

5/6/2021- Return to Play/Practice Update:

Having successfully implemented Phase 1 of our Return to Play we developed next steps in order to move to Phase 2. With athlete safety as our top priority, we want to ensure that athletes have a full season to train prior to competing in competition. Below will detail out our plans as of 5/6/2021.

Once all covid-19 education team requirements are met and the coach receives state office approval, athletes may begin practice/training/competition in the following sports in-person: Athletics (track (Running events: 100m, 200m, 400m, 1500m, 3000m) and field events (Shotput, Long Jump, Mini-Jav)) and Bocce. Athletes may begin practice/training but no competition in the following: Athletics (Standing long jump, Softball throw, 25m, 50m and developmental athletics)

**Any coach that has hosted practices for fall/winter and successfully completed step 1 may move to step 2 with approval of the state office. The state office will contact coaches and area directors to let them know they may move to phase 2.*

** New coaches will begin at step 1. Prior to starting coaches must receive official communication from the state office that they can start.*

**As a reminder athletes ages 13-19 are required to obtain a weekly negative test for Covid 19. Any individual with proof of being fully vaccinated will be exempt from weekly testing. Refer to your Area Director for further information.*

Phase 1- released on September 1st, 2020

- **Step 1** – No more than 10 people in one location at a time
 - **All coaches must attend and complete the following:**
 - Attend a return to play webinar hosted by SOMI staff on pre-determined dates/times
 - Notify Field Service: What sport starting, submit coaches contact information, list of athletes returning
 - Submit Covid-19 Code of Conduct for coach(es) and athletes
 - Take SOI online trainings
 - Be cleared by Field service before first gathering/practice
 - Begin practice and submit weekly sign in sheets
 - **All Chaperones/volunteers are required to sign the code of conduct and complete the SOI trainings.**
- **Step 2**- having successfully completed and executed **Step 1 for a minimum of 4 weeks**, have No documented Covid-19 Cases and held consistent weekly practices
 - **Increase to 25 people in one location at a time**
 - **If a change of seasons or new/different athletes: submit new roster of athletes/coaches/chaperones to Field Service**
 - **If new chaperones are needed with the growth in numbers, they must attend the online SOI trainings and submit a Covid-19 Code of Conduct**



- All new athletes need current medicals on file and signed Covid-19 Code of Conduct submitted
- Once cleared by Field Service, may expand their numbers to 25 people attending practice
- Regional events/gatherings maybe held with groups of 50, however need to be approved/cleared by Field service prior to date of the event. Regional events/gatherings will not occur until you have gone through 8 weeks of training. Subject to change based on State of Michigan and SOMI guidance.

Forms/Trainings:

- Return to Activities: <https://learn.specialolympics.org/Default.aspx?ClientId=1>
- Coronavirus Outbreak: What you need to know: <https://learn.specialolympics.org/>
- Sign in Sheet: <https://www.somi.org/sites/default/files/resources/SOMI-SignInSheet-CovidTesting.pdf>
- Covid-19 Code of Conduct: <https://na2.docusign.net/Member/PowerFormSigning.aspx?PowerFormId=41ed40b0-e2d3-4580-a459-4694e7d95a42&env=na2&acct=c4907068-448c-47f5-974c-8b12f50d9d83&v=2>

Head Coaches Need the following completed and file prior with State office prior to start of any practices:

- Attend prearranged webinars
- Return to Activities: <https://learn.specialolympics.org/Default.aspx?ClientId=1>
- Coronavirus Outbreak: What you need to know: <https://learn.specialolympics.org/>
- Covid-19 Code of Conduct: <https://na2.docusign.net/Member/PowerFormSigning.aspx?PowerFormId=41ed40b0-e2d3-4580-a459-4694e7d95a42&env=na2&acct=c4907068-448c-47f5-974c-8b12f50d9d83&v=2>
- Pre-season completed Sign in Sheet as well as submit each week after practice: <https://www.somi.org/sites/default/files/resources/SOMI-SignInSheet-CovidTesting.pdf>

Volunteer/Chaperone Need the following completed and on file with State office prior to start of any practices:

- Return to Activities: <https://learn.specialolympics.org/Default.aspx?ClientId=1>
- Coronavirus Outbreak: What you need to know: <https://learn.specialolympics.org/>
- Covid-19 Code of Conduct: <https://na2.docusign.net/Member/PowerFormSigning.aspx?PowerFormId=41ed40b0-e2d3-4580-a459-4694e7d95a42&env=na2&acct=c4907068-448c-47f5-974c-8b12f50d9d83&v=2>

***All other coach/volunteer requirements apply, see SOMI.org for additional information.**

***Subject to State of Michigan and Department of Health and Human Services guidelines and restrictions**

***In the event the State of Michigan Updates Restrictions, SOMI will assess those changes and follow up with all areas to ensure we are following State of Michigan guidelines.**

***In the event a Facility has safety requirements different that SOMI's, teams should default to those safety requirements (i.e. SOMI may not require a mask, however if the venue does require masks then Participants should wear a mask.)**

