

Cleveland Rowing Foundation

Phase III COVID-19 Re-Opening Procedures

Overview – Building on the success of Phase II, CRF announces the Phase III expansion of rowing operations effective Tuesday, September 29, 2020. Under Phase III, CRF expands rowing to **pairs, doubles, quads, and bow-loaded fours for non-cohabitating individuals**. Phase III also includes required self-reporting for confirmed COVID-19 cases in order to protect other boathouse users. Note, that Phase I and II protocols (appended to this document), continue to be in place, and are applicable for all persons utilizing CRF facilities.

Phase III Requirements

Maintaining Compliance with ODH - The determination of whether rowing will be permitted for pairs, doubles, quads, and bow-loaded fours for non-cohabitating individuals each day will be determined utilizing the Ohio Public Health Advisory System (<https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/public-health-advisory-system/>). CRF strongly recommends that Member Organizations expand rowing operations only if the number of new COVID-19 cases per capita for each of the counties of Cuyahoga, Lake, Geauga and Loraine is less than 50 per 100,000 for the prior two weeks, pursuant to USRowing's Re-Opening Considerations issued on July 28, 2020.

County Escalation to Level 4 Public Emergency Status - Should Cuyahoga County move to a Level 4 (Purple) and/or if the infection rate exceeds the USRA Standards, all organized rowing activities will cease. Specific Attention to ODH August 28 Order - Member Organizations shall review and comply at all times with the Ohio Department of Health Director's First Amended Order that provides Mandatory Requirements for Youth, Collegiate, Amateur, Club and Professional Sports, as issued on August 28, 2020 (<https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/static/publicorders/DO-Sports-First-Amended-08.28.20-Reader.pdf>).

Practice Limitations - Practice limited to once per day for a maximum of 90 minutes of on water activity or two hours on the premises.

Increased Allowed Shells - During hours of operation, pairs, doubles, quads, and bow-loaded fours of non-cohabitating individuals may row. Social distancing must be maintained before and after on-water activity but is not required while on the water. Bow-Coxed 4's or Quads 4-/4X, because they have no cox or the cox is at the front of the shell where they are not in a location where they can be affected by rowers' exhalation/breath, are subject to the following additional requirements:

- A. All coaches and coxswains must wear masks at all times on the boathouse property. CRF strongly recommends that all rowers in the shell wear a mask during the entire on-water session.
- B. If possible, athletes should row in the same shell, with the same oars, and in the same line-up as often as possible (except the coxswain). Coaches must keep records of line-ups in case contact tracing is necessary.

Practices will get as close as possible to creating a “household” like group of athletes designed to reduce the chance of exposure and transmission between the athletes and other groups/families etc.

CRF will work with Member Organizations to coordinate training times that minimize the number of rowers on site at any given time.

COVID Exposure Response within the Cleveland Rowing Foundation Community

Mandatory Reporting – Any Member Organization participant who (a) tests positive or (b) has had Close Contact with a person diagnosed with COVID-19 (regardless of symptoms or no symptoms) must self-report to the team’s head coach **and** contact Kirk Lang, CRF Executive Director immediately. The head coach must provide Mr. Lang with the record of individuals with close contact. The individual must self-quarantine for 14 days, and provide documentation of a negative COVID-19 test to the Head Coach and Mr. Lang before returning to CRF premises. The individual additionally must provide the Head Coach with a doctor’s note indicating they are cleared to resume participation in training.

Depending on the exposure, partial or entire Member Organizations may be subject to shut down for a period of time in order to clean any equipment or areas which may have been compromised.

Traveling to Restricted States - Participants who travel to states listed on the Ohio Department of Health’s COVID-19 Travel Advisory must self-quarantine for 14 days before returning to CRF premises.

Key Definitions and Excerpts from References:

CDC Guidelines on Close Contact

“Close Contact” means any individual who was within 6 feet of an infected person for at least 15 minutes starting from 2 days before illness onset (or, for asymptomatic patients, 2 days prior to positive specimen collection) until the time the patient is isolated.

USRowing Guidance (as of 7/9/20)

USRowing continues to recommend NOT rowing in eights, or in other team boats where boatmates are not from the same household, due to the possibility of the transmission of the disease through respiratory signature. A respiratory signature is the footprint we leave in the air each time we expel air from our lungs through our nose and/or mouth. This footprint increases during exercise.

Nothing is “zero” risk and there is no predicting the change in viral patterns. Recommendations for one location may not be appropriate for a different area. It is important to be nimble and be able to adjust your training guidelines as local trends change.

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Phase II COVID-19 Re-Opening Procedures Effective June 5, 2020

Overview – Building on the success of Phase I, CRF announces the Phase II expansion of rowing operations effective **June 5, 2020**. Under Phase II, launch use is permitted for CRF coaching-certified persons. Note that Phase I protocols (appended to this document), continue to be in place, and are applicable for all persons at CRF, now including those operating launches (e.g. self-assessments required prior to arriving at the boathouse, face masks worn at all times when not on the water, etc.).

New Operating Hours:

- Sunrise - 11:00 a.m.
- 12:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. and
- 4:00 p.m. - Sunset

Increased Number of Reservation Slots

The number of 15-minute reservation slots is increased from 6 to 10, permitting increased traffic at the boathouse.

