



# COVID-19 REOPENING GUIDANCE FOR OUTDOOR OPERATIONS OF CARDROOMS, CASINOS, AND SATELLITE WAGERING SITES

UPDATED ON 10/16/2020

## PURPOSE OF THIS DOCUMENT

This document provides guidance for outdoor gambling activities and applies to outdoor operations of cardrooms, casinos, and satellite wagering sites. All such activities may only be conducted outdoors at this time. This guidance is intended to support a safe, clean environment for outdoor gambling operators and clients. Contact [COVIDRecovery@acgov.org](mailto:COVIDRecovery@acgov.org) if you have questions or require technical assistance. For business resources, visit <https://covid-19.acgov.org/recovery>.

NOTE: The [Alameda County Reopening Plan](#) is in alignment with the [State's Blueprint for a Safer Economy](#) in addition to the [State's Guidance for Outdoor Operations of Cardrooms](#) and its supplemental [Checklist](#) released on September 9, 2020, but there will be areas where Alameda County is more restrictive than the State. The more restrictive guidance prevails. This guidance and requirements are subject to change at any time based on updated County and State guidelines.

## BUSINESS REQUIREMENTS

1. Prepare and implement a [COVID-19 Site Specific Protection Plan](#) based on local and State industry guidance.
2. Train employees on COVID-19 prevention, symptom screening, face coverings, and importance of physical distancing and frequent handwashing.
3. Implement symptom screening for all employees and do not allow employees who exhibit symptoms to come to work. Screening tools are available under Tools and Resources for Businesses at <https://covid-19.acgov.org/recovery.page>.
4. Develop and implement cleaning and disinfecting protocols in the Site-Specific Protection Plan.
5. Establish physical distancing guidelines and document in the Site-Specific Protection Plan.
6. Ensure compliance with the [Alameda County Face Covering Order](#) by all persons in your place of business, including, but not limited to, clients, employees, suppliers, Third-Party Providers of Proposition Player Services (TPPPS), and other third-party providers.
7. Both outdoor gambling gaming operators and clients will be required to wear a face covering — including during the entire activity—unless they are specifically exempted from the face covering requirements in [Health Officer Order No. 20-13](#), updated on June 5, 2020 or comply with specific requirements set forth below.

8. Comply with guidance issued by the [California Blueprint for a Safer Economy](#), all [Local Health Officer Orders](#), and applicable federal, California, and local provisions for paid sick leave for individuals who cannot safely work for reasons related to the COVID-19 pandemic.
9. “Outdoor Gambling Operators” means operators and facilities regulated by Division 8, Chapter 4 of the Business and Professions Code; the California Horse Racing Board; Division 8, Chapter 5 of the Business and Professions Code; the California Bureau of Gambling Control; and/or the California Gambling Control Commission.

## HEALTH AND SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

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In addition to preparing, posting, and implementing the [COVID-19 Site Specific Protection Plan](#) required by the Order, each owner, operator, manager, or supervisor of an outdoor gambling activity must address each item below in the COVID-19 Site Specific Protection Plan.

### **1. Section 1 – Requirements for All Outdoor Gambling Operators**

- 1.1. Develop a plan and implement daily COVID-19 symptom self-assessment for all staff as required by the COVID-19 Site Specific Protection Plan.
- 1.2. Designate employees to monitor COVID-19 safety and to remove clients who decline to follow guidelines.
- 1.3. Display health, hygiene, and safety guidelines signage throughout the premises, on websites, and promotional materials, in various languages where appropriate, that include:
  - 1.3.1. physical distancing reminders;
  - 1.3.2. reminders not to touch eyes, nose, and mouth;
  - 1.3.3. the proper way to wear, handle, and dispose of face coverings;
  - 1.3.4. the proper way to use gloves;
  - 1.3.5. the proper way to wash hands and use hand sanitizer; and
  - 1.3.6. the proper way to cough and sneeze.
- 1.4. Place hand washing or hand sanitizing stations, touchless if possible, throughout the outdoor premises. Sanitizing stations should be monitored frequently, ideally at least once every hour, and maintained as needed.
- 1.5. Require that everyone wear a face covering upon entry and at all times.
- 1.6. Require that everyone use hand sanitizer upon entry.
- 1.7. Require that everyone entering or exiting maintain at least six feet of physical distance.
  - 1.7.1. Form a queue with clearly designated signage to ensure at least six feet of physical distance. Consider using signs, floor labels, barriers, stanchions, or other structures to designate queue area.

