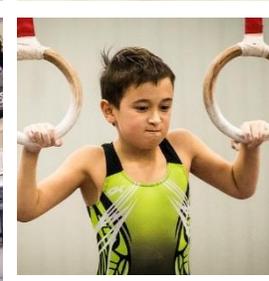
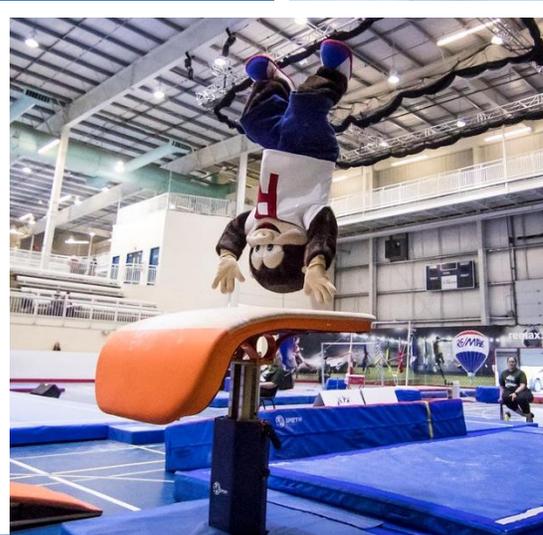
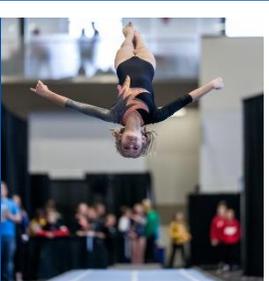


# COVID-19 Return to Play Guidelines



**44,000+  
Members**



**79  
Member  
Clubs**




AGF Member Clubs,

On June 9, 2020, the Government of Alberta announced that it would be accelerating its relaunch strategy in response to continued declines in active COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations. As a result, Phase 2 of Alberta's Relaunch Strategy was moved up from June 19<sup>th</sup> to June 12<sup>th</sup> and certain activities originally planned for Phase 3 were moved up to Phase 2. Included were team sports, indoor recreational fitness, and sport facilities, including gymnastics!

This document and its supporting resources are intended to help you, our AGF member clubs, create and implement your own COVID-19 Return to Play strategies and was developed in accordance with Government of Alberta and Alberta Health Services guidelines and public health orders. It includes requirements that clubs must implement as part of their reopening strategy to ensure the safe, responsible, and low-risk delivery of operations, training, and programs. This document, along with other helpful resources and Government of Alberta links, is also available on the [AGF COVID-19 Return to Play webpage](https://abgym.ab.ca/Safe-Sport/COVID-19-Return-to-Play) (<https://abgym.ab.ca/Safe-Sport/COVID-19-Return-to-Play>).

I can appreciate how excited everyone is to re-open. However, please be sure that you are ready for this next step. Read this document thoroughly and ensure you are adhering to all requirements. It is also strongly recommended that you consider a staged approach to re-entry so you can properly retrain your coaches and staff with the new protocols. Gymnastics will look very different as we begin this stage and all members will need to proceed with caution and certainty that all requirement protocols are in place.

We call on everyone involved – administrators, coaches, athletes, volunteers, families, and the broader community – to take individual responsibility and respect the health of those around you.

We look forward to getting back to our sport!

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'R. McDougall', written in a cursive style.

**Robin McDougall**  
Director of Operations  
Alberta Gymnastics Federation

# Before Reopening

AGF member clubs must meet the following criteria before reopening:

**1) Designate a COVID-19 Safety Coordinator(s):**

This individual will be your key resource and central point of contact for all COVID-19 related matters for your club. The safety coordinator will be responsible for such areas as:

- Familiarizing themselves with the guidelines in this document and overseeing their implementation.
- Liaising with your staff; educating and communicating correct protocols.
- Liaising with AGF staff to answer question and stay abreast of any updates to protocols.
- Proofing/providing feedback on all materials related to COVID-19 before being published to your members.
- Periodically reviewing the club's plans to ensure all protocols are being followed.
- Keep up to date on the ever-changing government documents.
- Serve as your club's contact person for any COVID-19 related matters.

**2) Develop a Return to Play Plan:** All actions must meet or exceed those listed in this document. Fulfilling the checklist requirements in this document and providing a signed copy to AGF will also be accepted as a club's Return to Play Plan.

**3) Review Plan with an AGF Staff Member:** You can present your club's plan to an AGF staff member either by sharing a written document and supporting resources and/or by organizing a walkthrough via Zoom. Email [operations@abgym.ab.ca](mailto:operations@abgym.ab.ca) to schedule an appointment and to share your plan.

