

## Requirements for Fishing Tournaments

In addition to the Healthy at [Work Minimum Requirements](#), **fishing tournaments** must meet the requirements below in order to reopen and remain open:

### Social Distancing Requirements

- Public and Private Fishing Tournaments Background:
  - Fishing tournaments can vary widely in size from small 5-10 boat tournaments to the rare, much larger 100 or more boat tournaments. However, the majority are small tournaments that typically draw no spectator crowds and are comprised of mostly participants.
  - In a typical fishing tournament, participants are gathered for a brief pre-meeting either the night before the tournament or the morning of. Many of the small tournaments have no pre-meeting. The morning of the tournament participants launch boats independently and wait to fish until start time. Larger tournaments will have staggered start times. From that point on participants are out on the water with two to a boat at most. Boater registration data indicates that the most common type of boat is 16-21 feet long, providing adequate room to social distance.
  - At the end of the tournament they arrive and weigh-in fish prior to announcing the winners. On larger tournaments, return times are also staggered.
  - In a normal tournament the only times participants are likely to aggregate and not be able to social distance is during the pre-meeting and weigh-ins. Despite the crowded “look” of a full boat ramp parking lot, all participants are out on the water and separated for the duration of the event. Since they are all bringing their own boats and vehicles, there is no shared equipment that is in need of disinfecting. For them to reopen, tournament organizers must mitigate the potential crowding at the registration as well as the weigh-ins, which should not be difficult.
  - Since tournaments vary so widely in format, organizers should follow and refer to the Healthy at Work General Minimum Requirements which can be found on the Healthy at Work website – <https://healthyatwork.ky.gov>.

- Public and Private Fishing Tournaments must follow the following social distancing guidance:
  - Tournament organizers shall not hold in-person pre-tournament meetings (e.g., organizational and competitor registration/sign ups), these meetings can be done via conference call or online forum.
  - When tournaments are larger than 10 boats, they must, to the greatest extent practicable, stagger launch times or use multiple launch ramps.
  - Tournament participants must stay in vehicles or boats during launching process and give adequate space for others launching.
  - Weigh-ins must be conducted outdoors.
  - All participants must stay with their vehicle or boat until going up to weigh in.
  - Tournament organizers should encourage participants to wear neck gaiters or face masks when coming up to weigh-in.
  - Only one participant may weigh in a time, weigh in tanks must be staggered at least six feet apart.
  - No crowds may gather to observe weigh-ins. Specifically, fishing tournament organizers must follow the Healthy at Work Guidance for Gatherings of Up to Ten (10) People for any portion of their event where a group may congregate.
  - Prize money, trophies or other acknowledgement of placement can be issued by mail or via electronic means.

## **Cleaning and Disinfecting Requirements**

- Fishing tournament organizers should develop and implement a plan and procedures to ensure any frequently touched surfaces are properly cleaned and ventilated routinely. Appropriate disinfectants include EPA registered household disinfectants, diluted household bleach solution, and alcohol solutions containing at least 60% alcohol. Facilities and businesses must establish a cleaning and disinfecting process that follows CDC guidelines when any individual is identified, suspected, or confirmed COVID-19 case.
- Fishing tournament organizers should encourage organizers, patrons or anyone associated with the tournament to frequently wash their hands or use hand sanitizer.
- Fishing tournament organizers should ensure disinfecting wipes or other disinfectant are available at shared equipment.

- Fishing tournament organizers should ensure organizers and patrons do not use cleaning procedures that could re-aerosolize infectious particles. This includes, but is not limited to, avoiding practices such as dry sweeping or use of high-pressure streams of air, water, or cleaning chemicals.

## **Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Requirements**

- Fishing tournament organizers must ensure appropriate face coverings and other personal protective equipment (PPE) is used by organizers, staff and patrons when they are in close proximity to others so long as such use does not jeopardize the individuals health or safety.
- Fishing tournament organizers must establish policy as to whether to allow patrons to participate in the tournament who do not adhere to the tournament's policy on requiring masks.
- Fishing tournament organizers must train any applicable staff how to properly use PPE, how to properly dispose of or disinfect PPE, inspect PPE for damage, maintain PPE, and the limitations of PPE.
- Fishing tournament organizers must ensure organizers or any applicable staff use gloves, along with any PPE normally used for routine job tasks, when cleaning equipment and high-touch areas of the tournament.
- Fishing tournament organizers must ensure cloth face masks and gloves are available to organizers and staff engaging in high-touch activity to the greatest extent practicable provided that they do not create additional hazards while being worn.

## **Training and Safety Requirements**

- Fishing tournament organizers must place conspicuous signage alerting staff and patrons of the required six (6) feet of social distancing of physical distance, and the tournament's policy on face coverings. Signage should inform organizers, staff and patrons about good hygiene and new practices.
- Fishing tournament organizers should, to the greatest extent practicable, discourage those staff and patrons who are at higher risk for severe illness from participating if they cannot participate safely per CDC guidelines. These guidelines are available at:<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/faq.html#Higher-Risk>
- Fishing tournament organizers should ensure that organizers, staff and patrons are informed that they may identify and communicate potential improvements and/or concerns in order to reduce potential risk of exposure at the tournament. All signage, education and training must be communicated in the language best understood by the individual receiving the education and training.