



COVID-19 WORKING GROUP UPDATE

June 18, 2020

Team –

The COVID-19 pandemic continues to present incredibly difficult and unforeseen challenges, forcing us all to adapt and think differently about how we work together to deliver on our commitment to both current and future generations of Team USA athletes. As we continue to listen, learn and cautiously reemerge, we value your ongoing feedback and solutions on how we can collectively achieve meaningful progress.

The following outlines some key insights we have learned over the past few weeks about the impact of COVID-19, along with several actions we are taking to address these needs in our Olympic and Paralympic community.

Please see below for a few important updates and continue to refer to TeamUSA.org/coronavirus for the latest information.

We look forward to working with you as we plan and begin our path forward.

Sincerely,
USOPC COVID-19 Working Group

Team USA Well-Being & COVID-19 Impact Study

The USOPC partnered with the Athletes' Advisory Council to commission a survey and gain a deeper understanding of the impact of COVID-19 on the Team USA athlete community, focusing specifically on athletes' mental, physical and financial well-being as a result of the pandemic and Tokyo Games postponement.

Team USA athlete feedback and perspectives were conveyed and heard through the survey results, producing several key themes. Based on these findings, we have identified actionable opportunities to enhance our service and support of athletes in collaboration with our engaged community of National Governing Bodies, partners and supporters. Additionally, the results will further aid in our ongoing assessment of the landscape surrounding return to training, competition and qualification.

A summary of the key findings and opportunities were shared with athletes earlier this week and can be found [here](#).

These opportunities are intended to be refined as we continue to listen, learn and adapt to the ever-changing environment – and we look forward to a collaborative process with athletes, NGBs and partners. Ongoing athlete input is essential to that process, and as a critical partner in that work, the AAC is opening dedicated communication channels to receive feedback.

U.S. Olympic & Paralympic Training Centers Re-entry

The process and planning for OPTC re-entry are underway with the aim to begin our gradual, phased return to training and operations next week. Our goal is to guide the return of athletes, coaches and staff

to our sites in ways, and on timelines, that are safe, prudent and consistent with local and state guidelines.

Friday, June 26 will mark the start of the OPTC re-entry process, including the beginning of a mandatory quarantine period followed by on-site COVID-19 testing, with the aim to resume training by early July for those who are cleared. We look forward to sharing the complete re-entry policies and protocols next week. Before initiating and communicating those plans broadly, we are taking this time to answer questions and gather ongoing input from athletes and NGBs.

We have heard a wide range of expectations, hopes and concerns about plans for the future, with some members of our community eager to return as soon as possible and others understandably still unsettled by prevailing risks. Our timing and strategy for re-entry will continue to be driven primarily by local and state regulations and above all, the health and safety of our athletes and all who support them.

Return to Travel Considerations

In response to a growing need among athletes, NGBs and staff, we are pleased to share the current status of travel policies and return to travel considerations, outlining detailed measures for both [international travel](#) and [foreign inbound travel to the United States](#). These resources are intended to be updated and refined at TeamUSA.org/coronavirus as we learn more and as the environment changes against the arc of the pandemic.

Domestic Policies

The nonessential travel suspension between the U.S. and Canada and the U.S. and Mexico has been extended to Tuesday, July 21. This suspension applies only to land ports of entry and ferry terminals, but does not include travel by air.

Passport Operations

On June 10, the Department of State announced a three-phase reopening of passport agencies and centers in the U.S. Fourteen out of 27 agencies and centers have begun Phase I as of June 16. An overview of each location's operating status and the services included in each phase of reopening is available [here](#).

Phase I:

- Limited numbers of DoS employees return to work to resume processing a limited number of applications already received.
- Continued prioritization of customers who need a passport in the next 72 hours for a life-or-death emergency (appointment required).
- Customers must wear cloth face coverings in all common areas, including lobbies, and observe strict physical distancing.

Passport applications that were submitted between late February through June 10 will likely require at least eight weeks for processing. Delays will persist for any new applications – if possible, please wait to submit applications until passport operations reach Phase III.

Airlines and Facial Coverings

Additionally, many major U.S. airlines – including United – have agreed to a set of policies that enforce facial coverings aboard their planes. If a passenger opts not to comply with these policies, the airlines have agreed that there will be “consequences for noncompliance.” These consequences will be determined by each carrier and may include suspension of flying privileges for that airline. As you travel, please be mindful of the policies implemented by your airline, accommodations and services that you may be using during your trip.