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Return to Competition (Single-Day Club Events):

PRE-EVENT:

Venue Procedures

To comply with provincial and local health authority recommendations while ensuring safe operation of Boxing Ontario sanctions, the following protocols need to be strictly enforced:

- Collection and distribution of PPE and other essential provisions such as, but not limited to: Hand Sanitizer Gels and Dispensers, Disinfectant /Cleaning Wipes, Non-Medical Respiratory Masks (cloth masks are acceptable), Disposable Gloves (Latex or Nitrile), Temporal Thermometers, and Signage Regarding Precautionary Measures (Hand Washing, Physical Distancing, etc.)

Risk Assessment

- Consider creating a map of your event venue. Simulate entering building through designated paths, noting various “hot spots” of low, medium, and high risk for contamination and transfer. Also note location of all instruction and sanitizer/cleaning stations. Re-evaluate execution of standard operating procedures to mitigate risk. Ex. set up a station with hand sanitizer and disinfectant/cleaning wipes in areas with high-to-medium risk locations, converting them to a medium-to-low risk area.
- High Risk – areas where multiple people will likely transfer germs, sweat and other contaminants (ex. doorknobs, sink taps, boxing ring, changing rooms, etc.)
- Medium Risk – areas where multiple people could transfer germs, sweat, and other contaminants (ex. check-in area, weigh-in area, glove table, warm-up area, etc.)
- Low Risk – areas of minimal transfer of germs, sweat, and other contaminants (ex. Bleachers or spectator area, hallways, walkways, etc.)

Identify Essential vs. Non-Essential Personnel

Determine who will be allowed at event by grouping people into essential & non-essential categories and decide which groups will be allowed at the event.

- Essential: boxers, coaches, officials, volunteers, event staff, medical staff and security, parents, or guardians of minors from the same household
- Non-essential: media, spectators, and vendors

Criteria for anyone attending or participating in the event:

- No signs or symptoms of COVID-19 in the past 14 days.
- Refer to the COVIC-19 Symptom Tracker on day of event and pass same-day screening.
- No close, sustained contact with anyone who is sick, presents symptoms, or has been exposed to someone who tested positive for COVID-19 within 14 days of the event.
- Has not traveled abroad in the past 14 days.

Health Screening & Measures

- Everyone entering venue must wear a mask which covers their mouth and nose and be subject to a temperature check. Attendees with a fever of 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or higher, will not be admitted. If an individual has a fever at 100.4 degrees and above, this individual can step aside, wait five minutes, and then have their temperature rechecked. Event organizer should provide a list of local healthcare facilities where people can be seen by a certified healthcare professional.

Essential Personnel

Essential personnel entering venue required to complete a COVID-19 Health Screening Questionnaire.

- If participants disclose or physically present symptoms of COVID-19 or were exposed to people confirmed with COVID-19 in the last 14 days, they are required to undergo a secondary screening with a ringside physician. Participant should wait in secluded area of venue, away from other participants and spectators, while waiting for secondary screening. Secondary screenings will either, clear subject to participate or will provide further instruction, at the discretion of the ringside physician. Medical officials may recommend person be denied access to enter competition venue due to medical concern
- Event organizer must submit completed COVID-19 Health Screening Questionnaires to Boxing Ontario who must retain questionnaires for one year. Event organizer must submit completed waivers to Boxing Ontario to have them retained for minimum of one year.

Non-Essential Personnel

- All non-essential personnel (and spectators) required to sign-in with name and contact information.
- Sign-in sheet includes verbiage from Hold Harmless waiver, and acts as a liability waiver for spectators and other non-essential personnel
- Event organizer must submit sign-in sheets to Boxing Ontario who is required to preserve sign-in sheets for one year. Boxing Ontario strongly recommends modifying check-in procedure to help identify essential and non-essential personnel who have successfully passed their health screening.

