

CALIFORNIA STATE ATHLETIC COMMISSION

EMERGENCY LANGUAGE Concerning Resiliency Procedures

§ 299.5. Procedures to Hold Combative Sporting Events When an Infectious Disease Causes a State of Emergency

As determined and noticed by the California State Athletic Commission, (Commission) this regulation shall apply to an Event (defined below) held during the state of emergency stemming from the Novel Corona Virus 19 (COVID-19), in 2020, as declared by the State of California as a public health emergency (Emergency). This regulation shall remain in place until the Commission notices that such regulation is no longer applicable because the Emergency is no longer declared as an Emergency by the State of California. For purposes of this section, a determination by the Commission that the Emergency is no longer in effect shall be at a publicly noticed meeting, subject to the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act, and such determination shall, thereafter, be posted on the Commission's website.

It shall be the responsibility of the Promoter to brief all Personnel, including the Event and Event Venue staff and Accommodation or Host Accommodation staff, about the following procedures for an Event, including the necessity to follow any timelines set forth in the following procedures that shall apply to any of the aforementioned Personnel. Any Personnel that do not comply with these procedures shall not be permitted to enter or remain at the Venue premises or Host Accommodation(s) during any part of the Event.

Any definitions within this section shall have the same meaning as set forth in Division 2 of Title 4, unless otherwise defined herein.

(a) Definitions.

The following definitions apply for this section:

- (1) "Infectious Disease" is defined as the Novel Corona Virus 19 (COVID-19), declared by the State of California as a public health Emergency, in 2020.
- (2) "Commission Staff" are defined as any employee of the Commission, including the Executive Officer, Assistant Executive Officer, Members of the Commission, Commission Legal Counsel, Commission Staff Analysts and all Officials.
- (3) "Disposable Gloves" are defined as non-latex single-use gloves commonly used in hospitals or other medical settings.
- (4) "Event" is defined as all bouts, matches, contests subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission that are held during the Emergency, as identified in (a)(1).
- (5) "Executive Officer" is defined as the Executive Officer of the Commission.
- (6) "Face coverings" are defined as personal protective equipment or gear that helps prevent the spread of the specific Infectious Disease, which at a minimum covers the nose and mouth.

- (7) "Host Accommodation" or "Accommodation" are defined as a designated hotel, motel or other place of lodging as identified by the Promoter.
- (8) "Isolation" is defined as the separation of a person from other persons in a manner that minimizes and restricts such person's interaction with others to avoid exposure to the Infectious Disease.
- (9) "Medical Personnel" is defined as Ringside Physicians and Paramedics, along with any other medically trained and licensed personnel that must attend any activity at the Event.
- (10) "Officials" are defined as the following Commission Staff: Lead Athletic Inspector, Athletic Inspectors, and Ringside Officials (judges, referees, and timekeepers).
- (11) "Personnel" is defined as persons present at the Event, including, but not limited to Commission Staff, promoter, promoter personnel, Officials, athletes, seconds, media and television crew, along with Event Venue staff and Accommodation or Host Accommodation staff.
- (12) "Traffic Area" is defined as the areas of the Host Accommodation between the point of entry, the room(s) which Personnel shall lodge, the gym or workout room, and any other areas of ingress or egress within the Host Accommodation, including the front lobby and front desk. At the Venue, Traffic Area is defined as the area surrounding or adjacent to the ring or cage where Personnel perform their duties, any locker or dressing room, rest room, and the routes within the Venue, to and from the ring or cage through which Personnel may pass.
- (13) "Vehicle" is defined as the mode of transportation to/from an Event, Host Accommodation(s) or Venue used by Personnel.
- (14) "Venue" is defined as the sporting event location for the subject Event.

(b) Health and Safety Procedures.

Prior to the Event, the Executive Officer shall consider local health and CDC guidelines, in consultation with the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) and the Advisory Committee on Medical and Safety Standards ["Medical Advisory Committee" (MAC), as defined in Business and Professions code section 18645], to identify health and safety protocol and procedures necessary to implement this regulation to ensure that the health and safety of the Personnel at the Event are best protected.

Following such consultation, the Executive Officer shall determine the more restrictive health and safety protocols and procedures to be complied with by the Promoter and all Personnel to provide the best protection to all Personnel at the Event. Unless the Executive Officer determines otherwise, the following protocol and procedures shall apply. The Executive Officer shall provide the Promoter with the more restrictive health and safety protocols and procedures to operate the Event in a safe manner.

The Promoter shall provide training to all non-Commission Staff Personnel, prior to the Event and shall certify, in writing, to the Executive Officer that the training

complies with the more restrictive health and safety protocols and procedures provided by the Executive Officer. This training shall also include any applicable timelines necessary to ensure compliance with these procedures and protocols.

