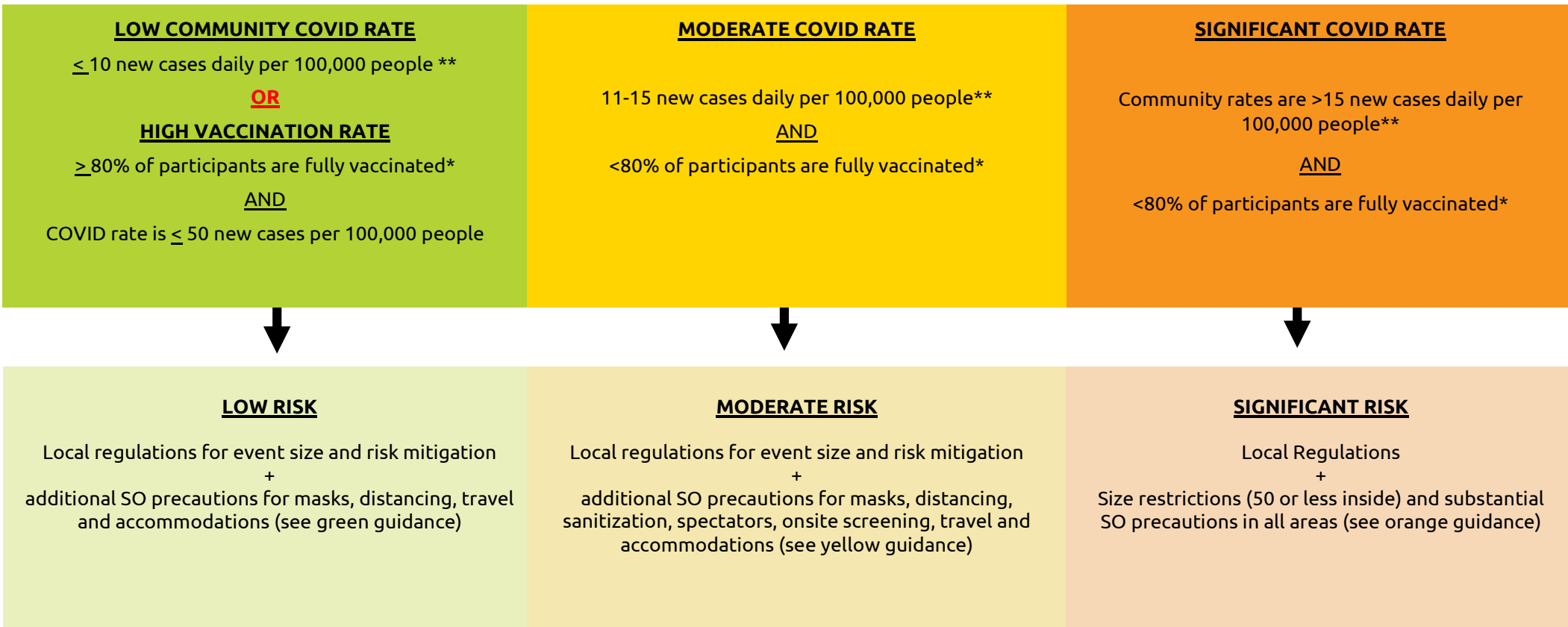


Special Olympics Return to Activities Protocol



Revised and SONY Board Approved, July 2021

If in-person activities are permitted in your local area, follow below guidance (color chart) to determine protocols needed, in addition to local regulations.



*KEY DEFINITIONS:

- **Fully Vaccinated:** Two (2) weeks after completing all doses of a COVID-19 vaccine. (Valid sources for proof of vaccine will include a copy of one of the following: NY Vaccination Card, NYS Excelsior Wallet Pass (screen shot) or a Medical Verification being a note or signed record from your practitioner documenting the date of your full vaccination status).
- **Participants:** Athletes, Unified partners, Coaches, Officials, Volunteers, HODs, SO Staff, and families/caregivers if they will not exclusively be in spectator only spaces.
- **Community:** Generally, the community is the county/district. If data is not available for the county/district, then use the smallest community (e.g., state) for which the data is available.
- **PCR/NAAT:** PCR or NAAT, is a type of viral diagnostic test for COVID-19.
- **Rolling 7-day average/100,000:** a 7-day moving average, takes the case rates per 100,000 people for the last 7 days, adds them up, and divides it by 7.