Preventing Spread of Infection

- Ensure all medical personnel are informed of current COVID-19 information.
- During event, provide multi-modal communications so people can protect themselves and others (e.g., handouts, posters, overhead announcements, and texts describing infection prevention measures)
- Screen everyone entering venue for infection; prevent those with suspected infection from entering.
- Encourage two-meter distancing floor markers highly encouraged.
- Use different entrances for essential vs non-essential personnel when available.
- Utilize separate entrances for entering and exiting the building, when possible
- Require everyone in attendance to wear a mask covering mouth & nose (fabric masks acceptable)
- Consider sourcing and providing plastic face shields for personnel such as, ringside physicians and referees, who will be in proximity of unprotected boxers
- Provide appropriate face coverings and gloves to all employees and volunteers, whenever possible.
- Open available windows and doors to maximize airflow
- Develop a physical distancing protocol at venue entrances, exits, aisles, spectating locations (e.g., every third seat, every third row, designated/marked standing locations for spectators with six feet between each standing location, etc.), and between essential individuals (e.g., have athletes enter Field of Play (FOP) one at a time, decreased number of competitors per ring, etc.)

- Provide hand sanitizer in strategically targeted locations throughout venue (i.e., near areas / items frequently touched by multiple people such as doorways, drinking fountains, etc.)
- Establish cleaning schedule for high-touch areas using disinfectant before, during, and after the event
- Custodial staff should wear appropriate PPE (e.g., gloves, face masks) to minimize contact with potentially contaminated surfaces/items, and protect from toxicity associated with cleaning products
- Bathrooms should remain accessible with locker rooms and showers closed. Frequently touched surfaces, shaded objects, and bathrooms should be cleaned and disinfected every hour.
- Consider breaks/intermissions in the competition to allow for cleaning.
- Encourage boxers and coaches to bring their own food and hydration.
- Boxer should use own towel and hygiene products (e.g., deodorant, etc).

Matching Guidelines

- Boxing Ontario recommends the following measures of precaution:
- Event organizer should pre-match to avoid an open weigh-in (i.e. no walk-on bouts).
- To avoid contamination of your city or community, matches should be made with boxers/teams from your region subject to the same participation guidelines as the host event's local area
- Event organizers are encouraged to submit a list of boxers to Boxing Ontario the day before event
- Limit number of bouts per event and Boxing Ontario's return to competition timeline
 - Boxing Ontario will only allow a maximum of ten (10) bouts per event.

DURING EVENT:

Check-In / Weigh-In / Spectator Entry

- Analysis of all venue areas should be conducted for purpose of minimizing exposure and potential cross-contamination between participants.
- Use separate entry points for Essential vs Non-Essential personnel when possible
- Provision larger venues to have a separate entry point for officials and staff, when available
- Ensure all points-of-entry are properly labelled (e.g. "Athlete Check-in", "Coach Check-in", etc)
- Utilize physical distancing floor markers, spaced 2 meters apart, in addition to signage promoting identical physical distancing guidelines anywhere lines may form
- Boxers must report to the athlete check-in area prior to weigh-ins, making it one of the earliest points of exposure between boxers and staff
- After boxer has checked his weight at the trial scale, they can proceed to the weigh-in
- Only one boxer will be allowed in the weigh-in area at a time
- Sanitize scales per Boxing Ontario guidelines every 30 minutes
- It is strongly encouraged for registration be completed online prior to the event which includes all Boxing Ontario boxers, coaches, and officials, and members
- Take precautions to reduce the risk of exposure for staff and officials at check-ins and weigh-ins through field of play adjustments (e.g. layout design)
- Staff working check-in & weigh-in stations is required to wear masks and latex or nitrile gloves

Three officials total in Weigh-in Area

- One (1) official checking the books
- Two (2) officials at the scale/gender specific
- Hand sanitizer pumps or stations available at all tables where staff and/or officials are stationed
- Disinfectant/cleaning wipes used to wipe down all countertops and surfaces every 30 minutes

- This will be timed during lower volume periods to minimize disruption to the flow of the event
- Entrances and tables should be separated to the best extent possible by service type. Ex. Boxer Check-In, Coaches/Credentials.