(1) Physical Distancing.

- (A) Athletes, along with their licensed seconds (cornermen), shall travel separately from other Personnel to the Event location (city, Host Accommodation(s), and Venue), unless they are part of the same household.
- (B) In Traffic Areas of the Host Accommodation(s) and entry to the Venue, athletes and their licensed seconds shall maintain at least a six (6) foot distance from other persons.
- (C) Athletes and their licensed seconds (cornermen) shall be assigned space in locker rooms in which they can maintain at least a six (6) foot physical distance from other athletes and their seconds or shall be assigned space in another area large enough to comply with the more restrictive health and safety protocols and procedures provided by the Executive Officer. The Executive Officer shall make these determinations based upon the specific layout and design of the Venue and may change its determination if layout and design conditions change during the Event.
- (D) All Personnel shall maintain at least six (6) feet of distance from others. Applicable physical distancing must be maintained during the weigh-in, where all Personnel present must also wear Face Coverings and Disposable Gloves in accordance (b)(2).
- (E) All Personnel shall remain on premises at the Host Accommodation(s) until departure to the Venue of the Event. If Personnel leave the premises of the Host Accommodation(s), they shall not be re-admitted to the Host Accommodation(s) before conclusion of the Event or be admitted into the Venue.
- (F) The Promoter shall ensure the Host Accommodation(s) designate(s) Host Accommodation(s) staff to accept and distribute food to rooms lodging Personnel pursuant to the health and safety protocols and procedures in this regulation.
- (G) Subject to (c)(3), below, unless an earlier departure time is necessary to protect the health and safety of the Personnel, all non-Commission Staff shall remain on premises at the Venue, each day of the Event, until the departure time communicated to the Promoter by the Executive Officer prior to the event.
- (H) No Personnel, except athletes and seconds, shall use the Host Accommodation(s) spas, pools, or fitness facilities.

(2) Face Coverings and Disposable Gloves.

Throughout the Event, the Promoter shall provide Disposable Gloves and/or any other disposable personal protective equipment identified by the Executive Officer prior to the Event. All Personnel, except for the athletes during their applicable bouts, contests, or matches, are required to wear a Face Covering that covers their nose and mouth and any other body parts, as identified by the Executive Officer prior to the Event.

At all times while in the Traffic Areas at the Host Accommodation and Venue, including while in Vehicles to and from the Venue, the Promoter shall ensure that all Personnel wear Disposable Gloves and Face Coverings and/or any other personal protective equipment, as identified by the Executive Officer prior to the Event. The Promoter shall also ensure that all Host Accommodation(s) staff and the staff at the Venue and Event follow the following protocol when performing any job functions that may cause interaction with any other individual related to the Event.

Promoter shall train all non-Commission Staff Personnel on the proper use of face coverings and disposable gloves, including:

- (A) Face coverings do not necessarily protect the wearer.
 - (B) Face coverings can help protect people near the wearer, but do not replace the need for physical distancing and frequent handwashing.
 - (C) Face coverings shall cover the nose and mouth, at a minimum.
 - (D) Personnel shall wash or disinfect hands before and after using or adjusting face coverings.
 - (E) Personnel shall avoid touching the eyes, nose, and mouth.
 - (F) Face coverings shall be washed or discarded after each use.
 - (G) Proper Disposable Glove donning and removal procedures.
- (3) Infectious Disease Advance Screening and Testing.
- (A) All Personnel present at the Event shall be subject to testing for the Infectious Disease prior to the Event within a timeframe determined by the Executive Officer prior to the event.
 - (B) All testing guidelines and the specifics therefore, including any timelines that may differ from those identified in these protocols and procedures, shall be provided by the Executive Officer to the Promoter no later than thirty (30) days prior to the scheduled first day of the Event or as soon as practicable after the event is scheduled assuming a short timeframe exists.
 - (C) Promoter shall be responsible for the cost of the Infectious Disease testing for all Personnel, including Commission Staff.
 - (D) If the test results of any Personnel (including athletes and seconds) indicate that the Personnel are positive for the Infectious Disease, the Personnel shall be excluded from the Event. In addition, the entire Event may be cancelled, at the sole discretion of the Executive Officer, after considering the health risks to Personnel at the Event.
 - (E) The Promoter shall complete the following no later than 14 days prior to the Event, nor earlier than 21 days prior to the Event, unless notified by the Executive Officer, in writing, of an alternative timeframe:
 - 1. All athletes shall be tested for the Infectious Disease and the results of the test shall be submitted to the Commission personnel within 24-hours of the Promoter receiving the test results.

