



May 22, 2020

## **OFFICIAL STATEMENT ON SAFE SPORT PROTOCOLS AND RETURN TO SPORT.**

The Ontario Government released ONTARIO REGULATION 223/20 on May 18, 2020.

This regulation amended the initial O. Reg. 82/20 which closed most businesses and activities in Ontario due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Here are 2 clauses of the amendment which relate to Boxing Ontario and our members:

34.4 Facilities, other than pools, that are in compliance with section 8 of Schedule 3 and that are being used by one or more of the following organizations, leagues or clubs to train amateur or professional athletes or to run amateur or professional athletic competitions:

- i. A national sport organization funded by Sport Canada or a member club of such an organization.
- ii. A provincial sport organization recognized by the Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries or a member club of such an organization.

### **Facilities for athletic training or competitions**

**8.** Every person responsible for a facility described in paragraph 34.4 of Schedule 2 shall ensure that,

- (a) the only persons permitted to use the facility are athletes who are members of an organization, league or club described in paragraph 34.4 of Schedule 2;
- (b) any person who enters or uses the facility maintains a physical distance of at least two metres from any other person who is using the facility;
- (c) team sports and pool-based sports are not practised or played within the facility;
- (d) other sports or games that are likely to result in individuals coming within two metres of each other are not practised or played within the facility;
- (e) all sport activities are conducted in accordance with the rules and policies of the applicable organization identified in paragraph 34.4 of Schedule 2, including the rules and policies put in place to enable a safe return to the sport;
- (f) no spectators are permitted at the facility, other than up to one accompanying parent, guardian or other adult for each athlete under the age of 18; and
- (g) any locker rooms, change rooms, showers and clubhouses in the facility remain closed, except to the extent they provide access to a washroom or a portion of the facility that is used to provide first aid.

Currently as the above reads, clubs would have to meet ALL requirements to open; one key requirement from the above is:

*“all sport activities are conducted in accordance with the rules and policies of the applicable organization identified in paragraph 34.4 of Schedule 2, including the rules and policies put in place to enable a safe return to the sport;”*

Boxing Ontario is conducting an assessment of the process to enable a safe return to sport and at this time does not endorse any club opening for boxing activities. If a club chooses to participate in boxing activities this would be in contravention of the above clause and any insurance or legal support afforded by Boxing Ontario would be void.

Boxing Ontario has created a COVID-19 Taskforce and this group is tasked with ensuring a safe return to sport will occur in an efficient and timely manner and to also provide support to our members.

Boxing Ontario Board of Directors.