Field of Play (FOP) Recommendations & Guidelines

- Boxing Ontario highly recommends a mandatory coaches' meeting before competition to review all procedures and guideline in addition to personal expectations, for a clean and safe event.
- Conduct meeting in large, open areas and implement physical distancing guidelines at all meetings.
- Encourage coach feedback about procedures and identify who will receive feedback.
- Only allow essential personnel in FOP and designate separate entry points into the FOP for blue & red corners. Consider flow through the FOP to limit crossing paths with others
- In reduced capacity events, limit number of essential personnel within FOP (e.g. limiting the number of officials at the glove table, as needed)
- Consider using one official for signing hand-wraps and monitoring glove table, and a separate official for handling returned gloves and sanitization of these gloves
- Limit coaches in corner to only two (2) per boxer.
- All staff, officials, coaches, boxers, volunteers, and medical personnel working the field of play, will be required to wear masks and latex/nitrile gloves.
- Administration table set up to ensure proper distancing guidelines from tournament staff members
- Chairs will be 2 meters apart to encourage physical distancing, when possible
- Disinfectant/cleaning wipes used to wipe down all head table equipment/supplies every 30 minutes

Competition Ring Recommendations

- Provide 12 feet of clearance from ring apron to the FOP barrier on all sides, if possible
- Consider limiting the number of officials
 - 3 judges - take out 2 & 5
 - 1 referee
 - 1 supervisor
 - 1 timekeeper
 - 1 doctor

Warm Up Area

- Observe proper distancing and cap number of participants allowed, per social distancing guidelines
- Encourage coaches to wrap hands outside of warm up area

On-deck Procedures:

- Observe proper distancing and when possible, create separate entry and exit points
- Each boxer is allowed two (2) coaches in the on-deck area
- Once boxer is in on-deck area, they are not required to wear a mask prior to entering the ring
- Once boxers exit the field of play, they should resume wearing their face masks

Bout Procedures:

Referees

- Prior to first round, referee will remind boxers of four "commands" when checking for equipment tags, in hopes to mitigate the need of breaking boxers apart
- Referees are required to always wear face masks and strongly encouraged to wear face shields, especially during the bout. Referee will also change gloves in between each bout.

- If a mouthpiece should land on the floor, the referee:
 1. Should call “time!”
 2. Will have the boxers step back
 3. While wearing gloves, pick up the mouthpiece, and give it to the coach,
 4. Have coach rinse or clean it with sanitizer before placing it back into the boxer’s mouth
 5. Have the referee change their gloves
 6. Continue bout
- Signal winner by calling boxers to center of the ring and raise winner’s hand when decision announced.

Coaches

- Will be required to always wear a face mask, especially during the bout
- Should consider bringing an extra mouthpiece in event the original is contaminated

Boxers

- Required to wear face masks until entering ring then apply headgear after entering the ring
- Boxer should reapply face mask upon completion of post-bout physical

Post-Bout Procedures:

- Once decision is announced, the red corner will exit the ring first
- They will proceed to the doctor’s neutral corner for a post bout physical
- On completion of red corner’s post bout physical, boxer from blue corner can exit the ring and proceed to their post bout physical
- Note: in the event of a KO or injury, this process could change with injured boxer exiting first
- While boxers are being examined by ringside physician, coaches should use disinfectant /cleaning wipes (provided by the event organizer) to sanitize chairs, corner stools, and spit buckets.
- Strongly recommended for boxers to wear face masks upon conclusion of their post-bout physical
- Facilitate waste basket for boxers to properly dispose of hand wraps upon exiting the field of play
- Next bout will commence only when the ring is properly disinfected

Disinfecting the Competition Ring:

- Staff responsible for sanitizing ring must wear appropriate PPE (protective eye wear, gloves, face mask)
- Establish a consistent cleaning schedule
- Ropes and corner pads should be properly sanitized between each bout
- Sanitize ring cover/canvas as needed. Recommended to sanitize ring cover/canvas between sessions.
 - Must allow sufficient time for surfaces to dry

Spit Buckets:

- Encourage coaches to bring their own spit bucket
- Event host should amass additional spit buckets, so they are not shared between bouts or teams, without proper sanitization
- Consider setting up a cleaning station for coaches to clean their spit buckets
- Have host provide trash bags, to act a spit bucket liner, to mitigate risk and minimize event disruption
- Glove running should be carried out by sanitization coordinator or team while wearing proper PPE
- Hand sanitizer and disinfectant /cleaning wipes should be available at all tables where officials and other event administrators are stationed. Sanitizing wipes will be used to sanitize judges’ tabletops, ESS computers (if applicable), timers, stop watches, gong, and other competition supplies and

surfaces regularly. Recommend this is done every 30 minutes or when a change in position occurs. This may require a brief stop in services, to ensure proper sanitary procedures

- Recommend documenting your cleaning schedule and products used for all competition surfaces

Event organizer shall submit said documents to Boxing Ontario and must retain them for one year.

