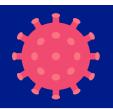


# COVID-19

(Coronavirus)



## **Sports Stages Return to Play Guidance**



The Government of Bermuda recognizes the roles that our National Sport Governing Bodies have played in the social, physical, mental and emotional wellbeing of the citizens of Bermuda. During this unprecedented time most of our normal activities have been suspended or compromised due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We recognize the role sports can play in providing outlets to combat the impacts of the pandemic. We as a country must maintain a balance between our need for sporting activities and the health and safety of our citizens. In collaboration with the Department of Health, National Security Department, Association of National Sport Governing Bodies and Department of Youth, Sport & Recreation we provide a phased "The Return to Play" procedural guidelines for sports.

### **STAGE 1:** NON-COMPETITIVE TRAINING FOR EXERCISE AND TECHNICAL DEVELOPMENT

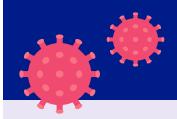
- Number of persons permitted per Public Health Regulations, including the coach or instructor
- No contact during exercise or technical development activities

- New groups should arrive at least 30 minutes (to allow for cleaning of equipment) after existing group has vacated
- 6 feet between participants should be observed at all times (wearing of mask required except during physical exertion)
- No fans/spectators allowed during Stage 1

### **STAGE 2: TEAM TRAINING**

- Return to team training will be guided by Health Department's assessment on the active COVID-19 cases in Bermuda and what is deemed the appropriate numbers that can participate
- Immunized athletes/coaches/staff/volunteers will require a negative Antigen Lateral Flow result **and** Safe Key twice a month to participate
- Non Immunized athletes/coaches/staff/volunteers will require a negative Antigen Lateral Flow or Safe Key result twice weekly to participate
- Any junior athlete/athlete/coach/staff/volunteer currently on a testing schedule for school or employment shall be exempt from sports testing.





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- New groups should arrive at least 30 minutes (to allow for cleaning of equipment) after existing group has vacated
- No fans/spectators allowed during Stage 2

### STAGE 3: CONTACT SPORTS TEAM TRAINING TO PREPARE FOR COMPETITION

- Full competitive training will be guided by Health Department's assessment on the downward number of active COVID-19 cases in Bermuda
- Sporting training activities and persons will be able to participate as normal to prepare for competition
- Immunized athletes/coaches/staff/volunteers will require a negative Antigen Lateral Flow result and Safe Key twice a month to participate
- Non Immunized athletes/coaches/staff/volunteers will require a negative Antigen Lateral Flow or Safe Key result twice weekly to participate
- Any junior athlete/athlete/coach/staff/volunteer currently on a testing schedule for school or employment shall be exempt from sports testing
- The maximum numbers allowed at a venue will be guided by the Health Department's assessment of the existing state of Bermuda as it relates to the spread of COVID-19

### STAGE 4A: RETURN TO PLAY SAFE KEY/ANTIGEN LATERAL FLOW FOR ALL PARTICIPANTS IN SPORTS

- Sports can compete and participate within the allowed COVID-19 restrictions per Public Health Regulations and Guidance
- Immunized athletes/coaches/staff/volunteers will require a negative Antigen Lateral Flow result prior to competition
- Non Immunized athletes/coaches/staff/volunteers will require a negative Antigen Lateral Flow or Safe Key result twice weekly to participate in team training and competition
- Any junior athlete/athlete/coach/staff/volunteer currently on a testing schedule for school or employment shall be exempt from sports testing.
- No fans/spectators allowed during Stage 4a with exception of 1 parent per athlete at youth competitions (U18 downwards)

### STAGE (4B) SAFE KEY/ANTIGEN LATERAL FLOW FOR ALL PARTICIPANTS IN SPORTS

- Sports can compete and participate within the allowed COVID-19 restrictions per Public Health Regulations and Guidance
- Immunized athletes/coaches/staff/volunteers will require a negative Antigen Lateral Flow result prior to competition
- Non Immunized athletes/coaches/staff/volunteers will require a negative Antigen Lateral Flow result or Safe Key result twice weekly to participate in team training and competition
- Any junior athlete/athlete/coach/staff/volunteer currently on a testing schedule for school or employment shall be exempt from sports testing.
- All Spectators/Fans will require a Safe Key to attend competitive events that exceed Health guidance on the permitted number

#### **Procedural Guidelines**

- 1. Further to the "Stage Return to Play" guidelines all current and applicable COVID-19 Laws shall apply.
- **2.** Sports clubs/teams/groups shall develop written protocols for their activities, events and participants in accordance with the stage "Return to Play Guidelines".
- **3.** Return to Play plans shall be submitted to Maceo Dill (Sports Development Officer) **mdill@gov.bm** for approval. Where applicable a site visit will be made to venues.
- 4. Applications to have more than the permitted number of persons to attend an event can be made to the Ministry of Youth, Culture and Sport by completing the online form for Large Group Exemptions https://forms.gov.bm/Exemptionfor-Large-Gatherings. An email copy shall be provided to DYS&R mdill@gov.bm. Government link that explains safe key: https://www.gov.bm/safekey.
- All Antigen Lateral Flow testing shall be administered in accordance with Health testing procedures, protocols and guidelines.
- **6.** Any positive Antigen Lateral Flow test results shall be immediately reported to the Health Department and National Sport Governing Body so that a PCR test can be administered and the appropriate quarantine action can be adhered to.

Stay informed on the latest developments about COVID-19 by visiting the Government of Bermuda's website coronavirus.gov.bm



