

## Gyms

### Approved Variance to Colorado Public Health Order 20-28- June 11, 2020

#### Variance

The State of Colorado has issued a variance approval to Public Health Order 20-28. This variance approval is in effect until the final expiration of the PHO 20-28. For this purpose, gyms are defined as “a building or room used for indoor sports or exercise, such as fitness, dance, exercise or group classes, exercise studios and centers, recreation centers and other indoor athletic facilities.” The variance for gyms requires the following:

- In order to achieve six foot social distancing, the limit is 50% of the posted occupancy code limit ensuring a minimum of 28 square feet per person not to exceed more than 100 people at any given time in a confined indoor space, and 175 people in any outdoor setting. If a gym has multiple rooms, these limits apply to each room.
- Clients must wear face coverings when entering the establishment and at all times.
- All clients must sign in with their name and contact information.
- Employees must be screened for COVID-19 symptoms each day before beginning work.
- Employees who are symptomatic must be excluded from the workplace and required to isolate for 10 days. They should be encouraged to get tested for COVID-19 either through a local provider or Pueblo County’s community wide testing site.
- Machines and equipment must be separated by six feet or more. Adjacent equipment closer than six feet must be blocked off to prevent use. Cleaning supplies for handles, benches, pins, seats, etc. must be available at each machine with written instructions available on how to clean the equipment after use.
- Staff must be available to monitor the number of people in the facility, screen clients upon entry for COVID-19 symptoms, and assist and monitor the cleaning and disinfection of equipment between users.
- If gym allows 24-hour access the management must be able to remotely monitor capacity and must place signs regarding “no staff on site to ensure cleaning and disinfection, members must clean and disinfect equipment before and after use and that members are assuming their own liability by utilizing the equipment during these hours.
- Group classes in enclosed rooms must be limited to 50% capacity of the room or 28 square feet per person plus the instructor, provided six feet of social distancing can be maintained. Class capacity may be expanded beyond nine participants, if the facility management submits a written plan. The plan must demonstrate the businesses’ ability to expand this capacity given the square footage of the rooms used for classes, while maintaining the required social distancing.
- Saunas and shared spaces must remain closed.
- Clean and disinfect bathrooms and high contact surface areas frequently and ensure hand washing supplies are available.
- If food is sold or served, the gym must follow the current public health order for restaurants.
- In all other respects, the requirements of the Safer at Home Public Health Order 20-28, as amended, remain in effect for Pueblo County.

**Note: If the current public health order or subsequent amendments to that order should change in which more restrictions are lifted, gyms may immediately begin to modify their operations to be in compliance with the most recent public health order.**

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### **Outbreaks**

Pueblo County has identified the following specific data triggers related to outbreaks connected to specific gyms:

- If two or more staff or members/ attendees who test positive within 14 days and the outbreak is determined to be connected or possibly connected to their attendance or work at a gym, the gym must return to the requirements of the current State public health order unless the following action is taken:
  - Close the gym to the public for 72 hours,
  - Deep clean facilities,
  - Notify members/patrons of the outbreak,
  - Provide participant list to the Pueblo Department of Public Health and Environment (PDPHE) for case investigation and contact tracing.
  - Work with the PDPHE regarding plans to re-open.
- If multiple outbreaks occur at the gym, the gym must return to the requirements of the current State public health order unless the following action is taken:
  - Close the gym for seven days
  - Deep clean common areas and facilities
  - Notify the members/patrons of the outbreaks
  - Provide participant list to public health for case investigation and contact tracing
  - Work with the PDPHE regarding plans to reopen.

### **Variance Alteration and Rescission**

- If Pueblo County reports more than 84 new COVID-19 cases in a two-week period (2-week incidence of 51 per 100,000) has occurred, the PDPHE will initiate the following alteration process:
  - Implement a mitigation plan for two weeks to try to restore virus transmission levels to baseline under which the variance was approved.
  - If after two weeks the levels are not restored, then the capacity limits are automatically adjusted to reflect the CDPHE guidelines.
- The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment and the Pueblo Department of Public Health and Environment reserve the right to modify or rescind this variance approval as circumstances warrant.

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