General Policies/Recommendations:

- For the segments listed below, safe distancing must be observed, and proper PPE (protective personal equipment) must be worn. Face masks & gloves are mandatory for all coaches, officials, and volunteers. Protective eyewear and other forms of PPE are optional.

Boxer Safety:

- All parties will be advised to bring their own personal protective equipment (non-medical masks and disposable latex or nitrile gloves), towels, and gym/alcohol wipes.
- Boxers should have own water bottles and coaches should take appropriate precautions (ex. gloves, sanitizer) with each use of the bottle. Clean outside of bottle with disinfectant before removing it from sparring area. Thoroughly clean bottle, inside/out with soap and water after training sessions.
- Designate an area for the boxers to wait for other team members to compete.

POST EVENT:

- Each member club will conduct an After-Action Report. Data collected will determine if event was successful and help evaluate if the member club is adequately prepared to host future events. All COVID-19 related documents will be submitted to Boxing Ontario for record keeping purposes. Member clubs will retain these documents for minimum of one year. Records should include:
 - Pre-event checklists, Events sign-in sheets, COVID-19 health screening questionnaires
 - Hold harmless waivers, and cleaning logs

Schedule A:

The host club is required to follow all current Provincial or local public health regulations.

[Ontario Reg 364/20](#)

BOXING ONTARIO - Communicable Illness / Disease Policy (In effect September 2021)

Definitions

1. The following terms have these meanings in this Policy:
 - a) *“Association”* – Boxing Ontario.
 - b) *“Member”* – All categories of membership defined in the Association’s Bylaws, as well as all individuals employed by, or engaged in activities with, the Association including, but not limited to, athletes, coaches, referees, officials, volunteers, managers, administrators, committee members, and directors and officers of the Association.
 - c) *“Communicable illnesses / disease”* – Refers to viruses, bacteria, or other communicable based medical conditions.

Purpose

2. The purpose of this Policy is to guide the Association in matters regarding communicable illnesses.

Policy

3. All members shall review and follow this policy.
4. If a member knowingly is infected with a communicable illness / disease, they shall refrain from active participation at any level in an event.
5. Should any member display symptoms consistent with a communicable illness they shall not enter any area of an office or venue.
 - a) Symptoms include but are not limited to:
 - i. Fever and / or chills
 - ii. Persistent cough
 - iii. Abnormal fatigue
 - iv. Sore throat
 - v. Vomiting / Diarrhea
6. Additional to the above no member shall participate in any component of an event should they be experiencing symptoms.
7. Athletes shall not share items which could potentially cause cross contamination; these items include but are not limited to water bottles and soiled athletic wear.
8. At all times members shall be wearing disposable medical gloves when:
 - a) Handling athlete’s protective equipment (i.e. mouth guard).
 - b) Working in a corner.
 - c) Acting as an in ring official.
 - d) Acting as the bout Doctor.
 - e) Contacting potentially soiled gloves or other articles.
9. These gloves are to be changed and disposed of properly between athletes.
10. Bout gloves shall be disinfected between each athlete with:
 - a) An approved spray on the interior.
 - b) An approved wipe or spray on the exterior.
 - c) When bouts are complete for the day all efforts must be made to dry the gloves after disinfection.

11. Field of play:

- a) All related surfaces of the field of play shall be cleaned as approved if they become soiled and at the end of each event.
- b) At no time shall bodily fluids be permitted to remain wet in the field of play if another bout is to occur.

12. Further information or clarity on the above points can be asked of the onsite Doctor for events.

This policy shall be reviewed and updated annually or as needed.