

LA County Economic Resiliency Task Force

Sports & Large Venue Entertainment

Phased Reopening Plan

May 29, 2020

Overview

Reopening Plan Goal

- Work closely with LA County Public Health and county/city/state leadership to reopen operations for large venues and organizations hosting sports, live events, and other live experiences.
- Implement highest safety standards for both employees and guests to minimize potential transmission of COVID-19 while reinvigorating businesses, labor, and a significant share of the Los Angeles economy.
- Establish common foundational policy to ensure operational consistency across venues.

Sector Strengths

- Venue operators already have deep operational experience and extensive resources and infrastructure to enforce and regulate rigorous standards, and maintain highest precautions.
- Key operators are concentrated in number and have existing relationships with the city/state/county, which will lead to more efficient, effective communications and streamlined, consistent operations.

High Urgency

- With CA moving toward Phase 3 on a by-county basis, venues must be prepared and equipped to reopen as soon as formal approval is granted by LA County.
- Enormous need to reinvigorate local economy, employment, and consumer spending; as well as significant potential loss of tangential city/county/state revenue.

Proposed Execution

- Reopening of venues will follow a four-phase rollout to maximize economic potential while still maintaining alignment with city/county/state regulations: Training & Facilities, Spectator-less Events, Limited Capacity, Return to Full Capacity
- Approved plan to serve as common policy across venues, with expectation that individual stakeholders should overlay additional venue/league-specific guidelines as needed.

Where we are today



California has moved toward **Stage Three** in the state's Five-Stage Reopening Process

- State is giving **individual counties primary jurisdiction** over rollout into Stage Three.
- As of Tuesday May 26, **47 of 58 counties have filed documentation** with the state and will move toward Stage Three.
- With Los Angeles County anticipated to also do so imminently, Los Angeles-based sports leagues, venues, and live event operators **must be prepared to reopen as soon as they receive they receive the green light** from the County.
- Stage Three venue operations will encompass **Training & Facilities** and **Spectator-less Events**.

Venues & Teams represented

Venues

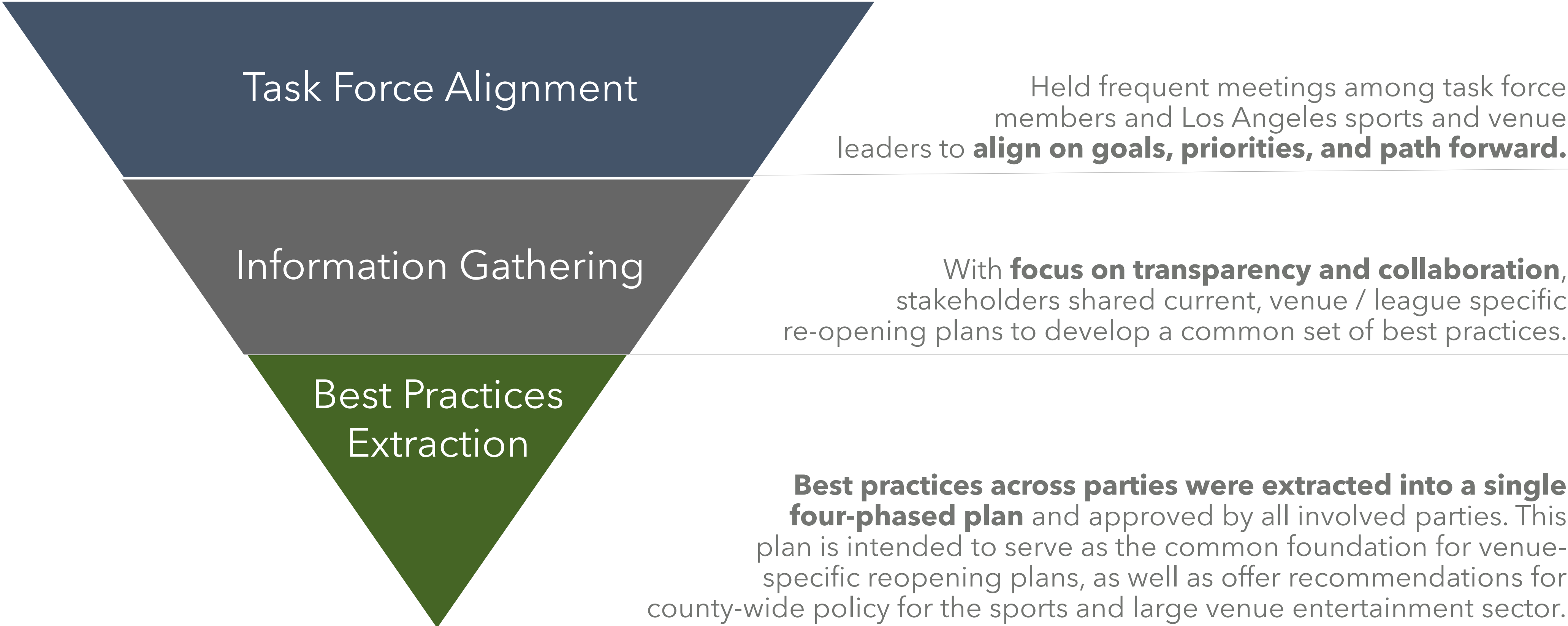
- Banc of California Stadium
- Dignity Health Sports Park
- Dodger Stadium
- Greek Theatre
- Hollywood Bowl
- LA Memorial Coliseum
- Microsoft Theater
- Pomona Fairplex
- Rose Bowl Stadium
- Santa Anita Park
- SoFi Stadium
- Staples Center
- The Forum
- UCLA Athletics
- USC Athletics

