



## ***Race Resumption Plan & Best Practices Plan***

### **Statement of Purpose:**

This Plan is a full understanding of necessary safe practices, including safe distancing and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) requirements, local, state and federal guidelines and the generally accepted attention to public health that will be expected of every commercial entity planning to conduct business activities in this COVID-19 changed environment.

The World Health Organization (WHO) recommends that event organizers consider the following three phases in planning appropriate preparedness health measures for sporting events:

- A. Planning phase – the period before the event when operational plans for health and security services during the event are developed, tested, and revised.
- B. Operational phase – the period after plans are finalized and event services are implemented; and
- C. Post-event phase – the period after the event finishes when participants are returning home and organizers are reviewing the event results and any follow-up actions that may be necessary, including reviewing lessons learned.

In a post-COVID-19 world, these phases become even more significant. These guidelines and best practices consistent with current health and safety standards for social distancing to enable off-road racetracks (outdoor recreation facilities) to resume limited operations. These limited operations will be conducted with full regard to public safety guidelines regarding social distancing and proper health measures to limit or eliminate exposure to possible respiratory illness.



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## **A. PLANNING PHASE**

During the Planning Phase, Organizers should develop health plans that they feel meet the current guidelines as set forth by the WHO and the US Depart. of Health & Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). This includes contacting local health authorities and officials and developing a direct line of communication.

### **1. Contact with Local Authorities:**

Contact with local health department and elected officials is critical. Organizers should appoint a liaison person to be the key contact with these officials. Regular contact should be maintained throughout the planning period to share information, risk assessments, and plans. Furthermore, Organizer should appoint a Health Executive In-Charge (HEIC) who shall be both knowledgeable of all aspects of the Safe-to-Race Task Force recommendations and responsible for implementation of these guidelines at the facility.

The Safe-to-Race (STR) Government Relations Committee recommends organizers follow the 5-STEP COVID-19 Communication Plan issued by the U.S. Motorsports Association (USMA) for guidance on how to reach out to local health department and elected officials for the purpose of developing a joint relationship and plan for the reopening of your facility.

The USMA 5-STEP plan provides advice on how it to: Step 1:

**PREPARE** to Contact your Local Officials Step 2:

**REACH OUT** to your Public Officials Step 3: **BUILD**

your Resumption of Racing Plan

Step 4: **FOLLOW-UP** and be persistent, but be respectful Step 5:

**PROMOTE** your economic benefits

The plan includes a sample template for an **Introduction Letter** for organizers to send to their local officials requesting their assistance with the re-opening their facility.

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/sd2b4o2oijabqn3/SAMPLE%20LETTER%20TO%20PUBLIC%20OFFICIALS.docx?dl=0>

The American Motorcyclist Association (AMA) has developed a useful tool for organizers to identify their local officials for this purpose. This link is very helpful.

<https://cqcengage.com/amacycle/app/lookup?0&m=38600>



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### **2. Risk Assessment:**

The decision to host any event of any size or to restrict, modify, postpone or cancel an event should be based on a thorough risk assessment. The WHO recommends organizers take into account specific features when assessing the risks of their event. These include:

- Crowd density
- Nature of contact between participants
- Indoors vs. outdoors
- Registered vs. non-registered participants
- Age of participants and their potential to be in a high-risk group
- Profession of the participants and their possible previous exposure
- Number of participants coming from countries of areas affected by the COVID-19 outbreak within 14-days of the event
- Duration of the event

Off-Road is an activity conducted at an outdoor, well-ventilated, fresh-air facility situated on tens, if not hundreds, of acres, generally located in rural areas. These venues provide non-designated, festival-type seating that can easily accommodate physical distancing guidelines. Fixed or permanent seating is rare and can be eliminated completely. Most events last one day only.

Racetracks range from 1.5 to 2 miles in length and from 30 to 40 feet in width.

Drivers arrive in their personal transport vehicles, including but not limited to pick-up trucks, vans, motorhomes or campers. Accompanied mostly by family members, they park and pit as a family unit, spread out through-out the facility.

Registration is required in order to participate. Drivers bring their own vehicles and their own racing equipment. Protective gear worn by Off-Road Drivers includes: full-face helmet, gloves, boots, etc.. They do not share their equipment.

Most Drivers are young, healthy and athletic, and include Drivers as young as 6 years old. They are not members of the elderly or the COVID-19 high-risk community. Most Drivers are students or young blue-collar professionals, and generally live within a 150-mile radius of the racetrack they are attending.

One key consideration for hosting a sporting event in the context of the current COVID-19 outbreak is whether the sport could be considered a lower or higher risk. Lower risk sports are those where physical distancing is possible. These will be less of a risk if physical distancing advice for athletes, coaches and spectators is followed. High risk sports include physical contact sports among players.

The goal for a Off-Road Driver is to NOT come into contact with another Driver. Given the key considerations above, Off-Road is a lower risk sport.

Initially, resumption of activity should be single-day, non-competition Ride Days or practice events with limited numbers of participants based on the size of the facility and in compliance with social distancing guidelines. As the health situation improves, multiple-day's events (generally Saturday/Sunday programs) can be added, as well as overnight camping. Ultimately, competition should be resumed in full.



