (e.g. arenas), teams should be aware that this poses increased risk for participants and should act to limit the duration of player interaction by having smaller rosters where possible and/or employing frequent substitutions Any participant not in frequent substitution should wear a mask. (eg. coaches, 2nd goalie, etc). Masks are required in dressing rooms, combined with 1 metre minimum physical distancing between individuals.</p>

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	<p>For fitness facilities and outdoor activities: In addition to the 2-metre physical distancing requirement, masks are required in low-intensity activities such as yoga, tai chi, and stretching. For high-intensity activities where masks may not be practical or tolerable (eg. treadmill, spin, aerobics, boot camp), a mask is encouraged but not required and 3-metre physical distancing is required. Masks are required in locker rooms, combined with 2 metre minimum physical distancing between individuals.</p>	<p>For fitness facilities: While masks are not required by individuals while participating in an indoor fitness activity that requires exertion they must be worn at all other times, including walking from one station to another where there is higher likelihood of coming in contact with another patron. If wearing a mask is possible for some fitness activities, this will be encouraged. Masks are required in dressing rooms, combined with 1 metre minimum physical distancing between individuals.</p>
	<p>For offices: Employees are required to wear a mask in all common areas of a public building or office; such as lobbies, staircases, hallways, washrooms, and elevators, or otherwise when interacting with the public. In the workplace of a public building (e.g., workstations, office, cubicle), employees are not required to wear a mask if they are able to work 2 metres of each other and where they are not interacting with members of the public (patrons, customers, clients, general public). Review paragraph 15 of the Mandatory Order for detail.</p> <p>For meeting spaces: For rental spaces in a public venue, the facility operators may want to consider whether they can ensure that those renting the meeting room are following the mask use guidelines and practicing physical distancing within the room. This would need to be detailed in a COVID-19 operational plan. The same considerations noted above will also apply. If the facility determined that the meeting spaces and office spaces were appropriate places for masks to not be worn by specified users, they would want to clarify that masks would be required in all other aspects of the venue. Masks would be worn up until and upon entry into the meeting room or office space and would be reapplied once an individual got up to leave that space. Physical distancing is required at all times, with or without masks.</p> <p>For more information: Mandatory Masks - FAQ ; Use of Community Face Mask</p>	
17. Can face shields be worn instead of a face mask?	A face shield may be used in addition to a face mask and may offer value in their added ability to protect the eyes from potential exposure to COVID-19 contaminated respiratory particles, but when worn alone, face shields are insufficient and do not replace, or substitute, face masks.	
18. If my activity can't be done with physical distancing measures, can the participants just wear masks?	In some activities, wearing a non-medical mask (NMM) may not be practical or tolerable, e.g., when playing active sports there might be a risk of poor oxygenation, easily soiled/moistened due to sweating/heavy breathing, or risk from injury if the mask is caught on equipment. Also, for NMMs to be of benefit, they need to be worn correctly. Failing to do so may present a risk rather than a benefit. For sports where a face shield can be used (e.g. hockey), a face shield may be considered. Anyone who is in a public area, where physical distancing of two metres cannot be maintained, should wear a face covering that covers their nose and mouth unless they are a child under the age of two or if they cannot wear one for medical reasons. For sport and recreation facilities, general guidance would be for patrons to wear them during low-intensity fitness activities where practical and tolerable as well as at all times while not conducting the activity (e.g. entrance/exits and spectators)	
19. Is there guidance available for facility owners on the use of locker/change rooms?	Proprietors and managers must either prevent patron access to locker rooms or similar common areas or monitor such rooms or areas continuously to ensure compliance of all guidelines which must be addressed in the operational plan.	For the use of locker/change rooms, a 1 metre distance must be maintained with continuous mask use and occupancy should be addressed by taking into consideration that in any enclosed, indoor space with unknown or poor ventilation quality, risk of

