

23 NOVEMBER 2020

# FAQ ON VICTORIA'S CHANGES

## **MASKS**

Masks must be worn by teachers and participants (unless out of breath). [Further information from DHHS.](#)

## **SCREENING**

Screening remains important. Anyone unwell should not enter the studio and all employees and contractors should be screened. Ensure there is check in and check out and develop a plan to develop a plan to notify potentially exposed persons (record names, time in & time out) or utilise QR codes.

## **HYGIENE**

- Ensure availability of soap and water in bathrooms for hand washing
- Use alcohol based hand rub with at least 60% ethanol or 70% isopropanol at entry/exit points, and workout stations
- All studio visitors to perform hand hygiene:
  - after coughing or sneezing
  - after going to the toilet, and
  - when changing tasks and after touching potentially contaminated surfaces
- Before leaving perform hand hygiene with soap & water
- Ensure availability of tissues. Encourage participants to cover coughs and sneezes or cough in elbow then perform hand hygiene. Ensure availability of bins with lids Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands
- Place Hand hygiene posters
- If you have a lunchroom or tea room ensure you keep to density and social distancing requirements.
- BYO equipment still recommended (virus lives on cotton fabric for 24-36 hours at temperatures 15-29c)
- Make sure sanitisers are really easy to find (people may not go looking for them)
- Wash hands frequently
- No physical contact between staff and customers
- Have tissues available to cover coughs Make sure enough signage in all key locations; kitchen, bathrooms, entry, reception area, entrance to room etc.
- Provide TGA approved disinfectant wipes to wipe down frequently touched surfaces
- Put signage instructions for members to flush toilets closed with lid closed
- Flush all toilets, disinfectant water taps and showers frequently
- Keep any chairs well apart to maintain social distancing

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## **PHYSICAL DISTANCING**

- Consider marking distance between members using tape/floor markers/or signage) to maintain the required physical distancing 1.5 metres
- Stagger classes to avoid overcrowding by allowing a gap of 15 minutes between each class
- Elderly are at high risk, consider admittance limit for specific times
- Restrooms/locker rooms - Post signage limiting restroom occupancy & maintain required physical distancing of 1.5 metres
- Educate members on physical distancing
- **Maintain 4 square metre per person density - so divide studio sqm by 4 to calculate how many you can have in the space. Cap of 20 applies per room (100 per facility)**

## **HOME STUDIOS**

Q: What are the requirements for running a home studio? Do they need a separate entrance/exit?

For a person to operate a business out of their home that is customer-facing, or has more than one worker on-site, they must have a discrete work area, including:

- A dedicated premises for the business to operate from, that is separate from the place of residence in all aspects (e.g. workers or clients cannot enter the residence)
- Another entrance for workers and clients that is separate to the residence
- No sharing of facilities (e.g. toilets, kitchen etc.). This means a customer can only access a separate toilet(s) - they are not permitted to use the home toilet(s)
- A COVIDSafe Plan must be in place. The work space is subject to the density quotient and cleaning requirements as per other work settings. Face masks must be worn by workers, clients and customers at all times.
- If a home-based business meets the requirements of a discrete work area, it is permitted to operate subject to the restrictions of their industry. If the home-based business does not meet these requirements, it is not permitted to reopen under the current restriction levels in regional Victoria or metropolitan Melbourne.

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## MULTIPLE SERVICE VENUES

Q: What are the settings for multiple service facilities, e.g. gym/creche in the same building with gym on one level and creche on another and not part of gym floor – are they part of the gym cap or separate?

- If a place has more than one facility, each part of the premises is treated as a separate facility – for example if a YMCA has a swimming pool and a gym then the total facility cap for a swimming pool applies to the swimming pool premises and the indoor physical recreation limit applies to the gym.
- A clear delineation would need to be made between the activities and the appropriate density quotients and patron limits would need to be applied accordingly. This may mean that more people are permitted to participate in activities in certain parts of the YMCA than others.
- The YMCA would need to ensure that there is no congregation of patrons between facilities which breaches the density quotient for each space.

## FANS

Q: What is the position on the use of fans in hotter weather – are they allowed/recommended?

- Current advice from DHHS is fans should not operate within indoor venues, where possible windows should be opened and air conditioning adjusted to enhance airflow. With air-conditioning please ensure that **you are not** using the 'recirculate' mode. e.g. switch air conditioning to external air only.
- The WHO advice on ceiling fans suggests, *"The use of ceiling fans can improve circulation of outside air and avoid pockets of stagnant air in occupied space. However, it is critical to maintain good outdoor ventilation when using ceiling fans. An efficient way to increase outdoor air exchange is by opening windows."*