**4) Obtain AGF Approval to Reopen:** This may be provided immediately following your review with an AGF staff member or once any outstanding areas for improvement are addressed.

**NOTE:** All resources directly linked to in this document are available on [AGF's COVID-19 Return to Play webpage](http://www.abgym.ab.ca/Safe-Sport/COVID-19-Return-to-Play) (www.abgym.ab.ca/Safe-Sport/COVID-19-Return-to-Play) where they will be updated in accordance with evolving Government of Alberta guidelines.

# Planning & Preparation Checklist

Please complete the following checklist in preparation for your review meeting with an AGF staff member.

## General

- The following governments websites have been reviewed by club administrators and COVID-19 Safety Coordinator(s) and will be revisited on a regular basis:
  - [Alberta Biz Connect](#)
  - [Alberta's COVID-19 Response Recommendations for PPE](#)
  - [Return to Sport, Physical Activity and Recreation – Stage 2 Guidelines](#)
  - [Alberta's General Relaunch Guidance](#)
- Cohorts (athletes, coaches and staff) cannot exceed 50 people.
- Whenever possible, activities will be re-located to outdoor settings instead of indoors.
- Facility ventilation systems are operational.
- Natural ventilation will be provided by opening windows and doors wherever possible to increase air flow.
- All unnecessary communal items have been removed or shut down (e.g. chalk buckets, candy bowls, magazines, complimentary phone chargers, water fountains/stations).

## Staff & Volunteers

- Staff have been assigned equipment and supplies for individual use and protocols are in place to avoid any unnecessary sharing.
- Protocols are in place to ensure any staff who are exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19, who have travelled internationally in the past 14 days, or who have been in close contact with a case of COVID-19 in the last 14 days are identified and instructed to stay home and isolate.
- Staff have been educated about COVID-19 and how it is transmitted (i.e. droplet and contact transmission).  
**Resources for Sharing:** [COVID-19 Info for Albertans webpage](#) | Email [wag@abgym.ab.ca](mailto:wag@abgym.ab.ca) to request a recording of the "COVID-19 The Facts and Implications for Health and Gymnastics" AGF webinar held on April 21, 2020.
- Hand hygiene is enforced among staff.

## Points of Entry & Controlling Access

- Physical barriers have been put in place to separate front-desk attendants and patrons.
- Hand sanitizer (60% alcohol or higher) is available at entry and exit points, and patrons are encouraged to also bring their own. [View Gov't of Canada approved list of disinfectants and hand sanitizers.](#)
- Physical contact is limited through use of online payment and registration or hands-free check in. If contact with a device is required, a staff member will sanitize that device before the next person uses it.
- Request that participants arrive no more than 5-10 mins before their scheduled training or activity.
- Activities are coordinated to allow for ample cleaning between cohorts, to avoid crowding and to reduce wait times.

## Screening

- All participants are instructed to complete the COVID-19 [Daily Screening Checklist](#) prior to entering the facility and/or participating in any activity.
- Any participant that is exhibiting any [COVID-19 symptoms](#) will not be allowed to enter the facility or participate.

## Sanitation, Cleaning & Disinfecting

- Hand sanitizer is provided throughout the facility and all hand washing sinks are fully stocked with soap and paper towels.
- Staff responsible for cleaning have been familiarized with the cleaning and disinfecting guidelines in Alberta's [General Relaunch Guidance](#) document and are implementing these guidelines.
- Staff responsible for cleaning have been familiarized with the [Gymnastics Equipment Cleaning Guidelines](#) and are implementing these guidelines.

## Locker Rooms & Change Rooms

- To discourage the use of locker rooms and change rooms as much as possible, participants are being encouraged to come dressed for their activity.
- Surfaces, sinks and toilets are cleaned and disinfected regularly.
- All self-serve and common-use items such as hair dryers, scrunchies, make up, showers etc. have been removed or closed.

## Physical Distancing

- No gymnastics skills or activities that require spotting are permitted.
- Participants and spectators are prompted and monitored by staff to ensure physical distancing of 2 meters or more is maintained in lobbies, change rooms, multi-purpose rooms, bleachers, viewing areas etc.
- For high intensity physical activity areas equipment is kept at least 3 meters apart.
- Measures are in place (e.g. directional arrows) that promote one-way traffic flow to avoid individuals from inadvertently interacting.
- Markers (e.g. signage or stickers) on the wall/floor have been placed 2 meters apart to show participants where to stand.
- Procedures have been put in place to allow for uncongested drop off and pick up of participants (e.g. Drive-thru lanes for participant pick up and drop off, dedicated entrances and exits for incoming and outgoing participants).
- Common area chairs and tables have been stacked, roped off or removed from the area to promote distancing.