**Resources for Identifying 7-Day Rolling Average Case Rate:

- Country Level Data Globally (this is per Million to divide by 10): <https://tinyurl.com/944jd6xe>
- State Level Data in the US: <https://www.washingtonpost.com/graphics/2020/national/coronavirus-us-cases-deaths/>
- County/District Level Data should also be available from your Local Health Authorities and/or Local Resources.
- The Brown School of Public Health (formally Harvard Metrics): <https://globalepidemics.org/key-metrics-for-covid-suppression/>

Key Differences in Protocol Across Each Level

If local regulations are more stringent than any Special Olympics requirements, activity must follow local regulations.

*NOTE: This is a shortened version of the protocol, please review and follow full protocol.

LOW RISK

Event Size and Venue Type: Per local regulations.

Onsite Screening: Must have signage on preventive measures.

Masks: Strongly recommended for ALL participants; All individuals who are unvaccinated must wear masks at all times, except during rigorous exercise.

Distancing: Take active measures to distance outside of sport activities.

Travel: All participants must be from low transmission area or be vaccinated. If air/train travel, strongly recommended a negative PCR test be required prior to attending event. Individuals with positive results instructed to not attend.

Accommodations: Up to 4 individuals may share a room, if ALL individuals in room are vaccinated. Max of 2 per room if one individual is unvaccinated. Otherwise, individuals sharing a room must live in the same household.

MODERATE RISK

Event Size and Venue Type: Per local regulations.

Onsite Screening: Must have verbal confirmation of no symptoms for ALL participants and spectators. Recommended onsite temperature checks on arrival daily, for duration of event. Must have signage on preventive measures.

Masks: Required for ALL participants except during rigorous exercise.

Distancing: Distancing required at all times.

Travel: Travel is permitted, with precautions. All participants must be from low transmission area or be vaccinated. If air/train travel, a negative PCR test is required prior to attending event. Individuals with positive results instructed to not attend.

Accommodations: Up to 4 individuals may share a room, if ALL individuals in room are vaccinated. Max of 2 per room if one individual is unvaccinated. Otherwise, individuals sharing a room must live in the same household.

Type of Activity: Stagger start times of event.

Spectators: Limited. Must be separated from athletes and not attend participant areas.

Meals: No self-serve buffet meals. Participants bring own water bottles. Stagger mealtimes and cohort groups.

Non-Sport Gatherings: Minimize large social gatherings, where possible.

Ceremonies: Strongly recommend holding outdoors.

SIGNIFICANT RISK

Event Size and Venue Type:

Outdoor only event: Size per local authority regulations.

Indoor or indoor-outdoor event: ≤ 50 participants.

Onsite Screening: Must have written confirmation of no symptoms for ALL participants and recommended onsite daily temperature checks. Must have signage on preventive measures and reminder to stay home if sick or any symptoms.

Masks: Required for ALL participants, except during rigorous exercise.

Distancing: Distancing required at all times.

Travel: Not permitted outside local area, state, province/territory.

Accommodations: Overnight events with accommodations organized by Special Olympics not permitted.

Type of Activity: Individual sports and indirect contact sports only for competition play; No competitive play for contact sports – drills only; For non-sport, distancing and no direct contact.

Spectators: Not permitted, unless support from caregiver is needed.

Meals: Participants bring their own meals and water bottles and/or pick-up only. Stagger mealtimes and cohort groups.

Non-Sport Gatherings: No large social gatherings

Ceremonies: No in-person opening/closing ceremonies. Find alternatives to placing medals around the athletes' necks to maintain distancing.

Multi-Day Events Testing Protocol: Multi-day/overnight events not permitted.