



COVID-19 WORKING GROUP UPDATE

March 20, 2020

Team –

Please see below for the latest updates related to the impact of coronavirus (COVID-19) on the Team USA community. For more information, please refer to the USOPC's resource page at TeamUSA.org/coronavirus.

Earlier today, USOPC CEO Sarah Hirshland and USOPC Chair Susanne Lyons addressed members of the media following the USOPC board of directors' meetings this week. The audio from that press briefing is available [here](#) via the [Team USA newsfeed](#). During that call, Hirshland reiterated the USOPC's unwavering commitment to the health and safety of our U.S. Olympic and Paralympic community:

“Let me ask for your help in making it very clear to the athlete population, and this is not only to the elite athlete population, but all the way down to every club and pool and rink owner out there. As Americans, right now, our No. 1 priority needs to be our health and safety and the containment of this virus, period, full stop. That should not conflict in any way with the decision someone is making about their training.”

Additionally, USOPC leadership [responded](#) today to USA Swimming's letter to postpone the Olympic and Paralympic Games Tokyo 2020. The response reaffirmed that “athletes should put their health and wellness, and the health and wellness of the greater community, above all else at this unprecedented moment” while ensuring that the USOPC does not “prematurely [take] away any athletes' opportunity to compete in the Olympic and Paralympic Games until we have better clarity.”

The USOPC's COVID-19 Working Group will continue to provide updates as more information becomes available. In health and sport, thank you for your ongoing commitment to keep our community safe.

Sincerely,
USOPC COVID-19 Working Group

Medical

- In response to the recent instatement of California's shelter-in-place order, the USOPC's sports medicine team will continue to provide essential, minimal staff support to Team USA athletes at the Chula Vista Elite Athlete Training Center.

International Travel and Domestic Policies

- Beginning at 12:01 a.m. on March 21, 2020, all non-essential travel across the [U.S.-Mexico](#) and [U.S.-Canada](#) land borders will be temporarily restricted for a period of 30 days. “Non-essential” travel includes travel that is considered tourism or recreational in nature.
- The Department of State advises U.S. citizens to [avoid all international travel](#) due to the global impact of COVID-19.

- The Department of State has established a global task force to help American citizens who are abroad to return home. Americans stranded abroad should [register online](#) so that the U.S. government can account for them.
- The Department of State has temporarily [suspended routine visa services](#) at all U.S. Embassies and Consulates. Embassies and consulates will cancel all routine immigrant and nonimmigrant visa appointments as of March 20, 2020. As resources allow, embassies and consulates will continue to provide emergency visa services. U.S. citizen services continue to be available.
- The Department of State has temporarily [reduced passport operations](#). Effective March 20, 2020, passport service will be limited to customers with a life-or-death emergency, or who need a passport for immediate international travel within 72 hours.
 - The Department of State will honor requests for expedited service that were submitted on or before March 19. Applications submitted on or after March 20 will not be eligible for expedited processing and routine service may be delayed.
 - U.S. passport agencies remain open at this time; however, some local passport application acceptance facilities (ex: post offices and libraries) may not accept passport applications at this time.
- A number of U.S. states and cities are employing precautionary measures – including closing schools, public sites and entertainment venues – to contain the spread of the COVID-19 please adhere to your state and county public health policies.

Sport

- The USOPC is encouraging each National Governing Body to reach out to their sport performance team to review and discuss changes that will be necessary to its High-Performance Funding and Athlete Support sections of their 2020 Statement of Performance Support. Additionally, NGBs should ensure to include their athlete representatives in any alternate plans and decisions.
 - High Performance Funding. The USOPC is aware that projects will need to be adjusted due to postponement, cancellation or changes in competitions. The USOPC's intent is to engage in conversation and make a joint decision on how to best utilize and reallocate those funds.
 - Athlete Support and Elite Athlete Health Insurance. The USOPC asks that you bring to attention any necessary changes to the athlete support criteria due to postponement, cancellation or changes in competitions. The USOPC would like to engage in conversation to ensure athletes aren't removed from support as a result of these changes.

Training Centers and Facilities

- The Governor's order in the state of Colorado regarding the closure of training venues and sit-in dining facilities has been extended to April 30. Therefore, the U.S. Olympic & Paralympic Training Center in Colorado Springs will remain closed for training until that date.
- CSOPTC dining hall hours have changed to the following:
 - Breakfast: 8-9:30 a.m.
 - Lunch: 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
 - Dinner: 5-7 p.m.
 - Snacks available 24 hours
- Beginning Monday, March 23, the CSOPTC front desk hours will be open from 10:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
All times are local.