

Group dance, gymnastics, and martial arts classes

To: All County Attorneys Offices

From: Mike Bennett (direct replies set to Mike)

Re: 11-16-2020 Proclamation- Group dance, gymnastics, and martial arts classes.

We received the following clarification from the Governor's Office regarding application of the restrictions on group dance, gymnastics, martial arts and similar exercise classes:

If the dance, gymnastics, or martial arts activities are conducted in such a manner that six feet of social distancing is maintained at all times from the other participants, then they are considered individual sporting and recreational activities and may still occur. No group activities that involve close contact within six feet are permitted, or else it would become a group sporting or recreational gathering. Competitions involving these activities would also be group gatherings that are prohibited. But classes that maintain six feet of social distancing are not prohibited by the proclamation.

Best regards,

Michael Bennett
Assistant Iowa Attorney General

SPORTS

Iowa High School Athletic Association's football championship games (*Updated: 7:30 p.m., Nov. 16, 2020*) The Iowa High School Athletic Association's football championship games currently set for Thursday and Friday at the UNI-Dome in Cedar Falls fall under high school sporting event guidelines as issued by [Governor Kim Reynolds in an updated proclamation](#) on Monday evening.

- The proclamation will limit attendance to the six championship games to two spectators per participating athlete.
- The IHSAA played [last week's 12 semifinal games](#) with face covering requirements and spectator restrictions at the UNI-Dome due to the continued spread of COVID-19.
- The IHSAA will work with partners at the University of Northern Iowa, Black Hawk County Public Health, the Department of Education, and Iowa state government officials to provide further information and compliance on the planned event.
- Updates and clarifications on championship game protocols as they become available.

Spectator Restrictions

- Face coverings will be required of all spectators. The cities of Cedar Falls and Waterloo are currently under mask mandates.
- UNI-Dome to be cleared and cleaned between games.

VIOLATIONS: State agents are cracking down on bars that violate the governor's new order. Beer Can Alley and American Outlaws in Des Moines and Whiskey River in Ames are the latest to be cited by the Iowa Alcoholic Beverages Division. All three are accused of failing to ensure social distancing and they all face a possible fine. In some cases, a bar's license can also be suspended or revoked for violating the order.

- **[TO FILE A COMPLAINT:](#)** To file a complaint about a concern that a bar, restaurant, or other food establishment is not following the latest [governor's proclamation](#) for social distancing or hygiene. This pertains to DIA operations related to the 2020 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. Any new or updated information will be posted here as it is released.

[TIDBITS](#) (*Effective at 12:01 a.m. on Nov 17, and continuing until 11:59 p.m. on Dec 10*)

Use of Masks or Face Coverings Indoors (*Last updated 11/17/20*)

- All people two or older must wear a mask or other face covering when inside an indoor space that is open to the public and within six feet of individuals who are not members of their household for 15 minutes or longer. Please see the [proclamation](#) for exceptions.

Restaurants and Bars (*Last updated 11/17/20*)

A restaurant or bar, including a wedding reception venue, winery, brewery, distillery, country club, or other social or fraternal club, may reopen or remain open to serve food and beverages on its premises, but only to the extent that it complies with the following requirements:

- **Hours limited:** The establishment must close to the general public for in-person consumption on its premises at 10:00 p.m. and may not reopen until 6:00 a.m. the following day.
 - This does not prohibit an establishment from continuing to serve food or beverages, to the extent permitted by applicable law if the food or beverages are promptly taken from the premises, such as a carry-out or drive through basis, or if the food or beverage is delivered to customers off the premises.
- **Social distancing:** The establishment must ensure at least six feet of physical distance between each group or individual dining alone.
 - Seating at booths closer than six feet may satisfy this requirement if the booths are separated by a barrier of a sufficient height to fully separate seated customers.
 - **All patrons must have a seat at a table or booth and must consume their food or beverage while seated at the table or booth.**

- Establishments must limit patrons from congregating together closer than six feet.
- **Groups limited:** The establishment must limit the group size seated together to **no more than eight people** unless all members of the group are members of the same household.
- **Private gatherings prohibited:** The establishment must not host private social gatherings larger than **15 people indoors or 30 people outdoors** that are prohibited by this Proclamation, regardless of the group size seated together at a table.
- **Masks required while not seated:** The establishment must require all customers to wear a mask or face covering while in the establishment unless seated at a properly distanced booth or table.
 - This includes while participating in any games, pool, arcades, dancing, or karaoke.
 - The establishment must also require all employees who interact with customers to wear a mask or face covering.
- **Other social distancing, hygiene, and public health measures:** The restaurant shall also implement reasonable measures under the circumstances of each restaurant to ensure social distancing of employees and customers, increased hygiene practices, and other public health measures to reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19 consistent with guidance issued by the Iowa Department of Inspections and Appeals and the Iowa Department of Public Health.

If you have further questions related to food safety guidelines, please email the Iowa Department of Inspections and Appeals (DIA) at food@dia.iowa.gov.

Mass Gatherings and Events *(Last updated 11/17/20)*

- **Indoor gatherings of more than 15 people prohibited:** Social, community, business, or leisure gatherings or events of more than 15 people are prohibited at all indoor locations and venues unless explicitly permitted by this Proclamation or all members of the gathering live in the same household.
 - This includes wedding and funeral receptions, family gatherings, festivals, conventions, fundraisers, and other nonessential gatherings and events where people who do not ordinarily live or work together congregate indoors.
 - This section does not apply to restrict gatherings that occur during the ordinary course of business or government between employees or members of the public, including but not limited to gatherings in an office or manufacturing workplace, normal retail operations, or other establishments explicitly addressed in this Proclamation.
- **Outdoor gatherings of more than 30 people prohibited:** Social, community, business, or leisure gatherings or events of more than 30 people are prohibited at all outdoor

locations and venues unless explicitly permitted by this Proclamation or all members of the gathering live in the same household.

- This includes wedding and funeral receptions, family gatherings, festivals, conventions, fundraisers, and other nonessential gatherings and events where people who do not ordinarily live or work together congregate indoors.
- This section does not apply to restrict gatherings that occur during the ordinary course of business or government between employees or members of the public, including but not limited to gatherings in an office or manufacturing workplace, normal retail operations, or other establishments explicitly addressed in this Proclamation.

Theaters and Performance Venues *(Updated 11.17.20)*

Any theater or performance venue at which motion pictures are shown or live performances are held may reopen or remain open, but only to the extent that the theater complies with the following requirements:

- **Social distancing:** The theater or performance venue must ensure at least six feet of physical distance between each group or individual attending alone when seated in the theater.
- **Other social distancing, hygiene, and public health measures:** The theater shall also implement reasonable measures under the circumstances of each theater to ensure social distancing of employees and customers, increased hygiene practices, and other public health measures to reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19 consistent with guidance issued by the Iowa Department of Public Health and, for any food service, the Iowa Department of Inspections and Appeals.