2. Submit to the Commission Staff a completed "COVID-19 Pre-Event Screening Questionnaire" (New 7/2020) (Questionnaire), which is hereby incorporated by reference, for each athlete on the bout card.
3. If there are any Infectious Disease related health issues or concerns found on the Questionnaire, the Executive Officer or medical personnel may require additional testing.

(F) 48 Hours prior to any Personnel arriving at the Event's Host Accommodation(s), the Promoter must have the following completed:

1. Submit to Commission Staff a completed "COVID-19 Pre-Event Screening Questionnaire" (New 7/2020) (Questionnaire) for all Personnel. If there are any health issues or concerns related to the Infectious Disease found on the Questionnaire, the Commission Staff may require additional testing.
2. All Personnel shall have their temperature taken, and anyone with a temperature at or greater than 100.4° F, or that display other health indicators related to the Infectious Disease, shall not proceed to the Event city or Host Accommodation(s) if their Infectious Disease test, in subsection (b)(3), proves positive.
3. Personnel with a temperature at or greater than 100.4° F, or that display other health indicators related to the Infectious Disease, may be re-tested, at the discretion of the Executive Officer, prior to travel.

(G) Unless revised pursuant to paragraph (b)(3)(A) or paragraph (b)(3)(H), all Personnel shall arrive at the Host Accommodation(s) at least 24-hours prior to the scheduled start time of the official weigh-in and abide by the following:

1. Upon arrival to the Host Accommodation(s), all Personnel shall remain in their Vehicle until directed by Commission Staff to the designated screening area for symptom and temperature screening and Infectious Disease testing.
2. If any Personnel has a temperature at or greater than 100.4° F, or displays other health indicators related to the Infectious Disease, that Personnel shall not be permitted to enter the Venue or remain on the Host Accommodation(s) premises. Personnel with a temperature at or greater than 100.4° F, or that display other health indicators related to the Infectious Disease, may be re-tested, at the discretion of the Executive Officer.
3. Personnel with a temperature below 100.4° F and who do not display any health indicators related to the Infectious Disease, shall then undergo the Infectious Disease test and shall be required to remain in Isolation at the Host Accommodation(s), until the results of the Infectious Disease test are received by Commission medical staff from the Promoter.
4. The Promoter shall submit the Infectious Disease test results to Commission Staff for review prior to the athlete and the athlete's seconds reporting to the official weigh-in, as required in subsection (b)(3)(A).

5. Upon receipt of the Infectious Disease test results, the Commission medical staff shall review the results. All Personnel with negative test results for the Infectious Disease may proceed to the weigh-in.
6. Any Personnel with a positive Infectious Disease test result shall be immediately isolated and shall not travel back to the Personnel's home city using public transportation. If any non-Commission Staff test positive for the Infectious Disease, it shall be the Promoter's responsibility to get that person(s) home safely. If any Commission Staff test positive for the Infectious Disease, it shall be the Commission's responsibility to get that person(s) home safely. Home is defined as the location that the Personnel identifies as their city of residence.
7. All Personnel that test negative for the Infectious Disease shall be issued an identifiable wristband or other type of identifying tracker by the Promoter, which shall be approved by the Executive Officer and shall always be worn and visible for inspection until the conclusion of the Event. Such identifiable tracker shall be issued for each day of the Event, such that the tracker shall be able to be differentiated between previously issued trackers provided on other days of the Event. Personnel shall not be allowed to attend the weigh-in or enter the Venue without the tracker issued for that date.
8. Except as provided under (b)(5)(C), all Personnel shall remain in their Host Accommodation(s) rooms, until travelling to the weigh-in and then the Venue the following day.
9. Promoter shall provide 24-hour security to ensure that those required to be self-isolated in their hotel rooms do not leave their rooms or the Host Accommodation(s) until traveling to the Venue, except as allowed by the Commission Staff, in writing.

(H) Notwithstanding paragraph (F) above, any Personnel deemed to be non-essential for the weigh-in by the Executive Officer shall be allowed to arrive at the Host Accommodation(s) no later than 24-hours prior to the Event, so long as such Personnel's only duties occur during the day of the Event and only after such Personnel test negative for the Infectious Disease. All other requirements in paragraph (F) shall apply to the non-essential for weigh-in Personnel described in this paragraph.

(4) Cleaning/ Disinfecting of Host Accommodation(s) and Venue.

The Promoter shall ensure that the Venue and Host Accommodation(s) implement cleaning and disinfecting protocols.

