

**Application for Variance
Douglas County Variance for Gyms**

Douglas County

As Approved on May 22, 2020

- 1. List the sections of Executive Order D 2020 044 and/or Third Amended Public Health Order 20-28 that a variance is being sought for.**

Response

Douglas County requests a variance to the following provision in Third Amended Public Health Order 20-28 as amended on May 14, 2020 (the “Order”), Section I.H¹, “Personal training and classes in any setting are limited to all members of a single household or a mixed group of 4 or fewer individuals complying with Social Distancing Requirements; except for members of a single household, sharing equipment is prohibited.” Douglas County proposes to allow personal training and classes in any setting for mixed groups of up to ten (10) individuals (e.g. 1 instructor and 9 students, 2 instructors and 8 students, etc.).

Douglas County requests a variance to Section II.A.4 of the Order closing all Gyms, as defined in Section III.F of the Order², to ingress, egress, use, and occupancy by members of the public. Douglas County proposes to allow buildings or rooms used for indoor exercise; fitness; dance; exercise or group classes; and exercise studios and centers subject to the restrictions contained herein. Buildings or rooms used for indoor sports, recreation centers, bowling alleys, pools, and other indoor athletic facilities would remain subject to all applicable provisions of the Order.

¹ Section I.H: Individuals may participate in local and personal recreation in outside public spaces, as an authorized Necessary Activity, in groups no larger than 10 and practicing social distancing maintaining 6 feet between participants. Travel for recreational purposes should be limited to your own community like your county of residence or traveling no more than about 10 miles. Playgrounds, playground equipment, pools, amusement parks and arcades remain closed. Personal training and classes in any setting are limited to all members of a single household or a mixed group of 4 or fewer individuals complying with Social Distancing Requirements; except for members of a single household, sharing equipment is prohibited.

² **Gym** means a building or room used for indoor sports or exercise, such as fitness, dance, exercise or group classes, exercise studios and centers, recreation centers, bowling alleys, pools, and other indoor athletic facilities.

2. Summarize alternate restrictions being proposed to replace the above-referenced restrictions and indicate where in the Plan these alternate restrictions are addressed.

Response

Personal training and instructor-led classes in any setting are limited to all members of a single household or a mixed group of up to ten (10) individuals (e.g. 1 instructor and 9 clients, 2 instructors and 8 clients, etc.) or 50% of the posted occupancy code limit ensuring a minimum of 28 square feet per person, whichever is fewer are allowed on an appointment-only basis subject to the following restrictions. Any matter not addressed herein remains subject to Sections II.G and II.I and Appendices A and D of Public Health Order 20-28 as amended on May 14, 2020.

- Signage at each entrance of the facility or location notifying customers and employees to stop if they are sick and ask them not to enter.
- Ask customers to exclude themselves from using the facility if they are experiencing symptoms of any illness.
- Prop entry doors open as much as possible to reduce touchpoints when safe to do so.
- Social distance spacing between clients during classes shall be maintained through spacing of equipment and exercise positions.
- All staff are required to wear face coverings or masks at all times.
- Customers should be encouraged to wear a face covering both when entering the facility and while in the facility, unless a face covering inhibits the participant's ability to participate in the fitness activity.
- Except for members of a single household, sharing equipment is prohibited.
- Employees shall disinfect equipment between clients' uses.
- Instructors shall record class attendance, including personal contact information for every client in attendance.
- Hand sanitization is required at all building entrances.
 - Provide additional hand sanitizer stations throughout facility
- Virtual lobby procedures shall be in place to prevent gathering in the physical lobby.
 - Implement mobile sign-in, reservation, and payment procedures
 - Remove furniture from, or close off, lobby or public gathering areas
- Post signs for showers and locker rooms as out-of-service; lavatories may be used.
- Post signs at entrances and throughout the facility as needed to remind customers of face coverings, social distancing, and proper hygiene guidelines.
- Make reasonable accommodations for vulnerable individuals who are still under the Stay at Home advisement. (e.g. assistance with equipment cleaning, special hours).
- Implement one-way entry/exit, and directional walkways as much as possible.
- Perform frequent environmental cleaning and disinfection of bathrooms and high-touch surfaces.
 - Disinfectant and cleaning supplies, along with instructions on proper use, are available to all employees.
- Limit operating hours for additional deep cleaning.

Gyms consisting of buildings or rooms used for indoor exercise; fitness; dance; exercise or group classes; and exercise studios and centers may open for activities in addition to personal training and instructor-led classes limited to all members of a single household or a mixed groups of up to ten (10) individuals or 50% occupancy ensuring a minimum of 28 square feet per person, whichever is fewer subject to the following restrictions.

- Occupancy of the facility shall be limited to 50% of the posted occupancy code limit ensuring a minimum 28 square feet per person not to exceed more than 175 people at any given time.
- Signage at each entrance of the facility or location notifying customers and employees to stop if they are sick and ask them not to enter.
- Ask customers to exclude themselves from using the facility if they are experiencing symptoms of any illness.
- An employee at the entrance(s) to ensure that the maximum number of customers is not exceeded.
- Do not allow customers to gather in a lobby area or in groups outside the entrance.
 - Remove furniture from, or close off, lobby or public gathering areas.
- Place tape or other markings at least six feet apart in customer line areas and on sidewalks to public entrances with signs directing customers to use the markings to maintain distance.
- Implement mobile sign-in, reservation, and payment procedures.
- All staff are required to wear face coverings or masks at all times.
- Customers should be encouraged to wear a face covering both when entering the facility and while in the facility, unless a face covering inhibits the participant's ability to participate in the fitness activity.
- Signs shall be posted at entrances and throughout the facility as needed to remind customers of face coverings, social distancing, and proper hygiene guidelines.
- Make reasonable accommodations for vulnerable individuals who are still under the Stay at Home advisement (e.g. assistance with equipment cleaning, special hours).
- Implement one-way entry/exit, and directional walkways as much as possible.
- Prop entry doors open as much as possible to reduce touchpoints when safe to do so.
- Spread people out so there is at least 6 feet distance between individuals throughout.
- Close off a sufficient amount of equipment such that at least 6 feet of distance can be maintained between individuals.
- Deploy additional hand sanitizer stations throughout facility.
- Except for members of a single household, sharing equipment is prohibited.
- Require customers to disinfect equipment after every use or require employees to disinfect shared equipment between customers' uses.
- Perform frequent environmental cleaning and disinfection of lavatories and high-touch surfaces.
- Limit operating hours for additional deep cleaning.
- Sport courts shall remain closed. Tennis and pickleball courts may be used for on-on -one play only; doubles play is prohibited.
- Saunas, steam rooms, pools (indoor and outdoor), locker rooms and shared spaces shall remain closed.
- Food/drink bars shall remain closed. Drinking fountains and similar water dispensers may remain open.