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	Although it is safer to avoid change/locker rooms, it is understood that they are necessary in some situations. When change/locker rooms must be used, 2 meters physical distancing and masking is required. Individuals should be mindful of personal safety and follow public health guidelines to arrive at the facility dressed for practice/training.	transmission may be heightened. Additional considerations could include staggered scheduling, opening additional rooms for change room usage, changing at home as much as possible, wearing face masks for an added layer of transmission protection.
20. Is there guidance available for facility owners on the use of showers?	Showers must be closed.	Although there is no specific guidance related to shower usage, it is believed that higher-humidity conditions increase droplet formation and dispersion. Greater cleaning and disinfection is advised within these settings. Additional considerations could include limiting the use of communal showers to only one patron at a time and limiting the use of showers to user groups that require them.
21. What are the physical distancing requirements for spectators in sports/rec venues?	Physical distancing of 2 metres is required at all times and masks must be worn continuously. In every public indoor space, everyone must wear an appropriate mask that covers their mouth and nose at all times except when they are eating or drinking while seated in areas that meet physical distancing of 2m and/or physical barrier requirements.	Physical distancing may be reduced to 1 metre at venues where seating is provided for employees, patrons and/or visitors when community face masks are used at all times. <u>The 1 metre rule only applies in the areas of the venue where seating is provided.</u> There are no exceptions to this rule including persons exempt from the requirement to wear a face covering by the Chief Medical Officer of Health such as children and/or for medical reasons. <u>The 1 metre rule does not apply</u> in any part of the venue where seating is not provided such as line-ups, stairwells, hallways or in areas where food is consumed. <u>Capacity and the use of the facilities will be based on what the business can safely accommodate.</u> This will be determined through the establishment of a COVID-19 Operational Plan that addresses, but is not limited to, physical distancing, cleaning and disinfecting, hand and respiratory hygiene, and pre-screening for symptoms.
22. Is there additional guidance for sport/recreation facilities for the consumption of food and beverages?	An establishment that serves food and beverages, canteens in community facilities (e.g. community halls, arenas) must comply with all directives and guidelines from WorkSafeNB and the Chief Medical Officer of Health including ensuring patrons maintain 2m physical distancing and record keeping of patrons is required. Masks may only be removed briefly when seated at 2m distance from others for the purpose of consuming a food or beverage. When not in the act of eating or drinking, masks must be worn. In addition, operators must ensure patrons are seated at all times except to enter, exit or to the washroom. Patrons cannot walk around while consuming food/beverage. Food and drinks may not be consumed on the field of play (eg. darts, billiards, bowling, etc)	

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	Proprietors and managers of businesses that offer food or drink to their patrons must take all reasonable steps to only allow patrons from the same household and members of their steady 10 to dine together.	Capacity is based on a maximum of 50% of the facility with physical distancing between patrons who are not members of the same household or Steady15.
23. Is there any guidance available for facility owners for fitness activities?	<p>Gym, fitness facilities, and yoga studios may operate under a COVID-19 operational plan with additional public health measures, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two metres of physical distancing, with masks, in low-intensity fitness activities such as yoga, tai chi, and stretching; and three metres of physical distancing for high-intensity activities such as treadmills, spin, aerobics and boot camp. • active screening and record keeping of patrons. • Locker rooms/commons areas may open if monitored (see question # 19) 	In addition to the usual risk mitigation measures (distancing, cleaning & disinfection, etc), additional considerations could include adjusting class sizes based on the intensity of the activity and the ventilation quality and assigning designated areas so that participants can move freely without impeding on other participants.
24. Can my organization host competitions?	Games, Competitions, Meets, Races are NOT permitted nor can individuals who reside within a region that is in orange or red phase travel outside of the region to a yellow phase jurisdiction to participate in a game, competition, meet or race.	<p>Concerns remain related to additional travel and the risk of larger gatherings. All organizations are advised to carefully consider and assess the additional risk that out of region travel poses.</p> <p>Provincial Organizations have been asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • identify where out of region activity is necessary and where it can be avoided • understand that overnight travel carries additional risk • understand that travel requires additional risk mitigation (e.g., group travel, avoiding spread of virus to other regions, procedures at hotels and dine-in restaurants, etc.). • understand that all team travel needs to be addressed within a team’s COVID-19 operational plan. <p>Sport competitions with less than 150 participants are allowed as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Team sports can play games between 2 teams anywhere in the Province while tournaments may only be held in their public health zone with less than 150 participants; • Individual sport meets/events/races may host competitions with less than 150 participants in their public health zone but may only host intra-Provincial events with less than 50 participants; (for close contact sports refer to Q. 13 of the FAQs) • Clinics/camps (team or individual sports) may host clinics in their public health zone

