A Guide for Safely Reopening Bowling Alleys and Other Indoor Recreation Facilities

Under Gov. Justice’s reopening plan, West Virginia Strong — The Comeback, bowling alleys, pool halls, ice and roller rinks, and similar facilities of indoor amusement are to be allowed to resume operations. To do so, Gov. Justice has issued the following guidance to mitigate the exposure and spread of COVID-19 among staff and patrons. These guidelines, in addition to any and all relevant guidelines established by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the West Virginia department of Health and Human Resources (DHHR), will help West Virginians safely obtain the services provided by such facilities. These facilities are allowed and encouraged to implement more stringent protocols as they see fit.

Note: Effective as of November 14, 2020, all individuals over the age of 9 are required to wear face coverings while in confined, indoor spaces where other individuals may be present, regardless of ones perceived ability to social distance from other individuals, pursuant to the Governor’s Executive Order 77-20. This requirement does not apply to individuals in their own residence, individuals actively engaged in the consumption of food and/or beverage, and those individuals who are in an enclosed office or separate room.

Per CDC Guidance, exempt from this requirement are:

- children younger than 2 years old,
- anyone who has trouble breathing through a face covering, and
- persons who are unable to remove the face covering without assistance

As your business reviews and implements these new measures, we encourage you to share and discuss them with your employees and your patrons. Communicating enhanced cleaning and sanitization practices will make staff and patrons feel more confident in your facility.

Note Further: Such facilities should also consult the Guidance for West Virginia Small Businesses and Outdoor and/or Indoor Dining, as applicable, available at governor.wv.gov, to determine other best practices.

Failure to adhere to these guidelines may result in appropriate enforcement measures.

For more information, visit governor.wv.gov
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OPERATIONAL RESTRICTIONS/REQUIREMENTS

- **Plan:** Develop and implement appropriate policies, in accordance with federal, state, and local regulations and guidance, and informed by industry best practices:
  - Prepare the building for reopening;
  - Prepare your employees for their return to work;
  - Create a social distancing plan to manage and reduce excessive contact and interaction;
  - Create a plan for personal protective equipment;
  - Reduce touch points to the maximum extent possible;
  - Increase cleaning frequency and the availability of hand sanitizer, disinfectant wipes, and other DIY cleaning products to ensure touch points and common elements are properly sanitized between each use;
  - Establish an open line of communication with employees regarding safety.

- **Occupancy:** Limit facility occupancy as necessary to ensure proper social distancing may be maintained between patrons who do not reside together or did not otherwise arrive together, up to 100% of capacity to the extent square footage and/or seating permits.

- **Social Distancing and Equipment:** Implement strict social distancing guidelines of at least six feet between all individuals who do not reside together, modify scheduling to reduce unnecessary interactions to the greatest extent possible, adjust equipment layout and/or close or restrict access to equipment to maintain at least six feet of distance between equipment or facilities being used by customers.

- **PPE:** Per Executive Order 77-20, all individuals over the age of 9 are required to use face coverings (masks, bandannas, face shields, etc.) when in confined, indoor spaces where others may be present, other than for individuals in their own residence, individuals actively engaged in the consumption of food and/or beverage, and those individuals who are in an enclosed office or separate room.

- **Cleaning:** Ensure that staffing and supplies available for such facilities are sufficient to enable enhanced sanitization and cleaning measures in accordance with appropriate CDC guidelines.

- **Common Elements and Touch points:** All equipment used by patrons including without limitation bowling balls, pool cues, pool balls, ice and roller skates, and any other equipment that may be lent or rented to patrons for use at facilities, point of sale equipment, doorknobs, light switches, and buttons should be cleaned and sanitized between each use or touch. To the greatest extent possible, any and all equipment should not be shared between patrons who do not reside together, and any such equipment must be sanitized before and after use before use by another individual.

- **Payments:** Encourage customers to make non-cash payments.

- **Plan:** Plan for potential COVID-19 cases and work with local health department officials when needed (i.e., monitor and trace COVID-19 cases, deep-clean facilities).

- **Signage:** Post extensive signage on health policies, including the following documents in the workplace to help educate all on COVID-19 best practices:
  - CDC: Stop the Spread of Germs
  - CDC: COVID-19 Symptoms

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CUSTOMER PROTECTION

- **Customer screening:** Screen patrons for illness prior to entry:
  - Temperature checks
  - Have you been in close contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19?
  - Are you experiencing a cough, shortness of breath, or sore throat?
  - Have you had a fever in the last 48 hours?
  - Have you had persistent cough or difficulty breathing?
  - Have you had new loss of taste or smell?
  - Have you had vomiting or diarrhea in the last 24 hours?

- **PPE:** All patrons should be required to wear appropriate personal protective equipment at all times, including appropriate facial coverings as applicable.

- **Ventilation:** Keep doors and windows open where possible to improve ventilation.

- **Signage:** Post signs encouraging social distancing of at least six feet between individuals.

- **Cleaning:** Consider providing disinfecting wipes and hand sanitizer at common touch point locations and request that patrons clean/sanitize any touchpoints or common surfaces they come in contact with, in addition frequent and regular cleaning to be done by employees.

EMPLOYEE PROTECTION

- **Employee screening:** Screen all employees reporting to work for COVID-19 symptoms.
  - Temperature checks.
  - Have you been in close contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19?
  - Are you experiencing a cough, shortness of breath, or sore throat?
  - Have you had a fever in the last 48 hours?
  - Have you had persistent cough or difficulty breathing?
  - Have you had new loss of taste or smell?
  - Have you had vomiting or diarrhea in the last 24 hours?

- **PPE:** All staff should be required to wear appropriate personal protective equipment, including face coverings as applicable.

- **Training:** Provide training on PPE based on CDC guidelines.

- **Personal cleaning:** Provide a sanitizing station with soap and/or bottle of hand sanitizer and require regular hand washing.

- **Customer contact:** Limit customer contact to the greatest extent possible and require proper cleaning and sanitization between any necessary customer contact.

- **Distancing:** Practice recommended social distancing to the greatest extent possible.