Teams

- LA Chargers
- LA Clippers
- LA Dodgers
- LA Galaxy
- LA Kings
- LA Lakers
- LA Rams
- LA Sparks
- LAFC
- USC & UCLA Sports

Note: This list is not exhaustive, and common policy is intended to extend across LA County venues and teams.

Developing the common reopening plan



Guiding principles

01

Hold health of staff and customers as paramount priority

- Implement high, consistent standards of sanitization, infection control, and physical distancing protocol to minimize potential for COVID-19 transmission.
- Develop and enforce policy with health, safety, and well-being of employees, athletes and customers as first and foremost concern.

02

Collaborate closely with city, county & state leadership

- Ensure policies and communications are aligned and updated regularly.
- Work transparently with public leadership to facilitate timely information sharing.
- Implement protocol for positive virus test / contact tracing.

03

Reduce unemployment and boost consumer activity

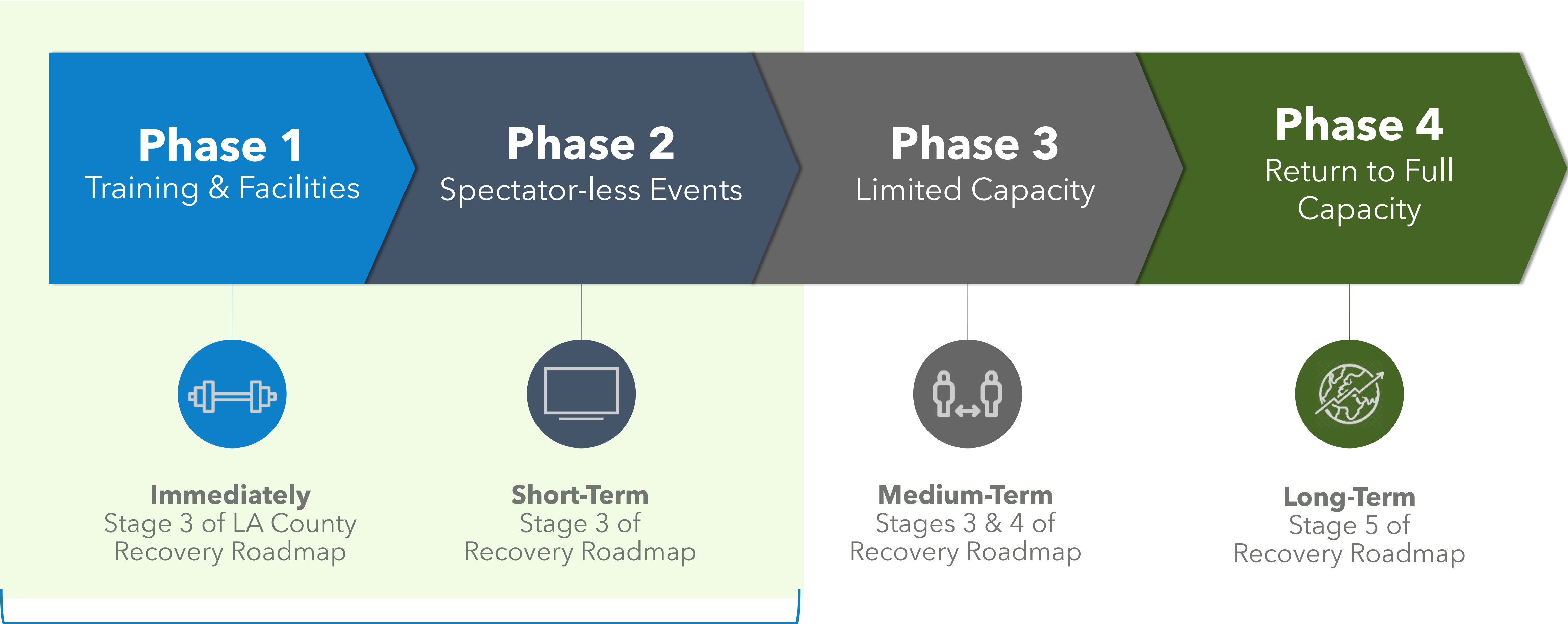
- With unemployment at ~20%, we must get people back to work as soon as possible.
- With a forecasted decrease in taxable sales of 26-38% due to COVID-19, it is vital to reinvigorate consumer confidence and the economy.

