



UNITED STATES OLYMPIC & PARALYMPIC COMMITTEE

WEEKLY CORONAVIRUS UPDATE

March 11, 2020

Team –

As we look to further honor our commitment to transparency and keep our Team USA community safe and informed with the latest developments around the ever-changing Coronavirus (COVID-19), we are evolving our communication into a weekly update with the latest information related to medical, international travel, sport and facilities.

This update is informed and produced by members from the USOPC COVID-19 Working Group inclusive of medical staff, who continue to work closely with our Infectious Disease Advisory Group, and domestic and international professionals to ensure we are taking a fact-based approach as we closely monitor the environment to keep us all safe and healthy.

Our focus remains on the well-being of our Olympic and Paralympic community, and being ready for the Games. We expect to be in Tokyo this summer, and we will take every precaution to keep Team USA athletes and staff safe as we prepare. This includes working with athletes on a case-by-case basis to help them make informed decisions about their participation and protect their right to compete.

We urge you to look out for your own well-being, as well as the well-being of your athletes and colleagues, and take the necessary precautions to keep our community safe.

Sincerely,
USOPC COVID-19 Working Group

Medical

Today, the World Health Organization [officially declared COVID-19 as a global pandemic](#). As of March 10, the CDC reported a total of 647 COVID-19 cases and 25 deaths in the United States. Thirty-six states have confirmed COVID-19 infections. The highest number of cases are currently in Washington, California and New York followed by Oregon, Colorado, Texas, Georgia, Massachusetts and Iowa.

We continue to stress the importance of preventing the spread of infection through the following steps:

1. Avoid getting closer than 6 feet to anyone coughing or sneezing
2. Wash your hands frequently with soap and water for 20 seconds or use hand sanitizer that has 60-95% alcohol. This is especially important after going to the bathroom, before eating, or after blowing your nose, coughing or sneezing.
3. Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.
4. Cover your mouth with a tissue or your elbow if you cough or sneeze. Throw the tissue in the trash, and then wash your hands.
5. Stay home if you are sick.
6. Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces regularly
7. Monitor the [WHO](#) and [CDC](#) websites for travel advisories, and follow their recommendations.

If you are experiencing a fever, cough, shortness of breath, or just feel sick, be sure to check with your healthcare provider for advice. This is particularly important if you have been to a country within the past 14 days that has a higher risk for COVID-19 infection. As of March 10, high risk countries include China, Iran, Italy and South Korea.

For additional information, please refer to the [coronavirus resource page on TeamUSA.org](#).

International Travel

The ongoing outbreak of COVID-19 has impacted countries differently and prompted some governments to implement travel restrictions and new policies. Please review the Department of State's travel advisory and country information on [Travel.state.gov](#) and the [CDC site](#) for all countries before traveling abroad.

To slow the spread of COVID-19 in the U.S., the CDC is working with state and local public health partners to implement [after-travel health precautions](#), including:

- Generally, foreign nationals (other than immediate family of U.S. citizens, permanent residents, and flight crew) who have been in China or Iran in the past 14 days may not enter the U.S. This status does not include Hong Kong, Macau or Taiwan.
- American citizens, lawful permanent residents, and their families who have been in China or Iran in the past 14 days will be allowed to enter the U.S., but will be directed to one of 11 airports with enhanced public health services and protocols to undergo health screenings. Depending on their health and travel history, they will have some level of restrictions on their movements for 14 days from the time they left China or Iran.
- Italy and South Korea are conducting exit screenings for passengers traveling to the U.S. prior to boarding. If anyone left an area of widespread or ongoing community spread, like Italy or South Korea, upon entry into the U.S., they will be asked to stay home and self-quarantine for 14 days.
- Additionally, due to reduced staffing levels, Consular services are reduced in China, Italy and Mongolia.

Sport

- With the continued impact of COVID-19, International Federations are cancelling events. We know that athletes and NGBs are feeling the effect. The USOPC sport performance team wants to be as proactive as possible in preparing for the potential impact that any cancellations may have on qualification, eligibility and/or selection implications for Team USA in the lead up to the Olympic and Paralympic Games Tokyo 2020.
- IFs impacted by cancelled events are reviewing their qualification criteria for Tokyo 2020 and are evaluating possible solutions. We are on the look-out for any revised qualification systems or updates from the International Olympic Committee, International Paralympic Committee and IFs. We will continue to share any important updates and encourage NGBs to do the same since often NGBs are notified first through direct contact with your IFs.
- For NGBs, we want to stress the importance of reviewing your selection procedures now to identify any language needing clarification or steps to be modified due to the adjusted competition schedules or qualification process. Particularly in this time of uncertainty, athletes deserve as much advance notice of any modifications to the selection process as possible. Please notify your sport performance team if you are planning to submit amended procedures for review and we will be ready to move quickly.

Training Centers and Facilities

- Any OPTC program that is deemed mission critical (i.e. directly impacts Team USA's preparation for Tokyo 2020 and Beijing 2022) will receive advanced messaging as to how we are managing the evolving COVID-19 risk. Any athlete, coach or official who arrives at an OPTC and is showing one of the three COVID-19 symptoms (i.e. fever, coughing and/or shortness of breath) will not be granted access to the complex.
- All programming between now and the end of March that is not deemed mission critical will be cancelled, postponed or pivoted so as not to cause undue risk to athletes and employees.

- This includes youth development programs, community programs and outside user programs that are revenue-generating.
 - Nicki Skinner (Colorado Springs) and Julie Marra (Lake Placid) will communicate with each of the impacted training programs and community programs.
- OPTC tours will be restricted to only the Visitor Center and the tour operators will pivot the experience accordingly. We will not charge for these modified experiences.
- Similarly, all business development programs with previously scheduled access to athlete training facilities and campus-wide tours have been cancelled.
- Additionally, the UOSPC is taking the following risk mitigation actions for both OPTCs, HQ, Sport House, and, where applicable, at the Chula Vista Elite Athlete Training Center:
 - Enhanced cleaning of high-touch areas
 - Signage will be installed in high-traffic areas to encourage frequent handwashing and other best practices and recommendations from the CDC.
 - Dining halls to switch from a self-serve model to one in which OPTC staff will serve food (limiting hand-to-hand contact with serving utensils).