MASSACHUSETTS EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

WORKPLACE SAFETY and REOPENING STANDARDS FOR BUSINESSES PROVIDING OUTDOOR RECREATIONAL EXPERIENCES AND EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES – Phase III, Step 1

Amended 1.22.21
Effective on 12.13.20

INTRODUCTION

In accordance with the authority granted to the Secretary of the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA) pursuant to COVID-19 Order No. 43 and COVID-19 Order No. 58 to issue workplace safety standards for operators of and participants in outdoor recreational activities, the following guidelines apply to Businesses Providing Outdoor Recreational Experiences and Educational Activities as part of Phase III, Step 1 of the Commonwealth's reopening and are effective on December 13, 2020.

The following standards apply to the following businesses providing outdoor recreational experiences and educational activities, including:

- Alpine and Nordic Ski areas and resorts
- Alpine slides, mountain coasters, tubing
- Seasonal outdoor recreation and agricultural tourism
    - Examples: corn maze, hayrides, dogsledding
- Zip-lines and similar facilities
- Horse-riding schools
- Mountain biking courses
- Shooting and archery ranges
- Disc Golf facilities
- Outdoor paintball facilities
- Motorsports venues

Indoor recreation and other outdoor recreation or family entertainment businesses not specifically mentioned herein should refer to the Arcades and Other Indoor and Outdoor Game and Recreation Businesses Standard.

This document provides requirements for how to implement general workplace safety standards and other public health guidance ("COVID-19 measures") in the context of outdoor recreational operations in Phase III of the Commonwealth's reopening. Operators who fail to implement applicable COVID-19 measures may be sanctioned in accordance with COVID-19 Order No. 43. Operators are further reminded that in addition to implementing COVID-19 measures in Phase III, they must still comply with all federal, state and local laws.

The public health data and guidance on which this document is based can and does change frequently. The most recent version of this document can be found on the Commonwealth's website, http://www.mass.gov/

LIMITATIONS AND SAFETY PROTOCOLS FOR OUTDOOR RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES AND FACILITIES

Businesses providing outdoor recreational experiences and educational activities (as specified above) must comply with the activity limitations listed herein and develop and implement safety standards to minimize the risk of transmission of infection among participants, consumers and employees.

Organizers of athletic and recreational sports activities, including but not limited to any competitive leagues, education or 'learn to' programs (including private and semi-private lessons), competitions, shows or tournaments, must also comply with the *Workplace Safety and Reopening Standards for Businesses and Other Entities Providing Youth and Adult Amateur Sports Activities*, as well as any other sector or activity-specific guidance and social distancing protocols.

Furthermore, all businesses providing outdoor recreational experiences and educational activities must ensure compliance with any other applicable industry-specific standards that applies to a relevant aspect of their facility or venue including but not limited to:

- *Safety Standards for Theaters and Performance Venues* and *Indoor and Outdoor Event Standard* for those businesses that can accommodate private events or performances as part of their indoor or outdoor recreation operations;
- *Restaurant Standard* for those businesses with on-site dining, concession, and other food services;
- *Retail Standard* for those businesses offering on-site retail and other similar services;
- *Museum and Cultural and Historical Facilities and Guided Tours Standard* for those businesses that offer guided tours or walking tours;
- *Fitness Centers and Health Clubs Standard* for those businesses that have an on-site fitness facility;
- *Safety Standards for Public and Semi-Public Pools* for facilities with an indoor or outdoor pool;
- Any other sector-specific and recommended best practices in the *Mandatory Safety Standards for Workplace*.

Businesses providing outdoor recreational experiences and educational activities are open for in-state and out-of-state visitors, provided that all staff and patrons have complied with all applicable travel restrictions and requirements of both the home state and destination state,

including but not limited to, any and all quarantine or testing requirements. All out-of-state visitors coming into Massachusetts must be informed of and follow the Massachusetts travel order.

