



2021-2022 COMPETITION RECOMMENDATIONS Effective 03/15/2022

Due to the ever-changing nature of COVID-19, this document will be updated as the Public Health Orders require or as required by the MGA. The MGA will aim to ensure 30 days' notice of communication of MGA-driven changes.

OBJECTIVE

To provide meaningful competition opportunities for all competitive members of the MGA in an environment that mitigates the risk of transmission of COVID-19 and keeps individuals safe.

PRIORITIES

1. Adapt the competition environment to meet current public health measures and guidance.
2. Provide a competition environment in which all individuals feel safeguarded from the risk of COVID-19 infection.
3. Create a competition environment that meets the needs of athletes to set goals, perform, and receive feedback through judges' scores.
4. Develop a hosting strategy that provides consistency between competitions and reduces risk or burden on the Host Club, financial or otherwise.

GUIDING DOCUMENTS AND PRINCIPLES

- [Current Public Health Orders](#)
- [MGA Return to Sport Guidelines](#)

DEFINITIONS

- **Individuals:** anyone within the Host facility, including but not limited to athletes, coaches, officials, volunteers, meet directors, etc.
- **Physical Distancing:** maintain a minimum distance of two meters between yourself and others
- **Face Masks:** As dictated by [Public Health](#).

RISK MITIGATION MEASURES FOR COMPETITIONS

Risk mitigation must consider and apply across all relevant contexts (i.e., before, during, and after competition) and for all individuals:

General Protocol

- Host Clubs shall make every effort to split the athletes in rotations in such a way that there is minimal mixing of clubs.
- Athletes rotate in circling fashion moving in clockwise manner around the gym (i.e., Olympic order not necessarily used).
- All coaches must be listed on the meet registration form to enter the facility. When registering coaches clubs must consider sending only the number of coaches necessary to ensure athlete safety.
- Host Club will provide the participating clubs with the rotation order a minimum of 2 weeks in advance of the competition to make appropriate preparations for coaches.
- Recommended volunteer positions include Medical/First Aid Person, Admissions + Check-In and Screening, Meet Director/Floor Manager, Music/Announcer, Live Scoring Assistant, Awards Coordinator, Cleaning Crew, Spotters (TG only). *Note: Where possible these positions may be fulfilled by the same individuals with the goal of reducing overall numbers within the facility.*
- Clubs should consider spectator capacity to ensure adequate distancing.
- Out of Province athletes are allowed to compete in MGA Sanctioned events however must meet all Public Health Orders related to travel. Additionally, it is recommended that priority be given to MGA athletes to compete at invitationals should space be limited.
- Host Clubs waiver is required to have wording regarding the release of liability to the Host Club and MGA in the case of COVID-19 transmission on registration form.

Physical Distancing

- As much as reasonably possible, athletes from different clubs will be expected to refrain from intermingling.
- Host Clubs must consider ways to accommodate for physical distancing, for example:
 - Remove any extra or unnecessary equipment from the competition floor
 - Provide additional floor or matted space for general warm-up, if possible
 - Upon rotation to each event, one coach per club will approach the judges table to confirm the competition order and warm-up procedures
 - There will be no march-in for award ceremonies.
 - Host Clubs are recommended to purchase non-dated awards.
- An area where distance can be maintained as much as possible must be designated for coaches' and officials' personal belongings to be stored during the competition.

Hand and Respiratory Hygiene

- Host Clubs must ensure they have adequate supplies for appropriate hand and respiratory hygiene.

- Hand sanitizer (minimum 60% alcohol-based) should be available at entrances and exits, at each event and any other necessary areas in the facility.
- Tissues and garbage bins should be available throughout the facility.
- All judges and volunteer tables (scoring, music, first aid, etc.) should be stocked with hand sanitizer, wipes, tissues, and garbage bins.
- Washrooms must be well-stocked with soap, hot water, paper towel, and tissues and checked regularly for necessary refills.
- All individuals must practice proper respiratory hygiene such as cough or sneeze into a tissue, or into your sleeve/elbow if a tissue is not available; dispose of the tissue and wash or sanitize your hands immediately.
- Any athletes touching their uncovered face at any time must go and sanitize their hands immediately to the adjacent sanitizing station.
- Signage on symptoms, proper hand, and respiratory hygiene (i.e., cough into elbow), and physical distancing must be posted throughout the facility; at a minimum, signage should be placed at all common entrances and where people tend to congregate.

Face Masks

- No deductions apply to athletes who choose to wear masks for competition.
- Any host club/facility's policies that exceed those in the Public Health Orders must state its policy on the meet invitation.

Cleaning and Disinfecting

- The Host Club will be responsible for instituting a cleaning and disinfecting schedule.
- The Host Club shall have cleaning/disinfecting supplies readily available for spot cleaning as necessary; if an athlete's head or face or any bodily fluid comes into contact with the equipment or mats, it must be cleaned before the next athlete's turn.

Officials

- MGA will provide the plexiglass dividers for any judges who request them.
- The judges must bring their own calculators, timing devices (timer or phone) and writing utensils to the competition. Judges will be provided an individual packet of judging sheets prior to competition by the MGA.

Cancellation of Competitions

- Clubs must state their COVID refund policies (including administrative fees) on their invitation.
- For all other refunds, the regular MGA Competition Refund policies apply as per the Program's Technical Regulations.
- Any exceptions will be reviewed by the MGA Board of Directors in conjunction with the Host Club.
- It is recommended that Host Clubs work with companies that have refundable deposits in case of cancellation.