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		<p>with less than 150 participants but may only hold a intra-provincial clinic with less than 50 participants.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Separate operational plans are required for specific competitions and clinics which must address travel, etc in addition to the usual risk mitigation measures. <p>Participants includes athletes, coaches and officials. For events that do not have seating and where the movement of spectators cannot be controlled, the spectators must be included in the number of participants.</p>
25. Where can I find the COVID19 Operational Plan guide?	<p>COVID-19 Operational Plan Guide and Guidance Document of General Public Health Measures During COVID-19 Recovery A template is available on page 16 of the WorkSafe NB "Embracing the New Normal" document</p>	
26. Where can I find guidelines for workplaces?	<p>Embracing the New Normal As We Safety Return To Work and Frequently Asked Questions</p>	
27. Where can I find posters/Fact sheets?	<p>https://www2.gnb.ca/content/gnb/en/corporate/promo/covid-19/resources.html</p>	
28. Where can I find guidance documents and Risk Assessment Examples?	<p>In addition to the links above, the following documents may be helpful:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community-Based Measures Guidance Risk Assessment Guideline Health Canada PHAC Risk Mitigation Tool for Child and Youth Settings Risk Mitigation Tool for Outdoor Recreation Spaces and Activities Operating during the COVID-19 Pandemic <p>Own the Podium has also developed a Risk Assessment Tool specific to sport. We recommend you contact your National Sport Organization for guidance on this tool.</p>	
29. Will COVID-19 affect my organization's insurance coverage?	<p>Organizations should contact their insurance provider directly. Virus and biological agents/contagions are typically an exclusion in most policies. Many insurers now have a specific COVID-19 exclusion as well.</p>	
30. Should my organization update its waivers / assumptions of risk (for minors) forms to include COVID-19?	<p>Organizations are strongly encouraged to discuss this with their insurance providers and consider getting legal advice.</p> <p>In general, including COVID-19 into your waivers and forms would be a good risk management practice. For more information about Waivers and Forms under COVID-19, we encourage you to listen to this webinar.</p> <p>Please note that Provincial Organizations have received templates that include COVID-19 which can be shared to local organizations. These templates must be updated to reflect up to date guidance.</p>	

Tourism, Heritage & Culture – Sport & Recreation Branch

COVID-19 FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

*** March 5th, 2021***

ALERT LEVEL	GUIDANCE FOR REGIONS IN ALERT LEVEL ORANGE	GUIDANCE FOR REGIONS IN ALERT LEVEL YELLOW
31. What organizations are required to have a COVID-19 Operational Plan?	<p>Each organization or group must have its own unique COVID-19 Operational Plan in place that outlines how they will manage the safe operation of their programs and activities. The plan must address, but is not limited to, physical distancing, cleaning and disinfecting, hand and respiratory hygiene pre-screening for symptoms.</p> <p>This includes Multisport Organizations, Provincial Sport Organizations, Regional Organizations and Local Organizations.</p> <p>COVID-19 Operational Plans must be made available at all workplaces and activities.</p>	
32. Can a local club just adopt its' Provincial Organization's COVID-19 Operational Plan?	<p>Provincial Organizations are encouraged to provide high level guidance. Local organizations must have their own COVID-19 Operational Plan that takes in consideration local operations.</p>	
33. Will Government review and approve my COVID-19 Operational Plans?	<p>Government does not approve plans.</p> <p>Sport and Recreation Organizations can contact their respective Sport and Recreation Branch Consultant for additional guidance however final approval remains the responsibility of each organization.</p>	
34. Is there a mechanism for organizations to be able to access the COVID-19 Operational Plans from each of the facilities?	<p>The Sport and Recreation Branch does not keep a database of organizations COVID-19 Operational Plans.</p> <p>It is incumbent on organizations and clubs to work collaboratively with facility owners and operators to ensure that programs are delivered as safely as possible.</p> <p>Recreation and Sport Organizations should refer to or add the COVID-19 Operational Plan of the facility they are using to their organization's COVID-19 Operational Plan.</p>	
35. If I rent an office, am I required to have a COVID-19 Operational Plan or is it a landlord's Responsibility?	<p>All organizations must have their own COVID-19 Operational Plan for their workplace. When the workplace is rented from another organization, it should align with the landlord's COVID-19 Operational Plan.</p>	
36. Can my organizations hold an in-person meeting?	<p>Indoor meetings for business purposes are allowed provided they can maintain physical distancing and meet other requirements. Organizations are still encouraged to use conference call or online conferencing software for their meetings. Where 2m physical distancing in these meetings, organizations should adopt a passive screening process.</p>	
	<p>Some operations may be required to further adapt during the orange public health alert level; review the Fall preparedness plan for detail and also keep up to date with the Mandatory Order.</p>	
37. If there is no opportunity for approval of my Operational Plan what will happen if there is a spot check and my plan doesn't meet the requirements?	<p>The inspections/spot checks are focused on education and monitoring. If spot check finds weaknesses in a plan, the aim will be to provide the guidance for the organization to meet the requirements. Blatant disregard of the requirements could result in a fine, or worse, a COVID-19 outbreak.</p> <p>The action items that are listed in the WorkSafe NB template are comprehensive.</p>	

