



Roadmap to Recovery: Organized Lap Swimming Protocol & Recommendations

FACE COVERINGS: All industries must:

- Require their employees, contractors, owners, and volunteers to wear a face covering at the workplace and when performing work off-site;
- Inform customers about wearing a face covering, post signs, and advise those in line or in the store;
- Take reasonable steps to keep people not wearing a face covering from entering their business, and
- Refuse service to anyone not wearing a face covering.
- Exceptions: (1) a medical professional has advised against wearing a face covering for health-related reasons; or (2) wearing a face covering would create a risk to staff related to their work. (3) someone has trouble breathing or is unconscious, incapacitated, or otherwise unable to remove the face covering without assistance; or (4) children 2 years or younger. Children 2 – 12 years old are encouraged to wear a mask with adult supervision. Children 13 and older must wear a mask.
- For detailed information, visit: <https://www.yolocounty.org/coronavirus-roadmap>.

SOCIAL DISTANCING: All industries must utilize social distancing measures (of at least 6 feet), as well as in common spaces, such as breakrooms, meeting rooms, etc.

AUGUST 4, 2020

Organized Lap Swimming Protocol

BACKGROUND

In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, Yolo County will allow the reopening of Pools for lap swimming provided a COVID-19 compliance supervisor is on site, with the following guidelines in order to protect the safety of guests and employees.

According to the [CDC](#), there is no evidence that the virus that causes COVID-19 can be spread to people through the water in pools, hot tubs, spas, or water play areas. Proper operation and maintenance (including disinfection with chlorine and bromine) of these facilities should inactivate the virus in the water. Individuals over the age of 65 and those with underlying medical conditions are at higher risk for severe COVID-19 infection and should take extra precaution when in public.

PROTOCOLS

The following protocols are required for resuming organized lap swimming:

- When not in the water and social distancing cannot be maintained, everyone must wear a face covering pursuant to Yolo County Health Order.
- To ensure social distancing can be maintained, lap swimming/swimming lanes should be used in all public and community pools. Swimming lanes should be a minimum of 6 feet wide, with no more than two swimmers per lane. If two swimmers are in a lane, they should start from opposite ends of the pool so that the two swimmers are never on the same wall at the same time.
- Locker rooms and water fountains should remain closed, with the exception of restroom facilities.
- Swim teams, swim meets, swim lessons and large group practices are not permitted; nor are social gatherings on the pool deck.
- If pool operators are allowing lap swimming for those over 65 years of age and other vulnerable populations, they are required to provide dedicated lap swimming time restricted to only those groups.
- Group games such as water volleyball, water basketball, cross pool, water polo, which involve multiple people interacting in close proximity, are prohibited until further notice.
- Coaches and other pool staff will be responsible to enforce social distance protocols while in the pool and at the facility.
- When possible and safe to do so, consider opening/propping open doors within the facility during high-traffic periods to minimize repeated contact with a surface. This is not permitted for the entry gate or door to the facility.
- Establish one-way customer traffic through areas to minimize social congregation.
- Implement a method for contactless check-in and check-out of a facility visitor with the pool staff or their coach.
- Designate a site-specific COVID-19 compliance supervisor to enforce this guidance. The designated COVID-19 compliance supervisor shall be present at the pool site during the managed function. The COVID-19 compliance supervisor can be staff, coach or volunteer who is designated to carry this role (not the lifeguard). Public swimming pools, therapy and lap swimming pools that do not have employees, lifeguards, or coaches on deck to monitor social/physical distancing shall remain closed until further notice.
- All public pools must consistently monitor, at no less frequent intervals than every half hour, the pool area to ensure that social distancing is being observed. If a pool does not have staff to monitor the pool at these regular intervals it must remain closed until the order is modified or lifted.
- Pool operators may allow swimmers from the same household to split a lane.

Sanitization and Disinfection:

Implement rigorous daily cleaning protocols for all areas, including communal rooms, restrooms, handrails, tables, faucets, and door handles. Refer to CDC Cleaning and Disinfection for Community Facilities.

- Sanitize and disinfect all areas, giving special attention to tools, equipment, restrooms, food service areas, and common surface areas before anyone returns to work. Refer to CDC Cleaning and Disinfection for Community Facilities.
- Stack and stow all pool furniture or equipment as pool furniture cannot be reliably disinfected between each user; consider having pool patrons bring their own chairs each time they come to the pool.
- Make available to all employees and guests soap and water for handwashing, and/or provide alcohol-based hand sanitizer containing at least 60 percent alcohol.
- Frequently clean and sanitize, in accordance with CDC and EPA guidelines, all high-traffic and high-touch areas.
- When cleaning, follow appropriate safety guidelines includes the use of appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE), such as gloves or eye protection. Ensure all chemicals are labeled and kept in closed containers, secured safely away from children and any food.
- Ensure cleaning procedures following a known or potential exposure in a facility comply with CDC recommendations.
- Increase time between swim sessions to allow the water chemistry to be tested and surfaces disinfected.
- Have a deep cleaning response plan in place, in the event of an employee or guest testing positive.

Employee and Guest Care & Safety:

- Require employees, volunteers and guests to stay home if they are sick
- Additional recommendations for pool facility employees:
 - Establish and post a plan and expectation for employees to report a positive case of COVID for themselves or for a close family member residing in household. Prepare a response plan for mitigating potential exposure to other employees. Only for those with a positive COVID diagnosis; require a medical clearance to return to work Ensure that employees are aware of any sick leave policies and encourage managers and supervisors to be flexible in applying those policies.
- Pool providers should maintain active contact lists for all employees and facility visitors in the event of an exposure where contact tracing may be deemed necessary.

Client/Customer Care & Safety:

- Place conspicuous signage at public entrances alerting clients to the social distancing requirements.
- For any expected queues or lines, demarcate, such as the use of tape on the ground, six feet of spacing to demonstrate appropriate spacing for social distancing.
- Do not share supplies or equipment. Swimmers should be directed to use their own equipment from home.
- Any swimmer-provided equipment should not be stored at the facility.
- Clean and disinfect any equipment used after each use.

RESOURCES

Yolo County

<https://www.yolocounty.org/coronavirus>

<https://www.yolocounty.org/coronavirus-guidance>

<https://www.yolocounty.org/shelter-in-place>

<https://www.yolocounty.org/coronavirus-roadmap>

State of California

<https://covid19.ca.gov/>

California Department of Public Health

<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/Immunization/ncov2019.aspx#>

Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

[What to do if you are sick](#)

[Prevent the Spread of COVID-19 Fact Sheet](#)

USA Swim

https://www.usaswimming.org/docs/default-source/coaching-resourcesdocuments/covid-19-team-resources/facility-reopening-plan-guidelines.pdf?sfvrsn=8a533a32_2