In addition, businesses providing outdoor recreational experiences and educational activities must adhere to the following safety protocols:

I. Social Distancing

General:

- Facility Operator must ensure that on-site guest and staff density is managed to allow for social distancing. Group activities where social distancing cannot be maintained are limited to a single reservation group. Implement a property-specific capacity limitation for outdoor areas during seasonal peak days to ensure that a number of patrons on the premises at any given time does not jeopardize the ability of employees to enforce, and patrons to comply with, the requirements contained in this standard. The organizer of the group reservation is also responsible for enforcing social distancing and face covering requirements for their group.
- Place visual cues (e.g., cones, markers, signage) to mark six feet or more of distance in ticket pick-up and other facility waiting lines.
- Group/Team activities are limited to no more than 25 people in any pit (motorsport venue), playing area (paintball field, horse riding arena), playing field or course (disc golf). Participants in the group/team activity should maintain 6 feet apart from each other unless they are members of the same household. For larger venues, playing areas and courses, more than one group of 25 may participate at any one time, provided that adequate social distancing can be maintained, and groups can be separated by at least 14 feet distance, marked with visual cues.
- All workers and customers are required to wear face coverings while on the premises and shall follow any other sector or activity-specific guidance on facial coverings and social distancing protocols. Organizers and participants of athletic and recreational sports activities must follow the requirements for facial coverings during active play in the *Workplace Safety and Reopening Standards for Businesses and Other Entities Providing Youth and Adult Amateur Sports Activities.*
- Organizers of athletic and recreational sport activities, including but not limited to any competitive leagues, competitions, shows or tournaments, such as Alpine and Nordic ski activities must comply with the mandatory facial coverings requirement in the *Workplace Safety and Reopening Standards for Businesses and Other Entities Providing Youth and Adult Amateur Sports Activities.*

- Online registration and online waivers should be used whenever possible to provide touch-free registration process upon arrival. If online registration is not possible, social distancing guidelines must be implemented.
- Where possible, delineate on-site parking according to social distancing guidelines. Guests and employees are not allowed to loiter or tailgate in parking area.
- Establish pedestrian traffic flows to reduce likelihood of customer interaction and six-foot spacing markings for queues.
- Curb-side pick-up and online reservations are encouraged for equipment rentals where possible and should have designated drop-off location for used gear and systems to ensure social distancing.
- Outfitting areas shall display designated social distance guidelines and marked spaces for individuals to stand while gearing up, ensuring one reservation group per designated space.
- Course instructions shall take place while maintaining social distancing guidelines.
- Transportation or shuttles for customers, if applicable, should be limited to a single reservation groups (1 reservation) plus a driver. For larger vehicles, transportation can be utilized by more than one reservation group provided that capacity is limited to no more than 50% of vehicle capacity, distance is maintained between groups, such as leaving a an unoccupied row/seats between groups and customers, and drivers and staff and customers must wear face coverings at all times while in the vehicle. Windows should be opened when feasible to increase ventilation. Open-air wagons such as hayrides may operate in accordance with the aforementioned limitations. All passengers and operators are required to wear face coverings at all times.
- **Recreational Activities Hosted at Ski Areas and Resorts:**

Aerial Lifts

  - All riders for downhill tubing, alpine slides, chairlifts, or aerial tramways may only:
    - (a) ride with household/reservation group members OR
    - (b) if riding with skiers and riders who are not part of their household/reservation group, load at no more than 50% capacity.
    - For purposes of this standard, capacity constitutes 50% on a chairlift if the following seating arrangements are met:
      - One single on a one-or two-person lift;
      - Two singles on opposite ends of a three-person lift;
      - Two singles on opposite ends of a four-person lift;
      - Two singles or two sets of doubles (i.e., two individuals from the same reservation group) on opposite ends of a six-person lift;
      - Any other combination that maintains a distance of at least one empty seat between members of separate reservation groups.

- Operators must set up facilities such that queuing, loading, unloading, and riding aerial tramways and other activities allows for social distancing and limiting close contact. Floor markings or signs must be provided to demonstrate distancing. Staff shall be provided to monitor distancing if customers are not following distance and face mask requirements.
- Safety on chairlifts is paramount and maintaining seating distance is not required for ski school groups with students too young to ride chairlifts by themselves or those who require additional assistance or have other needs to ride chairlifts safely.