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38. Some of our coaches are self-employed. Are they required to have their own operational plan?	Organizations that hire coaches are required to have a COVID-19 Operational Plan. Unless the coaches offer activities independently of an organization, they are not required to have their own COVID-19 Operational Plan.	
39. Where can I find more information about Employment Standards?	www.gnb.ca/labour or contact 1-888-452-2687	
40. Where can we purchase hand sanitizing or protective equipment?	https://www2.snb.ca/content/dam/snb/Procurement/AtlanticCanadaPPESuppliersForPrivateIndustry.pdf	
41. Where can I find a guide on cleaning and disinfection for COVID-19?	https://www2.gnb.ca/content/dam/gnb/Departments/h-s/pdf/Cleaning DisinfectingE.pdf	
42. Is there guidance available to determine how often a shared piece of equipment should be disinfected?	There is currently no specific guidance other than “as often as possible” to a minimum of twice per day. Sports are responsible to determine the best system to implement to limit exposure via the sharing of equipment (eg. Rotation of sanitized balls after each play, etc.)	
43. Is there guidance on how to return/exchange/swap equipment safely?	If possible, equipment/clothing that is being returned or exchanged should be washed or sanitized before the exchange. If items cannot be cleaned and disinfected, isolate goods in a separate bin (labelled with return date) for at least 24 hours before giving it to another participant. Employees/volunteers must wash their hands after handling any clothing/equipment that has been tried on. Glove use is not required. If staff are using gloves, they should be changed after every interaction.	
44. Who is responsible to provide hand cleaning stations / hand sanitizing dispensers? Facilities or user-groups?	Facilities will be required to have hand cleaning stations which will be listed in their COVID-19 Operational Plan. Organizations must also address cleaning and sanitization in their respective COVID-19 Operational Plan and practices. Organizations are encouraged to communicate with their respective facility to confirm these details.	
45. What does my organization do if we find out that an employee, volunteer or participant has been exposed to someone infected with COVID-19?	https://www.worksafenb.ca/media/60927/frequently-asked-questions-COVID-19.pdf	

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46. My program requires having volunteers with First-Aid and CPR certificates, but first aid courses aren't offered due to COVID-19 physical distancing measures. What do I do?	See WorkSafe NB FAQs for guidance: https://www.worksafenb.ca/media/60927/frequently-asked-questions-COVID-19.pdf	
47. Are all sport organizations expected to follow the same Public Health guidance addressed in this document?	Yes. Unless special approval has been provided by Public Health, all sport organizations (including for-profit sport organizations) are expected to follow the guidance provided in this document.	
48. What are the current border restrictions? Our organization would like to hire a coach/facilitator from another Province for a clinic. Can he/she still come?	See: Travel Information	
49. Is there communication with the Education Dept to encourage them to open their recreation and sport facilities?	The Department of Education and early childhood development has not provided an update to the Sport and Recreation Branch on Community use of schools.	