



# **COVID-19 RACE GUIDELINES**

## **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.

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 Snocross racing (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.

### **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

Snocross is an activity conducted at an outdoor, well-ventilated, fresh-air facility situated on large areas of land, 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 two days only.

Racetracks range from .5 to 1 miles in length and from 30 to 40 feet in width.

Riders 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. Riders bring their own snowmobiles and their own riding equipment. Protective gear worn by Snocross riders includes: full-face helmet, gloves, boots, long-sleeve jersey, race pants, etc.. They generally do not share their equipment.

Most Riders are young, healthy and athletic, and include Riders as young as 6 years old. They are not members of the elderly or the COVID-19 high-risk community. Most Riders 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



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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 Snocross rider is to NOT come into contact with another rider. Given the key considerations above, Snocross is a lower risk sport.

## **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.

## **OPERATIONAL PHASE**

### **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.



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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:

- Social media and website posts
- email to racer 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

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 preferred to avoid contact with our staff. It is fast, easy and safe
- Bring your own pen for Registration. We will not share
- Adult Riders and parents of minors only need attend Registration
- Protective barrier installed between staff and Riders for Registration
- Credit card payment preferred.
- 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.



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## **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
- Campfires are prohibited under the circumstances
- Do not touch your face.

## **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. Front gate, racer registration staff and trash-handlers will be required to wear facemasks and protective gloves at all times. Remaining staff (i.e., equipment operators, track crew, flaggers) will be required to wear facemasks anytime they are within 6 feet of the public or each other. 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.
- 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.

## **Participant Health & Safety:**

'Participant' includes: Riders, 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 Riders to confirm they are not



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ill or have any symptoms.

- b. 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.
- c. Participant parking will be spaced out to maintain distance between vehicles and will be organized in accordance with social distancing guidelines.
- d. Competition Rules may be modified to meet social distancing guidelines where possible. Riders Meetings will be conducted via FM transmitter.
- 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.

## **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 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.

## **POST-EVENT PHASE**

Hopefully you will have a safe and successful event. And with any event, a post-event review is wise. In this case, the following should be considered:

### **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.



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- 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.

## **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.