## Spectators

- The maximum number of people that a spectator space can hold while ensuring 2-meter physical distancing guidelines are followed has been identified. Measures are in place to ensure that number is not exceeded at any time.

**Notes:** A maximum of 100 persons cannot be exceeded even if the space allows.

Unless from the same household, spectators must maintain a minimum 2-meter distance from one another at all times, whether the activity is indoor or outdoor.

It is strongly recommended that all spectators wear masks, especially in an indoor setting. Cheering and yelling is strongly discouraged at this time as it presents a high risk of spreading droplets.

## Encouraging Participant Hygiene

- Participants are not permitted to share personal items or training equipment (e.g. grips, slippers, wrist bands, wrist supports, ankle braces, tape, water bottles etc.)
- Participants are instructed to bring their belongings in a bag and come dressed for their activity as locker facilities will not be available.
- Participants are instructed to bring personal chalk containers and wash hands after using equipment.
- Protocols are in place to enable and encourage participants to perform frequent hand hygiene before, during and after the activity. Tip: Encourage participants to carry and use their own hand sanitizer.
- Participants are reminded to refrain from touching their eyes, nose, mouth and face.
- Participants are reminded to exhibit good respiratory etiquette (i.e. sneezing or coughing into the crook of their elbow or a tissue, no spitting, no clearing of nasal passages).

## Communications

- All athletes, coaches, staff and spectators have been communicated to about the risk of COVID-19 and practices that should be undertaken to mitigate risk.
- Appropriate Government of Alberta posters are prominently displayed throughout the facility, including:
  - Physical distancing expectations
  - Hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette
  - Cleaning and disinfection practices

**Resource:** [View Government of Alberta Posters](#)

## Weights and High Intensity Equipment

- Weight equipment area has been reconfigured to promote physical distancing.
- High intensity equipment such as treadmills or stationary bikes have a physical barrier in-between or have been placed a minimum of 3 meters apart.
- This type of equipment will be cleaned after each individual use.

## Rapid Response to Symptomatic Individuals

- ❑ A rapid response plan is in place to manage symptomatic athletes, coaches, staff and spectators. Details for this plan can be found in Alberta's [General Relaunch Guidance](#) document.
- ❑ Rapid response plan is in place that takes into consideration:
  - ❑ Immediate isolation of the symptomatic participant from others, including safe travel home
  - ❑ Consideration of cancelling the current training session.
  - ❑ Immediate washing of hands by all other participants.
  - ❑ Immediate cleaning and disinfection of all equipment and surfaces that the symptomatic participant may have touched/come in contact with.

## Food & Beverage

- ❑ Vending machines within the facility are cleaned frequently as part of the cleaning schedule.
- ❑ All members have been notified that no food and beverage is to be shared between individuals.

## Considerations for Modifying Activities

- ❑ Considerations have been given for modifying activities on equipment.  
**Resource:** [View the Return to Play Tips for Coaches document.](#)
- ❑ Where possible, activities are being modified and moved outdoors.
- ❑ If participating in activities such as Acro where participants are required to have physical contact, those groups are remaining as one cohort and will not mix or change with other cohorts until Phase 3.

## Public Health Recommendations

- ❑ Athletes, coaches, staff and spectators who become symptomatic are being asked to leave immediately and instructed to isolate from others.
- ❑ Club protocols are in place to keep records of all athletes, coaches, staff and spectators for a period of two weeks should contact tracing data be required by the Government of Alberta or Alberta Health Services, resulting from a case of COVID-19 being linked to the facility.

## Masks & Gloves

- ❑ Masks and gloves are readily available for coaches, staff and athletes in case emergency contact is required, such as tending to an injury.
- ❑ Participants are instructed not to wear masks during periods of activity.
- ❑ Coaches and staff are given the option to wear masks should they choose.
- ❑ Coaches and staff have been instructed on how to properly wear a mask should it be required.  
**Resource:** [Government of Alberta Information Regarding Masks](#)

## Competitions & Travel

- No competitions are being scheduled as part of Phase 2.
- No cross-jurisdictional or inter-regional play will occur in Phase 2; all activities and participants in the gym are from the local community.

## Comments or Additional Measures

I have reviewed and completed the above Checklist for and on behalf of the gymnastics club listed below. The completed Checklist represents a true and correct reflection of the organization's approach to each of the considerations set out in the Checklist.

### Club Administrator

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### Designated COVID-19 Safety Coordinator

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_