COVID-19 Operational Status

Phase II: Permit Guidance

This document is part of the Department of Parks and Recreation’s (DPR) plans for in-person services for Fall 2020/Winter 2021. These plans align with the Phase 2, District of Columbia COVID-19 operational status. DPR is confident that it can continue to deliver and expand services that comply with DC Health and the National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) recommendations and mandates.

PERMITS

Permitting will be available at outdoor sites only. Special event and indoor facility permitting will remain suspended. All Permit holders are required to submit a safety plan. This plan will be reviewed by DPR Executive and Permit Office staff to ensure it properly aligns with DC Health guidelines. DPR will also issue permits for high/moderate contact sports practices only and low contact sports games as described below. Field permits will be issued on a first come first serve basis and where possible as regulated by the agency’s Priority of Use (https://dpr.dc.gov/page/priority-use).

In Phase II DPR will Permit the following “outdoor spaces” as prescribed below:

- Park Sites and Open Spaces – Large and Medium Park Sites will be open online for permitting for small events (under 25 persons).
- Large and Medium Turf Fields – Lighted turf fields will be available for limited athletic permitting.
- Baseball Fields – Lighted and select non-lighted baseball fields will be available for limited athletic permitting.
- Mini Soccer Pitches– Available for permitting for non-contact training only. Soccer games are not permissible during Phase II.
- Basketball Courts – No change, permitting suspended.
- Tennis Courts – Open play is currently allowed. Permits under five people per court will be allowed. No tournaments are allowed.
General Restrictions for Permit Issuance

Field and Sports Guidance – Limited athletic permits allowed.

- No Permits for more than 25 participants allowed through Phase II.
- Permits will not be issued for more than a two-hour window.
- No med-high contact sports games allowed (including “pick-up” games), non-contact training and practices are allowed with safeguards.
  - Non-contact training is defined as practices or activities that are non-contact in nature and/or are practicing distancing. For instance, football, rugby, soccer games are not allowed but teams can train—passing drills, ball handling practice, running sprints, and other practice drills that do not put athletes within six feet of each other.

Park Site Guidance – All Medium and Large Park Sites will be open.

- DPR will reduce maximum capacities at all park sites by 50%
- No park sites will allow for more than 25 participants
- Small Park Sites – No Permits will be granted due to social distancing regulations
- Medium Park Sites – 25-person max (instead of 50)
- Large Park Sites – 25-person max (instead of 100+)
- Permits will not be issued for more than a two-hour window

Safety Plan Requirements for Permit Holders

All permit holders must submit a safety plan that outlines how their team/organization/program will adhere to all applicable DC Health Park and Open Space and DPR guidelines set forth in this document and any other pertinent information regarding the safety of their participants especially as related to COVID19. This safety plan must be uploaded onto the organization’s household DPR account BEFORE play begins.

Non-contact training or practices are allowable if proper distancing and safety protocols are met. Only low-contact games are allowed.
Social Distancing

- All teams and organizations must adhere to the DC Health guidelines for social distancing. Players, participants and coaches must maintain six feet apart during play. Permit holders are responsible to ensure that these requirements are met.
- Any incident of a participating testing positive for COVID-19 should be reported to DPR using the online reporting form.

Permitted Activity Operations

- At no time, will there be more than 25 people total on any field or outside space.
- No spectators are allowed at any sporting event on DPR property.
- Gatherings at entrances/exits to outdoor spaces should be limited; include staggering starting/ending times.
- “Drop-off” procedures should be thoroughly explained, communicated to parents and included in the permit holder’s safety plan that is submitted to DPR’s Permit Office.
- Parents that need to be onsite with younger children are required to keep six feet from each other, as well as all sport participants.
- Permitted activities for young children may need to take additional precaution that should be noted in the organizational safety plan.
- Check-in procedures should be thoroughly explained and communicated to participants and included in the permit holder’s safety plan that is submitted to DPR’s Permit Office. Digital check-in is preferred.
- All organizations must be able to submit a roster of all attendees 24 hours following any individual game/practice or event.
- If a permit holder is made aware of actual or possible COVID-19 exposure during their permitted event, they must notify DPR using the online form.

