

Responsible RestartOhio



Fishing Tournaments

Tournament Directors

Mandatory

Tournament directors must develop formal safety protocols specific to their events. Those protocols should be made available in writing via email, web, or social media for organizers, event assistants, and participants.

General guidance should include the following:

- Tournament entry fees should be submitted online or via mail.
- Tournament payouts should be distributed via mail.
- Tournament results should be posted online vs. an on-site leader board.
- Limit boat occupancy to 50% of U.S. Coast Guard maximum capacity on plate.
- Stagger launch flights from access areas.
- Stagger return times for weigh-ins for tournaments that require them.
- Establish weigh-in procedures that promote social distancing.
- Discourage friends and family of tournament participants from attending the event.
- Maintain a list of participants for contact tracing if someone becomes ill during the event.

Day-of tournament preparation:

- Tournament staff and volunteers should conduct a personal symptom assessment prior to the event*. Symptomatic individuals must stay at home.
- Post a list of COVID-19 symptoms in a highly visible place at the event site.
- Provide the launch and weigh-in site with portable wash stations and soap or hand sanitizer for participants.
- Physically mark locations at 6-foot intervals to stage a weigh-in that encourages social distancing.

Tournament Implementation:

- Maintain 6-foot social distancing from those outside of your household to the greatest extent possible.
- All operators and volunteers must wear facial coverings, except for one of the following reasons:
 - Facial coverings in the work setting are prohibited by law or regulation.
 - Facial coverings are in violation of documented industry standards.
 - Facial coverings are not advisable for health reasons.
 - Facial coverings are in violation of the business' documented safety policies.
 - Facial coverings are not required when the employee works alone in an assigned work area.
 - There is a functional (practical) reason for an employee not to wear a facial covering in the workplace.

(Organizers must provide written justification to local health officials, upon request, explaining why an employee is not required to wear a facial covering in the workplace. At minimum, facial coverings (masks) should be cloth/fabric and cover an individual's nose, mouth, and chin.)

Recommended Best Practices

General guidance should include the following:

- Add a checklist of personal items (not shared) that directors and their assistants or staff should bring for each event.

Day-of tournament preparation:

- Develop a symptoms checklist for tournament organizers that accompanies the routine event checklist.

Tournament Implementation:

- Wear sunglasses or goggles.
- Do not touch eyes or face.

*Per the CDC, symptoms include cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fever, chills, muscle pain, sore throat, and new loss of taste or smell.

Mandatory

Tournament Directors *cont.*

- Wash hands frequently with soap and water or hand sanitizer.
- Clean and sanitize “high touch” surfaces before, during, and at the conclusion of the event.
- Do not share food, drinks, or coolers with others and store individual coolers apart.
- Immediately dismiss, isolate, and/or seek medical care for individuals that develop symptoms during an event.
- Contact local health district about suspected cases and exposures.

Recommended Best Practices

Participants

Day of the event:

- Each tournament participant should conduct a personal symptom assessment prior to leaving home.* Symptomatic participants should not participate in the event.
- Maintain a 6-foot distance from those outside of your household to the greatest extent possible.
- Wear face coverings unless in conflict with health conditions.
- Wash hands frequently with soap and water or hand sanitizer.
- Do not share food, drinks, or coolers with others and store individual coolers apart.
- Immediately dismiss, isolate, and seek medical care if symptoms develop during an event.
- Contact local health district about suspected cases and exposures.

Day of the event:

- Consideration should be given to cancelling participation for individuals who live with, or have traveled with, someone who is symptomatic.
- Wear sunglasses or goggles.
- Do not touch eyes or face.
- Social distancing:
 - Plan extra time to facilitate social distancing at access areas (e.g., launching and retrieving boats)
 - Avoid congregating before and after the event, particularly during the weigh-in.
 - Discourage friends and family from attending the event unless they are participants.

Confirmed Cases

- Immediately isolate and seek medical care for any individual who develops symptoms.
- Contact the local health district about suspected cases or exposure.
- Shut down affected areas for deep sanitation, if possible.

- Work with local health department to identify potentially infected or exposed individuals to help facilitate effective contact tracing/notifications.
- Once testing is readily available, test all suspected infections or exposures.
- Following testing, contact local health department to initiate appropriate care and tracing.
- Collect guest contact information as appropriate that can be shared with the health department for contact tracing purposes.