



ONTARIO BASKETBALL

RETURN TO PLAY
COVID-19 GUIDELINES
PHASE 3 - VERSION 1





BACKGROUND

Hello to all of our athletes, families, coaches, and officials,

Ontario Basketball (OBA) is missing its courts and its community!

While for too long we have been unable to engage in the game we all love, it appears that ongoing announcements by the Ontario Government are moving us toward a place of greater optimism. It is with that hope in mind that Ontario Basketball provides the following points of clarification in order to avoid any confusion regarding the return to sport.

First and foremost, please remember that all the current restrictions and those that will come into effect as we reach next stages, are imposed by the Ontario Government and medical health authorities. These, and the Return to Play protocols in development by Canada Basketball and OBA, are designed to facilitate the ongoing and continued safety of our members and all Ontarians.

This document outlines working timelines, guidelines, measures and precautions that support a phased Return to Play plan. We encourage our members to read and share these guidelines for Phase 3 and the OBA will continue to update these guidelines as restrictions are lifted.

Ontario Basketball would like to thank its members and the basketball community across the province for your patience and support during these times - THANK YOU!

PUBLIC HEALTH MEASURES



Avoid contact with people outside your household/ social circle



Stay home when possible, especially if you feel sick



Wash your hands well, and wash them often



Avoid large public gatherings according to your region



PROCESS OF OBA RETURN TO PLAY PLAN APPROVAL

- 01** Alignment with Canada Basketball's ["Back to Basketball"](#) guidelines and Ontario Government guidelines
- 02** Guidelines vetted by OBA's external legal counsel and OBA's insurance broker
- 03** Approval by OBA's board of directors



A PHASED APPROACH

1

**HIGH
PERFORMANCE
TRAINING**

- MAY 19 -

2

**RECREATIONAL
TRAINING
& PRACTICE**

- JUNE 12 -

3

**FULL TEAM
PRACTICE**

- JULY 24 -

4

**LOCAL
SANCTIONED
TOURNAMENTS**

5

**RETURN TO
PROVINCIAL
COMPETITION**



PHASE 3 - TEAM PRACTICE

The Ontario Government is now allowing limited indoor training and practice for basketball teams. Physical distancing rules still apply when engaged in team sports so any team practice at this time must be non-contact. This also means no intra-squad competitions or games where defence or activity would likely result in physical contact between players.

Before any OBA members step in the gym, they (or if a member is under 18 years old, their parent or guardian):

1. should satisfy themselves that the indoor facility is operating in compliance with all applicable laws (which laws may differ depending on where the facility is located); OBA will not review such compliance and takes no responsibility for it);
2. are required to review OBA's ["Waiver of Liability for All Claims and Release of Liability - Event Participation"](#) form thoroughly and complete it.

If you do not complete the form, there can be no insurance coverage from Ontario Basketball.

Facilities are operating under provincial laws and guidelines for essential businesses and are expected to follow those laws and protocols at all times. When you arrive you will be asked to give a Daily Attestation of Health.



ASSUMPTION OF RISK

Without a vaccine or cure for COVID-19 there will always be a risk of contracting the virus when participating in any public activity.

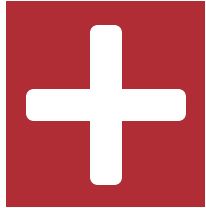
OBA does not carry insurance that covers pandemic diseases or contagions including COVID-19. Athletes and their parents are required to review OBA's ["Waiver of Liability for All Claims and Release of Liability - Event Participation"](#) form thoroughly and complete it.

Participation in OBA-sanctioned activities will still be covered under the regular insurance policy in accordance with all of its terms and conditions – but that insurance does not cover pandemic diseases or contagions including COVID-19.

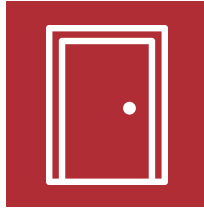
With the transition to Phase 3, all OBA-registered teams may now practice / train at indoor facilities** while adhering to all enhanced safety measures. (**All athletes, parents / guardians and clubs should satisfy themselves that the indoor facility is operating in compliance with all applicable laws (which laws may differ depending on where the facility is located): OBA will not review such compliance and takes no responsibility for it.)



ON-SITE MEASURES FOR PARTICIPANT SAFETY



Adhering to all Health & Safety guidelines



Enter facilities through clearly marked entry and exit doors



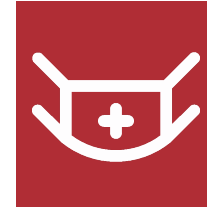
Surfaces and spaces are sanitized often



No sharing gear
Participants bring their own equipment



Coaches bring hand sanitizer, wipes, and pump soap



Face masks worn to enter and exit facility and all applicable times



Avoid large gatherings according to your region

If you are experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 please use the [Self-Assessment Tool](#) from Health Canada, call your local health authority (1-866-797-0000), or call 911 if you require immediate medical attention



DAILY ATTESTATION OF HEALTH

This questionnaire must be completed by each individual prior to participation in each basketball activity. This questionnaire may be completed verbally at the entry door of an OBA-approved facility. The answer to all questions must be “No” in order to participate any basketball activity.

Do you have any of the following symptoms?

Fever

Cough

Shortness of Breath

**Sneezing,
Runny Nose**

Sore Throat

**Lose Sense of
Taste or Smell**

Have you travelled outside of Canada or had close contact with anyone who has in the past 14 days?

Have you had close contact in the past 14 days with anyone with a new cough, fever, or difficulty breathing, or a confirmed case of COVID-19?



FACILITY COMPLIANCE

Under the Ontario Government's approach to the re-opening of facilities, basketball facilities wanting to train OBA member teams must demonstrate an awareness of the risks of COVID-19 and assume responsibility for taking all appropriate measures to prevent the spread of the virus.

Facilities and clubs are encouraged to complete the [Initial Risk Assessment](#) from Canada Basketball. The facility will be expected to comply at all times with Ontario Health and Safety guidelines including:

- ✓ Supplying staff and volunteers with adequate PPE
- ✓ Staff stationed at entry door with mask, asking for Daily Attestations of Health by participants, and recording information for contact tracing
- ✓ Ensuring that participating teams run practices which do not allow for physical contact between players or have been modified to avoid physical contact between the players
- ✓ Ensuring a 15-minute gap between participant sessions to sanitize surfaces and equipment
- ✓ Limiting gathering sizes at indoor venues in accordance with relevant rules in your region



RESOURCES

01

Ontario.ca
Stage 2 closures -
<https://www.ontario.ca/laws/regulation/200263>
Rules for Areas in Stage 3 -
<https://www.ontario.ca/laws/regulation/200364>

02

[Ontario.ca - A Framework for Reopening our Province \(Stage 3\)](#)

03

[Public Health Ontario - COVID Resources](#)

04

[Public Health Canada - COVID Resources](#)



LEGAL DISCLAIMER

The information included in this guide is current for the time of publishing and is aligned with the current recommendations from national and international bodies, including the World Health Organization (WHO) and Public Health Canada. However, recommendations may change depending on daily provincial, local and global COVID-19 situation reports; local resources should also be consulted for up to date information.

The information and recommendations outlined within this guide should be used to develop individual plans that evaluate the unique risks that each training environment presents. This document is to supplement and not replace applicable law and the information provided by public health authorities. Individuals, in consultation with a medical professional, should also assess and evaluate their own personal risks.