Hygiene and Sanitation

- Bathrooms and/or locker rooms inside recreation and aquatic facilities will NOT be available for use.
- Permit holders will be permitted to supply a portable restroom at the permit holder’s expense if warranted.
- DPR will not provide sports equipment to permit holders.
- For equipment brought onsite by permit holders, equipment must be cleaned and disinfected after each use. Equipment should not be shared, if possible, and participants should be encouraged to bring their own personal equipment whenever possible.
- Hand sanitizer (containing >60% ethanol or >70% isopropanol) must be plentiful and available to individuals on-site.
- Any equipment that is damaged or otherwise cannot be cleaned should not be used.
Participants should be encouraged to shower and wash their workout clothing immediately upon returning home.

Most facilities will not have hand washing sinks or stations available, but whenever possible, wash hands. Hand washing should be for a minimum of 20 seconds with water and soap; or, in the absence of a hand washing station; hand sanitizer must be used before touching any surfaces or participating in workouts.

Sneeze or cough into a tissue, or the inside of your elbow. Avoid touching your face.

No spitting! e.g., sunflower seeds, tobacco, phlegm.

All participants should bring their own water bottle. Water bottles must not be shared. Food must not be shared and is currently not allowed to be shared onsite. Hydration stations (water cows, water trough, water fountains, etc.) should not be utilized.

Participants should wear their own appropriate workout clothing (do not share clothing).

Individual clothing/towels should be washed and cleaned after every workout.

Physical contact such as high-fives, fist bumps, and hugs are not allowed.

Face Coverings

Masks or face coverings are required for all patrons and program participants over the age of two at all DPR facilities.

Permit participants are required to bring their own face coverings.

Face coverings must not be shared.

Sport-Specific Considerations and Guidance for Permit Holders

Low/Limited Infection Risk Activities:
Activities that can be done with physical distancing or individually with no sharing of equipment or the ability to clean the equipment between uses by competitors.

- Tennis – Singles play encouraged; doubles play allowed. No tournaments, no spectators.
- Volleyball – Practices and games allowed. Programs and teams must restrict games within local area. Sanitation of equipment/balls should be accounted for and performed between plays.
- Baseball/Softball/Tee-Ball – Practices and games allowed. Programs and teams should restrict games within local area. Sanitation of equipment/balls should be accounted for and performed between plays.
- Swimming – Permits remain suspend at this time.
Medium Infection Risk Activities:
Activities that involve close, sustained contact, but with protective equipment in place that may reduce the likelihood of respiratory particle transmission between participants OR intermittent close contact OR sports that use equipment that can’t be cleaned between participants. These activities are allowed with proper distancing (10 feet) between participants as per DC Health Guidelines.

- Fitness Classes – Bootcamps, aerobic activities, Zumba etc.

Higher Infection Risk Activities (not allowable):
Activities that involve close, sustained contact between participants, lack of significant protective barriers, and high probability that respiratory particles will be transmitted between participants. Football, soccer, wrestling, boxing, competitive cheerleading, dance/drill.

- Football/Flag Football – Non-contact training allowed only, no games allowed. Sanitation of equipment/balls should be accounted for and performed between plays. Contact with other players is not allowed, and there should be no sharing of tackling dummies/donuts/sleds. Protective equipment (pads/helmets) prohibited.
- Soccer – Non-contact training allowed only, no games allowed. Informal Pick-up Games are considered organized games and not allowed. Sanitation of equipment/balls should be accounted for and performed between plays
- Boxing – Non-contact training and drills allowed. No sparring. Sanitation of speed bags, heavy bags, and related equipment must do between usages.
- Lacrosse – Non-contact training allowed only, no games allowed. Sanitation of equipment/balls should be accounted for and performed between plays.
- Basketball – Non-contact training allowed only, no games allowed. Sanitation of equipment/balls should be accounted for and performed between plays.
- Cheerleading – Non-contact training/conditioning and individual technique/choreography work only. Exercise caution when chanting. Participants may not practice/perform partner or group stunts. Chants, jumps, dance, tumbling without contact are permissible as long as physical distancing is adhered to.
- Dance/Drill – Non-contact training/conditioning and individual technique/choreography work only. Students may not practice/perform partner or group stunts, jumps, dance, tumbling without contact are permissible as long as physical distancing is adhered to.