

Important Update on COVID-19 Regulations Step Three of Ontario's Reopening Plan

Dear Club Presidents,

Today it was announced that Ontario will be able to move to Step Three in the Reopening plan effective Friday July 16, 2021, at 12:01am. (Note some local Public Health Regions may choose to stay at Step 2 longer, please ensure you follow your local directive).

Row Ontario has been able to review the amended Regulation 364/20 Rules for Areas in Step 3 that comes into effect next week.

As most restrictions were lifted in Step 2 there are not many items that impact rowing clubs at this step. In addition to Step 2, here are some highlights and clarifications of current restrictions in the new Regulations:

- The indoors of boathouses can now be open with a capacity limit of 50% of your regular capacity (taken from building's Fire Code requirements). You must also ensure that people can maintain a 2m physical distance. Masks are required indoors.
- Outdoor capacity is limited to 75% of your regular capacity to allow for distancing.
- Regarding erging (or other cardio or fitness related activity for warmups etc.), you are required to ensure all participants maintain a 2m distance indoors or outdoors.
- Participants are not required to maintain 2m while participating in sport and can temporarily remove masks while engaging in athletic or fitness activity. Indoor and contact sports have now been added to open sports activity.
- Organized public events and/or social gatherings under Step 3 will be limited to 75% of your capacity outdoors and 50% capacity of your boathouse area if they are going to be held indoors.
- Spectators are permitted with a maximum of 75% capacity in a designated spectator seating to a maximum of 15,000 or in a non-designated area to ensure space for 2m distancing to a maximum of 5,000 people. Outdoor spectators are required to wear masks unless they are maintaining a 2m distance from people outside their household. Masks can be removed for consumption of food/drink (Wearing masks as spectators outdoors is a new restriction due to volume of people).

Your requirements as an organization to maintain your safety plan, screening and gathering contact information and other overarching requirements all remain in place. Also, please note if you rent

space for meetings or events or provide food and beverage services other Regulations impact those areas.

There has been communication from RCA indicating that they will consider sanctioning outdoor regattas with special requirements after July 23. More information is available from RCA. Row Ontario will be holding a meeting for anyone considering hosting a regatta in 2021 on Wednesday July 14. Please contact Stephen Ross (stephen@rowontario.ca) for information about that meeting and how to register.

Please note that Day Camps are required to continue to follow the Ministry of Health guidelines, however the Regulations permit that day camp participants do not need to wear masks indoors. Last week we were advised new Day Camp Guidelines should be coming shortly. As soon as they are posted we will share that information. Please continue to work with your local Public Health unit.

If you have any questions about the Regulations surrounding COVID-19, please do not hesitate to reach out to Lisa Roddie (lisa@rowontario.ca) or Andrew Backer (andrew@rowontario.ca).

Stay safe and enjoy rowing!

Yours in Rowing,
Row Ontario