Lodges, Restaurants, Other Facilities

- Restaurants, snack bars, food service, and any area designated for eating must follow the Restaurant standards. Ticket sales, retail and equipment rental must follow the Retail standards. Sports lessons must follow the Youth and Amateur Sports Activities standards.
- Facility Operators must monitor entries and exits of indoor and outdoor seating areas and limit occupancy at all times to not more than:
  - 40% of the building's maximum permitted occupancy as documented in its occupancy permit on record
  - No enclosed space (e.g., locker rooms, bathrooms) within the building may exceed occupancy of 10 persons per 1,000 square feet
- Reconfigure seating and tables in order to maintain physical distancing between persons who are not in the same household.
- Face coverings over nose and mouth are required at all times in indoor and outdoor seating areas by all patrons and staff unless they are eating or drinking. Face coverings must be put back on when eating is completed.
- Operators should consider alternative methods to increase available lodge space, including outfitting space, such as through temporary structures, outdoor heated patios, etc. to facilitate appropriate social distancing.
- Patrons should arrive dressed to ski to the maximum extent practicable, meaning the changing of gear, shoes to ski/snowboard boots, or other sport-specific equipment should occur before arriving or in the patron's vehicle to minimize time spent in any outfitting areas or locker rooms. Outfitting areas and locker rooms must adhere to all physical distancing and masking requirements and comply with the requirements in the *Workplace Safety and Reopening Standards for Businesses and Other Entities Providing Youth and Adult Amateur Sports Activities*.

❖ **Motorsports Venue Operators:**

- Motorsports venue operators must ensure that pit areas, tents and race trailers are spaced no less than 12 feet apart. Dedicated garage spacing between teams or individuals should be no less than 12 feet apart. Group activity organizers must monitor distancing and face masking for participants and spectators. Race trailers

and haulers should only have one individual inside at any time. Hotlaps/ride alongs are prohibited.

II. Hygiene Protocols

- Operators must minimize equipment sharing and clean and disinfect any shared equipment at the end of each use using a product from the list of disinfectants meeting EPA criteria for use against the novel coronavirus
- Employers, to the extent practicable, shall install hand sanitizer stations at the entry and exit of activity for use prior to loading and after unloading.
- Lift operators must wear protective equipment at all times, including facial coverings and other relevant protection, such as gloves.
- If available, ensure access to handwashing facilities on site, including soap and running water, and allow sufficient break time for employees to wash hands to frequently; alcohol-based hand sanitizers with at least 60% alcohol may be used as an alternative.
- Employers must supply employees at workplace location with adequate cleaning products (e.g., sanitizer, disinfecting wipes).
- Employers must require regular and not less than daily cleaning and sanitation of all high-touch areas such as workstations, door handles, and restrooms.
- Employers must post visible signage throughout the site to remind employees of the hygiene and safety protocols.

III. Staffing and Operations

- All on-site operations and businesses must cooperate with state health officials and local boards of health ("LBOH") and their authorized agents. Operators must maintain rosters of all participants and/or log visitors with appropriate contact information and make that information available upon request by state officials, LBOHs or their authorized agents. Failure to completely and promptly cooperate with health officials, operators and organizers risk closure or suspension of activities.
- Indoor facilities should have established traffic patterns such as one-way flow, designated exits and entrances where possible.
- Require workers who test positive for COVID-19 to disclose to the workplace employer for purposes of cleaning / disinfecting and contact tracing. If the employer is notified of a positive case at the workplace, the employer shall notify the local Board of Health (LBOH) in the city or town where the workplace is located and assist the LBOH as reasonably requested to advise likely contacts to isolate and self-quarantine. Testing of other workers may be recommended consistent with guidance and / or at the request of the LBOH.

- Employees who are particularly vulnerable to COVID-19 according to the Centers for Disease Control (e.g., due to age or underlying conditions) are encouraged to stay home.
- Post notice to employees, workers, and customers of important health information and relevant safety measures.
- Employers should take measures to ensure employees comply with all State-issued rules concerning out of state travel for any employer-paid or employer-reimbursed travel.
- Post notice to workers and visitors of important health information and relevant safety measures as outlined in the *Commonwealth's Mandatory Safety Standards for Workplace*.
- Install physical partitions in areas where physical distancing is not possible, such as service counters

IV. Cleaning and Disinfecting

- Aerial tramway lift chairs, alpine slides, and other shared equipment and rides, etc., must be sanitized periodically throughout the day and at the end of the day.
- All rental gear (such as helmets) and shared equipment must be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected prior to and after use (per manufacturer recommendations and any applicable CDC and DPH guidance) or quarantined for 48 hours.
- All vehicles shall be cleaned and disinfected regularly and not less than daily.
- Conduct regular and not less than daily cleaning and sanitation of all high-touch areas such as workstations, handrails, door handles, and restrooms. Restrooms should be cleaned and sanitized following the *EEA COVID-19 Outdoor Recreation Facility Restroom Cleaning Best Practices*
- Keep cleaning logs that include date, time, and scope of cleaning.
- In event of a positive case, shut down site for a deep cleaning and disinfecting of the workplace in accordance with current guidance.