Launch Cleaning – The orange utility boxes Coaches bring to the launch contain a spray bottle of disinfectant solution. After an on-water session, the Coach must spray all parts of the launch contacted, including:

- Steering wheel
- Rope
- Throttle
- Seat
- Orange box handle

Launch Capacity – Because social distancing cannot be maintained with passengers on a launch, absent an emergency (e.g. water rescue), only one Coach may be present on a launch at any given time.

PFDs and Radios – CRF recommends that Coaches supply their own radios and/or PFDs. All equipment must be sterilized between use.

Gas Shed – CRF staff will maintain gas in wakeless launches, however a spray bottle is available next to gas shed.

Post-Workout Talk – Post-workout talks may only be conducted while all parties comply with 6-foot social distancing and are wearing masks. Talks must be brief.

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Phase I COVID-19 Re-Opening Procedures Effective May 26, 2020

Overview – As we enter Phase I re-opening at CRF, our first priority remains membership safety. The Board of Directors has developed these procedures to follow current government orders and in consideration of USRowing recommendations. These procedures are subject to change at any time at CRF Board of Director discretion. Failure to comply may result in immediate suspension of rowing privileges, pending the outcome of a formal investigation. Violations may result in the partial or complete loss of privileges, without refund of fees, dues, or assessments.

Under Phase I, rowing activities resume for certain independent boats **on May 26, 2020**, with boathouse access and operations designed to support social distancing and enhanced cleaning measures. The success of Phase I depends on the cooperation of the boathouse community and will determine the potential to expand rowing opportunities as part of a Phase II plan.

Self-Assessments - Self-assess before coming to the boathouse. Stay home if:

- You have a temperature of 100.4°F/38°C or higher,
- You feel ill,
- You have been ill in the past 14 days,
- You have returned from outside the state within 14 days, or
- You have had contact with a person in the last 14 days who has had COVID-19.

If you become ill within a week of rowing at CRF, notify Executive Director Kirk Lang at clevelandrowing@gmail.com for the benefit of the community.

Hours of Operation – CRF is cleaning the premises multiple times per day, with specific attention to high-touch surfaces. To ensure completion of those tasks, the boathouse has hours of operation (including weekends) limited to:

Sunrise – 11:00 a.m. & 4:00 p.m. – Sunset

Allowed Persons & Boats – During hours of operation, **singles** may row, as well as **pairs, doubles, and quads of cohabitating rowers**. Per current USRowing recommendations, no team boats are allowed. Non-rowers and guests are not permitted on the premises.

Rowers must be safety-certified and permitted by their respective Member Organizations to be on the water. Prior to rowing, all rack and membership fees must be paid, and a signed waiver must be submitted to CRF.

Individuals classified by the CDC as “at risk” should consider staying at home.

Restricted Areas – To reduce the potential footprint for contamination, access to certain areas at CRF is reduced or eliminated.

For the sculling house, no more than four rowers may be inside at a time. One person per bay, unless two are required to carry a shell.

The large boathouse is to be accessed **only** to fill water bottles at the no-touch water fountain or to use the restrooms located below the kitchen. Restrooms are to be used at your own risk, with no more than one person in at a time.

No access will be permitted to the following areas:

- Weight room,
- Erg room,
- Showers/locker rooms,
- Stretching area near the front glass door,
- Large-boat bays,
- Kitchen, and
- Conference room.

Shell Sign-in/Sign-Out – CRF’s standard boat sign-in/sign-out procedures are suspended. Instead, you **must** reserve a timeslot to row with the **iCrew Rowing app** (in addition to any *equipment* reservation your Member Organization may requires). If you arrive early, wait in your car. Boats must also be signed in at the end of your row using iCrew. Blocks will be made available in 2-hour blocks. Plan for 30 minutes of that block to be dedicated for launch prep and return shell cleaning.

Efficiency – Once you are at the boathouse, your philosophy should be: “**Get in, train, get out.**” Do not risk your safety or that of your fellow rowers.

Face Masks – Face masks must be worn **at all times** when you are not on the water. Remember to bring a plastic bag to keep your mask dry while you row.

Hand Sanitizer – CRF will supply hand sanitizer, however members are encouraged to supply their own to ensure adequate availability.

Ramps – Both ramps are in use, but for one-way traffic only. Use the upstream ramp to access the dock, and the downstream ramp to return to land. Maintain social distancing with other rowers on the dock. Absent freighter traffic, only six boats may be on the dock at a time.

Soft Close – Soft close the boathouse if necessary. Disposable gloves and disinfectant spray will be available at the door.

Returning to the Dock – Prior to docking, don your mask. Resume social distancing on the dock and when putting your boat in slings to be cleaned.

Equipment Cleaning – All equipment must be cleaned after **every** row. Wash and dry your **oars**, the **shell**, and the **slings**.

CRF will provide soap and buckets. Rowers must provide their own towels and sponges, taking them home after each use. You may **not** bring bleach products if you choose to supply your own cleaner. Please be thorough but efficient.

Equipment Maintenance – Maintenance work (e.g. repairing, painting, or sanding) of shells or oars may only be conducted outside with adequate spacing for social distancing. Maintenance may only be performed on singles, doubles, pairs, or quads. Only private slings may be used.

Personal Property – *All items other than shells and oars (e.g. roof racks, hats, mirrors, etc.) must be removed from the sculling house prior to May 31, or they will be placed outside.* If you need to access any restricted areas of the large boathouse to remove personal property, you must first contact Kirk Lang for access (and to ensure those areas are then cleaned, as necessary). No bikes may be stored in the boathouse, however the bike rack outside at the back of the large boathouse will remain open for use.