(A) The Promoter shall be responsible for coordinating a cleaning and disinfection protocol with the Host Accommodation(s) and Venue. At least four (4) hours prior to the arrival of any Personnel at either the Host Accommodation(s) or Venue, the Promoter, in consultation with the Host Accommodation(s) and/or Venue, shall certify, in writing, to the Commission personnel that such Host Accommodation(s) and Venue have implemented a cleaning and disinfection protocol.

(B) The event Venue shall be cleaned and disinfected prior to the Event, which, at a minimum, shall include the following:

1. All Event surfaces, including the ring or cage mat, ropes, cage fence, and padded areas shall be disinfected according to product instructions and following each bout with disinfectants effective against the Infectious Disease using products satisfying the criteria set forth by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for disinfecting, under List N (Rev. 7/2020), hereby incorporated by reference.
2. All tables, chairs and stools around the ring or cage shall be disinfected according to product instructions, before and after each use, with disinfectants effective against the Infectious Disease using products included in List N.
3. Disinfectants used must be effective against emerging viral pathogens for the Infectious Disease using products included in List N.
4. Operating dispensers with hand sanitizer containing 70% or more alcohol (or other sanitizer identified by the Executive Officer, prior to the Event,) shall be placed in all Traffic Areas, at all Event locations, including at the Host Accommodation(s) and Venue.
5. Disposable Gloves and Facemasks shall be placed in all Traffic Areas at various locations at the Host Accommodation(s) and Venue.

(5) Athletic Resources.

(A) Promoter shall arrange with the Host Accommodation(s) exclusive use of the gymnasium/work out room (if one is available) for athlete use subject to a schedule that shall ensure physical distancing protocols compliant with this regulation.

(B) The gymnasium/work out room at the Host Accommodation(s) shall be cleaned and disinfected prior to each athlete's use per (b)(4)(B).

(C) Promoter shall establish a written schedule for use of the gymnasium/work out room, which shall be submitted to Commission Staff and each athlete participating in the Event no later than 48-hours prior to the weigh-in, listing all workout times for the athletes and their licensed seconds to use the gymnasium/work out room. Sufficient time between the aforementioned workout times shall be provided for the Host Accommodation(s) to clean and disinfect the gymnasium/workout room, as described in subsection (b)(5)(B).

(D) Promoter shall ensure Referees have access to a private room and shower at the Venue that has been properly disinfected in accordance with the protocol described in subsection (b)(4)(A) and remains unused by any other individuals during the entirety of the competition at the Venue.

(c) General Event Operations.

(1) The Commission shall regulate Events with only essential Commission Staff which may include the following according to the Commission's needs at the Event:

(A) Ringside Physicians

(B) Lead Athletic Inspector

- (C) Athletic Inspectors
 - (D) Ringside Officials (judges, referees, timekeepers)
 - (E) Commission Legal Counsel
 - (F) Members of the Commission
 - (G) Commission Staff Analysts
- (2) Promoter shall operate Events with only the Promoter's essential Personnel, as determined by the Promoter.
- (A) Seven (7) days prior to the Event, Promoter shall submit to the Executive Officer a list of names, in writing, of the Promoter's essential Personnel and the Promoter's essential Personnel's role at the Event.
- (3) After the athletes and their licensed seconds have completed their bout and if the athlete has been medically cleared by the ringside physician, the athletes and their seconds or team shall return to the Host Accommodation(s).
- (4) The Promoter shall ensure that all paramedic staff shall be trained and required to test, as outlined by CDC and CDPH guidelines, by their employer for the Infectious Disease.
- (5) Any athlete that is injured and requires hospitalization shall travel directly to the hospital and may only be accompanied by one other person. All remaining Personnel related to the injured athlete shall return directly to the Host Accommodation(s) at the time that the athlete is taken to the hospital.
- (6) Personnel seated ring/cage side shall be placed at least six (6) feet back from the ring/cage perimeter and away from one another behind some form of physical barrier, such as a table, barricade, etc., unless the Executive Officer determines prior to the Event that placement further than six (6) feet is required. Judges shall be seated ring/cage side behind a plexiglass, clear, shatterproof, and impermeable barrier or provided with a clear face shield or clear safety goggles with a Commission Staff approved Face Covering, provided by the Promoter, that will protect them from coming into contact with bodily fluids expelled from the ring/cage. Judges shall be seated at least six (6) feet away from each other unless the Executive Officer determines, prior to the Event, that physical distancing of more than six (6) feet is required.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 18611 and 18725, Business and Professions Code.

Reference cited: Sections 18640, 18645, 18700, 18705.5, 18706, 18711, and 18732, Business and Professions Code. Section 8625, Government Code. Governor's Proclamation of a State of Emergency, March 4, 2020, available online at: <https://www.gov.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/3.4.20-Coronavirus-SOE-Proclamation.pdf>.