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County temporary regulations seek to facilitate safe reopening of gyms, fitness centers

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County temporary regulations seek to facilitate safe reopening of gyms, fitness centers

PIMA COUNTY, May 14, 2020 - The Pima County Board of Supervisors this week approved a set of temporary regulations designed to facilitate the safe and healthy reopening of gyms and fitness centers.

Gyms and fitness centers are an important part of the local economy and important to physical wellness of the community. Pima County established these temporary regulations in recognition of this unique role these businesses play in the local economy.

These temporary regulations seek to balance the need for gyms and fitness centers to reopen while protecting public health. The most important aspect of these regulations emphasizes maintaining safe physical distancing and enhanced cleaning and sanitization processes of facilities to minimize the spread of COVID-19.

These regulations were established in keeping with guidance provided in Gov. Doug Ducey's "Stay Healthy, Return Smarter, Return Stronger" Executive Order, effective May 16. This order encourages healthy physical distancing measures as businesses begin to gradually reopen.

In creating these temporary regulations, the County worked with the business community and members of the public in the Back to Business Steering Committee and other subcommittees. This effort sought input from numerous members of the community who have been affected by the various shelter-in-place Executive Orders and directives.

For gyms and fitness centers, the Board-adopted regulations are as follows:

Minimum employee, vendor, and guest health and wellness measures:

- 1. Wellness/symptom and temperature checks for all personnel, and where possible vendors, contractors as they arrive on premises and before opening of a pool.
- 2. Similar symptoms and temperature checks for guests are optional.
- Cloth masks and gloves and/or frequent hand-washing is required for all staff.
- B. Minimum operation measures:
- 4. Physical (and website) signage posting at the pool or gym entrance of public health advisories prohibiting individuals who are symptomatic from entering the premises.
- 5. Indoor occupancy limited to 50 percent or lower unless 6-foot physical distance standards can be achieved with higher occupancy.
- 6. Clearly marked 6-foot spacing marks at entrances, hallways, restrooms and any other location within the gym or pool where patrons may queue or congregate.
- 7. Physical distancing of 6 feet minimum between fitness equipment, deck loungers, chairs and/or tables.
- 8. Elimination of self-service stations including water fountains, unless touchless. Nothing prohibits the serving of bottled water.
- 9. Hand sanitizers available near entrances to the facility, restrooms and in employee work areas.
- 10. Sanitize customer areas and high-touched surface areas after each sitting or

equipment use with EPA-registered disinfectant.

- 11. Implement cashless and/or minimal touch payment methods if possible.
- 12. Post documentation cleaning logs on line and upon request at the entrance documenting cleaning of all public areas (inclusive of counter tops, door handles, waiting areas, etc.) at least every 2 to 3 hours.

The full text of the Temporary Regulations and other information can be found here.

The Pima County Health Department and Behavioral Health Department are dedicated to helping the residents of Pima County achieve and maintain an optimal level of wellness.

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