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### **3. Medical Action Plan for COVID-19:**

Every event should have a Medical Action Plan in place in the event a person feels unwell/shows symptoms of an acute respiratory infection during an event. This plan should consider measures to:

- detect and monitor event-related COVID-19.
- reduce the spread of the virus.
- manage and treat ill persons.
- disseminate public health messages specific to COVID-19.

The Medical Action Plan developed here recommends the following in the event of a suspected COVID-19 case during a large or multi-day event:

1. Organizers should clearly identify whom to contact and where to go if someone gets sick.
2. Event medical staff and transportation services should be equipped to support patients with respiratory symptoms.
3. If anyone becomes sick at your event, separate them from others as soon as possible, and provide them with clean, **disposable facemasks** to be placed immediately.
4. Designate an isolation room or mobile isolation space in an area separate and apart from any other facilities or medical treatment areas, to isolate the sick person. A 10x10 canopy with sides should suffice.
5. Equip the space with several chairs, a table and storage bin stocked with personal protective equipment (PPE) sufficient to protect the sick person and medical staff.
6. Event medical staff will assess the sick person and determine the level of medical treatment, if any, necessary and whether the person requires emergency medical care.
7. If possible, symptomatic persons should leave the event immediately. Transportation can be provided by private means or medical transport, as determined by event medical staff. Public transportation, shared rides and taxis should be avoided for this purpose.
8. Event medical staff will determine if transportation to a medical facility is necessary, or whether self-quarantine at home is sufficient, in which case the sick person should leave the event immediately.
9. Assist event medical staff in developing a Contact List of all persons with whom the sick person had contact at the event.
10. Symptomatic persons should be suspended from further participation, no matter their role at the event (Driver, track crew, medical personnel, etc.).
11. Depending upon the jurisdiction, reporting to public health officials may be required. This will be the responsibility of the event medical staff.



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### **B. OPERATIONAL PHASE**

#### **1. Messaging & Risk Communication:**

Regular communication between event organizers, public health officials, participants, and the local community, before, during and after the event is key. Key messaging should be coordinated and consistent. We do not want to give conflicting information.

This communication should include:

- Sharing information with public health officials.
- Sharing information with participants on how to access health advice; and
- Sharing information with local population to alleviate health fears and concerns.

There are several ways to get your message out. Most effective means before and after an event include:

- Track website posts
- email to track builder list
- posts on community websites

Messaging during an event usually involves:

- on-site signage
- on-site public address (PA) system
- text messaging to registered participants
- LED Screen Messaging

Messaging should include information and advice to help ensure public awareness of the dangers of COVID-19. It is important to instill confidence in participants and the local community that good hygiene practices are in place.

Prepare a well-designed signage package with appealing graphics and informative content, placed in prominent locations throughout the facility, that is easy to read and guides participants on best practices. Support this messaging with friendly and informative PA announcements throughout the event.

Here are some messages that organizers should make available for their events:

#### **Prior to the event:**

*We hope to see you at our event. But your health and safety are most important to us. Here are some things you need to consider before your visit:*

- Ambulance and medics onsite the entire day
- Advance registration or online registration is required. No exchange of cash. It is fast, easy and safe



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- The CDC recommends persons who are sick with fever or cough, elderly or at high risk to stay at home. We do too. Please do not attend our event
- Please take your temperature before you leave home. If you have a temperature of at least 100.4 you have a fever and should stay home.
- If you know you have had contact with someone diagnosed with having COVID-19 in the last 14 days, please stay home.
- Respect our local community – wear gloves and wash hands if supporting our local businesses
- We know this all sounds awful, but it is for your own good and all concerned.

### **During the event:**

*We are glad you're here! Your health and safety remain important to us. Here are some things you need to know during your visit:*

- Practice social distancing – stand 6' apart
- Wear facemasks when closer than 6' of others
- Use our hand sanitizer and handwashing stations often
- If you are sick, please go home. You should not be here
- If you start to feel sick, go home and call you doctor
- If you are considered 'high risk', go home and visit us when it's safe to do so
- When not on track, please remain in your pit area.
- Do not roam or visit your neighbors. Use your phone for that
- Do not touch your face.

### **2. Staff Health & Safety:**

- a. Prior to opening all staff will receive a safety briefing on the proper conduct of personal safety measures, including use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and the social distancing policy for each functional area of the facility for both themselves and for participants. Safety briefings will be done separately for front gate, registration, track crew and concessions staff.
- b. PPE will be issued to all event staff based on their work location and function. All staff will have ready access to hand sanitizer at or near their workstations, which will be sanitized frequently. There will be a ready supply of PPE, sanitizing wipes, hand sanitizer, soap maintained throughout the event.
- c. Upon reporting to work, all staff will have their forehead temperature taken. Any staff demonstrating an elevated temperature will be sent home. Additional temperature checks will be required if staff start to feel ill.
- d. Shared equipment, tools, golf carts, microphones, radio equipment, etc., should be sanitized before and in-between use.



