

With the rise in Covid-19 cases in Wisconsin as well as the upcoming tryout window for 15s and older, we wanted to provide some additional guidance for club directors. Please note that you as the club are responsible for knowing and abiding by the most-strict local regulations. We understand that this is not ideal, but we're all in this together to be able to provide athletes with playing opportunities in whatever form we can get them at this point. They may look a bit different this year, but we're willing to help in whatever way we can.

Strong Recommendations:

- Consider alternate tryout options. If someone feels pressure to attend even if they have a fever or a known exposure, that puts everyone at risk. Examples could include: uploading a skills video to YouTube, getting letters of recommendations from other coaches on their athletic abilities, or holding a Zoom session to get to know them. We conducted our High Performance tryouts via video submissions and letters of recommendation and it was a success. Please contact Brian Sharkey at brian@badgervolleyball.org for more information.
- Consider offering for an age group and not a team at this point. The determination of whether you would want a player as part of your club and not a specific team placement can be done in a shorter amount of time. Be sure to communicate this to the families however, and explain the process of how they will eventually be placed on a team. Examples could include: after small group sessions, after individual skills sessions, etc.
- Require all participants to self-monitor at home prior to arrival. Encourage them to err on the side of caution and contact you if they will not be attending, and you will work with them on alternate tryout options.
- Require pre-registration and limit on-site registration. This reduces the amount of face to face time needed for those processes, and also the handling of papers/pens back and forth. If there must be communal pens or computers, sanitize after each use.
- Require everyone in the building to wear a mask. This includes all adults and all participants. Also reinforce to coaches that they should not remove their mask to talk or yell instructions. This defeats the purpose.
- Limit spectators and unnecessary people in the facility. Have no spectators, if possible. The baseline goal is to have as few people in the facility as you can possibly manage, for the health and safety of everyone.
- Conduct all non-court-essential activities outside or as close to open doors with air flow as possible. Examples would include check-in, temperature checks, meetings, etc.
- Where possible, keep air flow moving in the building. Examples would be to open outside doors on either end of the facility. Obviously this is harder to do with colder weather approaching, but as much airflow as possible is recommended.
- Social distance where possible. Encourage the participants to step away from each other for water breaks. Run skills drills that keep participants apart from one another. Encourage those standing in lines to move away from each other.
- Have sanitizing stations throughout the gym and take frequent breaks to sanitize hands and any equipment. Prop open bathroom and other doors to avoid contact with common surfaces.
- Keep post-event meetings short and communicate via Zoom or email once everyone is at home.
- Keep records of everyone in attendance so that if someone does test positive, you can notify the other individuals of a potential exposure. Also keep in close contact with your local health department for their contact tracing regulations.

Please note: Badger Region is NOT involved in contact tracing for club-run events. This is something you as a club director need to be aware of, along with staying informed on what your local health department recommends in each location you host a club. Here is how to find your local health department: <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/lh-depts/counties.htm>

Here is the Wisconsin Department of Health Services link for information on contact tracing: <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/contact-tracing.htm>

Obviously, this is an ever-changing situation, but once again, at this time, I have received no indication that USA Volleyball will pull any sanctioning on insurance as was done in March. Fortunately (or unfortunately) we've all learned a lot since then, and there is very little way for them to make blanket decisions when there are varying levels of "open" across the country.

In the absence of federal legislation or mandates, our restrictions will come from the state, county or local levels, and adherence to the most-strict guidelines is what keeps the insurance intact for you as a club as well as the facility and all of the athletes. As new information comes to us, we will make sure to keep you informed.

Thank you for your continued work in keeping everyone safe while also providing opportunities for the athletes.
Badger Region