## UPDATE: COVID-19 Information for Saratoga County August 22, 2020

## Reopening of Gyms and Fitness Centers

The State of New York is allowing the re-opening of indoor activities at gyms and fitness centers on Monday, August 24, subject to a mandatory inspection of each facility by Saratoga County Public Health Services or its designees.

This applies to all fitness activities and facilities that wish to operate indoors, including but not limited to:

- standalone, hotel, residential, and office gyms and fitness centers;
- gyms and fitness centers in higher education institutions;
- yoga/pilates/barre studios;
- boxing/kickboxing gyms;
- fitness boot camps, CrossFit or other plyometric boxes; and
- other group fitness classes (e.g., spin, rowing, dancing).

All gyms and fitness centers wishing to re-open for indoor activities **must apply** to schedule the county inspection that your facility will need to stay open.

To make that happen, Saratoga County is announcing the following application process:

- 1. The application must include:
  - a. Contact information for the facility, including the owner/operator/manager's name, safety monitor's name, facility address and phone number.
  - b. Proof that the contact has read and affirmed the New York State Department of Health's Interim Guidance for Gyms & Fitness Centers. The required form can be found <a href="here">here</a>. After this form is completed, the screen will indicate that New York State received your submission. Take a screenshot and attach it, or print the screen and scan as an attachment.
  - c. A completed business reopening plan. A template can be found <u>here</u>.
  - d. A completed Saratoga County Inspection Checklist located <a href="here">here</a>.
  - e. All of the above information should be emailed to: <a href="mailto:gyms@saratogacountyny.gov">gyms@saratogacountyny.gov</a>.
- 2. When the County receives the application and verifies that it is complete, each facility will be contacted to schedule an inspection.
- 3. Each inspection will include a site visit by county personnel or designee who will verify the already submitted inspection checklist. During the inspection, each operator will need to show the inspector a copy of the written safety plan.
- 4. A successful inspection means that the facility is cleared by Saratoga County to stay open, as long as New York State keeps the industry open. Be advised that the State is considering this a "pilot phase" to monitor compliance of owners/operators of gyms and fitness centers with all guidance and to assess the public health conditions associated with gyms and fitness centers reopening, including changes in COVID-19 transmission.