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- e. Working staff will be limited to the bare minimum necessary to safely conduct the limited operations of the facility.
- f. The Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs) will have the appropriate PPE as is now best practice in the medical field.

### **3. Participant Health & Safety:**

'Participant' includes: Drivers, crew members, guests, spectators, and all persons onsite.

- a. Advance online ticketing and electronic waivers for hands-free registration will be adopted where possible. Advance ticketing allows the organizer to limit the number of participants and provides the ability to communicate directly with them prior to, during and after the event. Online registration also allows organizers to require Drivers to confirm they are not ill or have any symptoms.
- b. Electronic waivers eliminate the requirement for a paper signature or use of a pen that can be shared. Organizers should consult with their insurance provider to determine the necessity of obtaining signed paper releases during a post-COVID-19 time. See, **Addendum A for Driver Registration/Check-in Options**.
- c. Participants will receive a printed handout upon entry detailing social distancing and facility rules regarding safe practices. These include avoiding groups, wearing facemasks always when not riding, use of hand sanitizer stations, etc.
- d. Competition Rules may be modified to meet social distancing guidelines where possible.
- e. Signs will be displayed at entry gates and throughout the facility regarding proper safe health practices and use of facemasks.
- f. Bleachers or any fixed seating in general spectating areas may be restricted and/or eliminated.
- g. To assist in keeping social distancing guidelines, participant admissions will be limited to a percentage capacity within given sections of the facility, e.g., the larger the area the larger the number of admissions.
- h. Primary First Aid Station will be provided at all events as normal.

### **4. General Measures:**

- a. Permanent and portable restrooms will be operated in accordance with community health standards. Portable restrooms will be spaced out through the facility, sufficient in number for the capacity expected. Each restroom will be sanitized on a regular basis and be equipped with a self-contained hand sanitizer.
- b. Unnecessary promotional activities may be eliminated: i.e., no autograph sessions, no VIP/promotional



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activities, no kids' activities, no large opening ceremonies, no large podium celebrations, etc.

- c. Display/Vendor stands will be operated in accordance with local health standards. The number of participants per display/vendor area will be limited in accordance with social distancing guidelines. Vendors must have sanitizers at their work areas.
- d. The common areas of the facility (i.e., Registration area, concessions, etc.) will receive regular cleaning with a commercial grade disinfectant solution either by spray or wiping.

### **C. POST-EVENT PHASE**

#### **1. After the event:**

In the event public health authorities suspect a COVID-19 transmission incident has occurred, organizers and participants should fully support the response of authorities.

- Organizers must meet with public health authorities and provide full disclosure of information about all symptomatic participants, if known.
- Persons who develop symptoms during the event should cooperate and isolate themselves, seek medical attention, and inform the appropriate public health authorities about their potential exposure, both in the county/state where the event was held and their home county/state.

#### **2. Lessons Learned:**

As always, it will be important for lessons from any event to be identified through review after the event so that they can be shared with other event organizers. We learn from our successes and our mistakes.

**Appendix A:** Best Practices: Off-Road

**Appendix B:** Resources



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## **ADDENDUM A**

### **ALL EVENTS:**

1. Social distancing is key. All protocols are designed with that mission in mind. Use signage and P.A. announcements on-site to continually reinforce that mission.
2. Pre-event online messaging will be used to educate participants about social distancing and reminding them to stay home if symptomatic
3. Staff will be screened for symptoms prior to each event.
4. A ready supply of PPE will be available: masks, gloves, hand sanitizers, soap, thermometers.
5. All doors, windows, workstations, equipment, and portable restrooms sanitized before, during and after an event.
6. Hand sanitizer stations located near portable restrooms
7. Hand sanitizer located at all staff workstations

### **MULTI-DAY EVENTS:**

**In addition to the above best practices for All Events, the following practices will be implemented for Multi-Day events:**

#### **Driver Registration:**

1. Advance registration or online registration required
2. Marked line positions 6 feet apart
3. Hand sanitizers inside and outside of window
4. On-site registration available with safety precautions in place to limit staff/Driver interaction
5. Credit card sales encouraged with chip reader to eliminate requirement of signature; receipts will not be given
6. No close contact required
7. Limited to Driver and mechanic only. No other support crew.
8. Drivers must be in full gear, including helmet
9. Drivers called one at a time to their staging position; positions are numbered with ample space for separation

#### **EMT/Security:**

1. EMT and ALS unit onsite, equipped with PPE
2. Medical Action Plan with isolation tent for suspected COVID-19 will be implemented
3. Security will enforce parking restrictions
1. Hand sanitizers inside and outside of window
2. Condiments and napkins given directly to customers upon request only



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### **COMPETITION EVENTS**

**In addition to the above best practices for All Events, the following practices may also be implemented for Competition events:**

1. Competition Rules will be modified to meet social distancing guidelines
2. No autograph sessions
3. Start Line limited to Driver and mechanic only.
4. Purse earnings or pay-offs will be mailed or made by direct deposit only. No payoffs on-site
5. Results will be posted online and in different locations around facility to avoid congregating
6. Safety teams and EMTs only permitted to tend to injured Drivers. No track crew, family members or friends