- 1.7.2. Where feasible, establish separate exits from the entrances to reduce contact points.
- 1.7.3. If separate entrances and exits are not feasible, mark a different path for ingress and for egress, e.g. enter here and exit here signs. Consider using barriers.
- 1.8. Monitor capacity limits taking into account physical distancing requirements. Capacity limits must be enforced.
  - 1.8.1. Track the number of persons entering and exiting. Consider using wristbands or other tools to help track capacity.
  - 1.8.2. If capacity is reached, form a queue with clearly designated signage to ensure at least six feet of physical distance. Consider using signs, floor labels, barriers, stanchions, or other structures to designate queue area.
- 1.9. Consider encouraging use of client loyalty programs to facilitate contact tracing efforts.
- 2. **Section 2 – Additional Requirements for Outdoor Operations of Cardrooms and Casinos**
  - 2.1. Gameplay is prohibited indoors.
  - 2.2. Move indoor operations and amenities outdoors to the greatest extent feasible in order to minimize the number of and amount of time clients spend inside facilities.
    - 2.2.1. This could include, but would not be limited to, installing outdoor restrooms, handwashing facilities, beverage stations, and dining operations.
  - 2.3. When specific indoor operations cannot be moved outside due to security concerns, such as cashier's cages, operators must install physical barriers or partitions at cages and counters, ensure physical distancing requirements and universal face coverings usage, limit the number of persons indoors at a time, and remind clients to return to the outdoor area once those activities are complete.
  - 2.4. Place hand sanitizing stations, touchless if possible, in all high traffic areas and other areas where queueing and handling of chips, cards, money, tickets, and other gambling activities will occur. This includes, but is not limited to, outdoor operation areas, machine banks, gaming tables, ATM machines, ticket redemption machines, cashier's cages, betting windows, and restrooms.
  - 2.5. Require that all dealers and Third-Party Providers of Proposition Player Services (TPPPS) at the game tables use hand sanitizer:
    - 2.5.1. immediately after handling any money;
    - 2.5.2. prior to the start of any game play; and
    - 2.5.3. between any dealer, other employee, and TPPPS shift rotations.
  - 2.6. All clients at the game tables are strongly encouraged to use hand sanitizer:

- 2.6.1. immediately after handling any money; and
- 2.6.2. prior to the start of any game play.
- 2.7. Consider providing new, disposable gloves at each game table for use by clients.
- 2.8. Ensure frequent use of proper hand sanitizer, ideally at least once every hour, after anyone at the game tables engages in passing items back and forth during game play, including, but not limited to, cards, chips, dice, dominoes, and tiles.
- 2.9. Move or reconfigure tables, chairs, machines, gaming tables, etc., to maintain at least six feet of physical distance for everyone. If such items cannot be moved or reconfigured to maintain at least six feet of physical distance for everyone, then:
  - 2.9.1. use visual cues to show that they are not available for use;
  - 2.9.2. reduce the number of occupants, including at a game table; or
  - 2.9.3. install impermeable physical barriers such as Plexiglas between clients.
- 2.10. If food and beverage is provided, it must comply with the [Alameda County Restaurant Operating Procedures](#).
  - 2.10.1. Food and beverage are not allowed at game tables.
- 2.11. Operators must sanitize each game table area and chair area after any person leaves and before a new person joins the game table.
  - 2.11.1. Consider placing signage on the area to be sanitized.
- 3. **Section 3 – Additional Requirements for Outdoor Operations of Satellite Wagering Facilities**
  - 3.1. Wagering is prohibited indoors.
    - 3.1.1. Move indoor operations and amenities outdoors to the greatest extent feasible in order to minimize the number of and amount of time clients spend inside facilities.
      - 3.1.1.1. This could include, but would not be limited to, installing outdoor restrooms, handwashing facilities, beverage stations, and dining operations.
  - 3.2. Place hand sanitizing stations, touchless if possible, in all high traffic areas and other areas where queueing and handling of money, betting slips, pens/pencils, coupons, receipts, and other gambling activities will occur. This includes, but is not limited to, outdoor operation areas, betting windows, machine banks, ATM machines, ticket redemption machines, and restrooms.
  - 3.3. If food and beverage is provided, it must comply with the [Alameda County Restaurant Operating Procedures](#).
    - 3.3.1. Food and beverage are not allowed at betting windows, queue areas, and areas where wagering occurs.

- 3.4. Provide one holder for sanitized pens/pencils and another holder for pens/pencils that have already been used. Replace holder with sanitized pens/pencils as needed.
- 3.5. Require that all employees use hand sanitizer immediately after handling any money.
  - 3.5.1. Consider providing new, disposable gloves for use by employees handling any money.
- 3.6. All clients are strongly encouraged to use hand sanitizer immediately after handling any money.
- 3.7. For facilities with betting windows, at least six feet of physical distance is required, both on the client side and on the employee side. If betting windows cannot be moved or reconfigured to maintain at least six feet of physical distance for everyone, then:
  - 3.7.1. use visual cues to show that they are closed and not available for use; or
  - 3.7.2. install impermeable physical barriers such as Plexiglas to increase the number of persons allowed in betting window areas.
- 3.8. Consider opening additional locations in alternative venues to ensure six feet of physical distancing. This may include installing physical impermeable barriers where six feet of physical distancing is not feasible. Provide sanitation stations at any alternative venue.
- 3.9. Move or reconfigure tables, chairs, seating areas, machines, screens, etc., to maintain at least six feet of physical distance for everyone. If such items cannot be moved or reconfigured to maintain at least six feet of physical distance for everyone, then:
  - 3.9.1. use visual cues to show that they are closed and not available for use; or
  - 3.9.2. reduce the number of occupants, including in queue areas.
- 3.10. Operators must sanitize each betting window area frequently, ideally at least once every hour.