04

Plan early and ahead to allow for swift ramp up

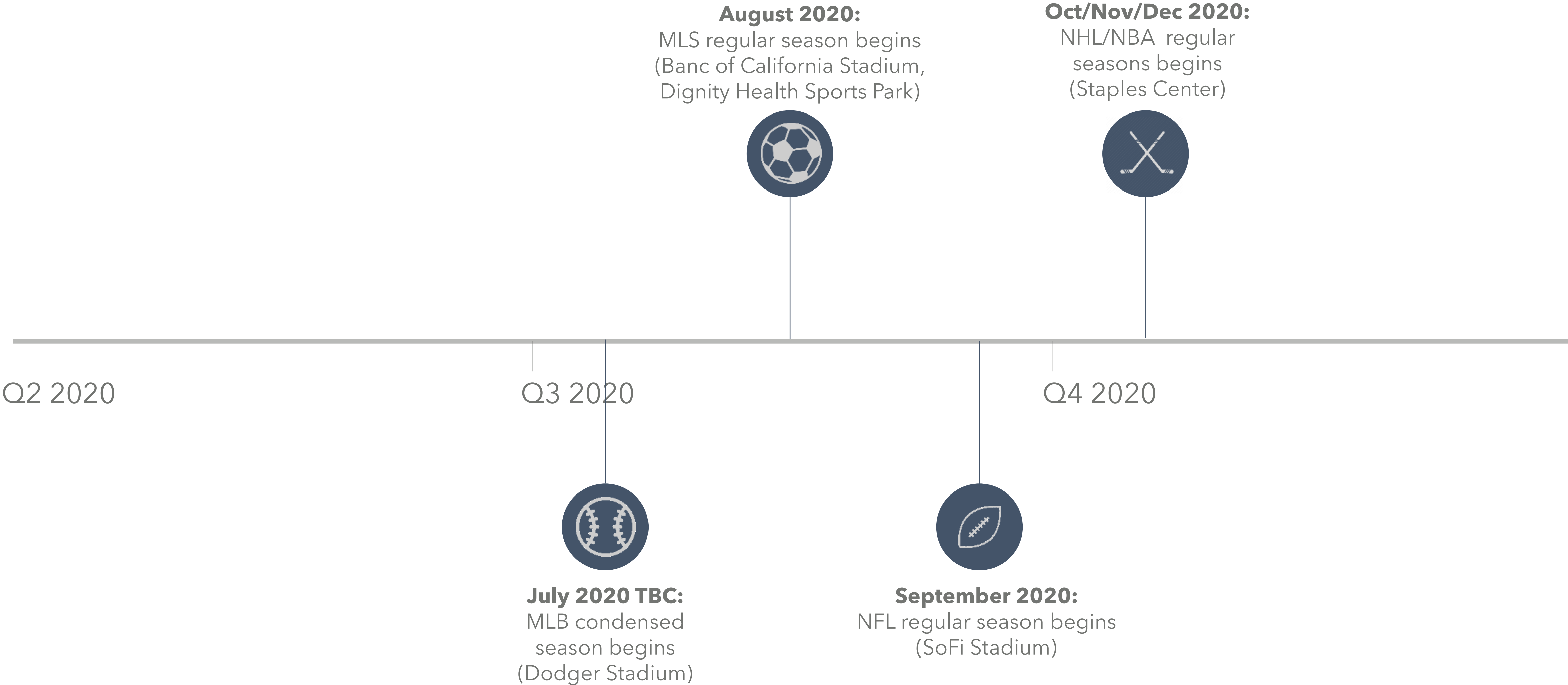
- Phased approach allows for incremental reopening of venue operations.
- Common framework decreases uncertainty and promotes advanced planning; stakeholders may continuously prepare for activation of next phase(s).

Reopening phases for sports and venues



Where we are today

Key upcoming target events



Phase I: Training & Facilities

Personnel / Staff Best Practices (1/2)

- All staff required to wear masks, execute proper handwashing techniques, follow proper coughing and sneezing etiquette, arrive with acceptable body temperature range, and maintain physical distancing.
 - Appropriate PPE is worn by all staff and team members based on their roles and responsibilities in accordance with Cal-OSHA and LACPH. Training on how to properly use and dispose of PPE is mandatory.
 - Uniforms are cleaned after each use.
 - There will be no sharing of personal items.
- Rigorous monitoring:
 - To be eligible to work, all personnel must be healthy and not displaying any COVID-19-related symptoms for at least two weeks.
 - All personnel will administer daily self-temperature checks at home.
 - All personnel will be screened for body temperature and/or flu-like symptoms before on-site entry. Anyone confirmed with body temperature of over 100.4° F will be sent home and recommended to seek medical help based upon CDC guidance for both flu and COVID-19.
 - Any employee who tests positive for COVID-19 must be reported to appropriate department(s) immediately so that a risk assessment may be conducted, response plan formulated, and communications plan activated.
 - All personnel are required to provide pertinent information to allow for expedited contact tracing.

Personnel / Staff Best Practices (2/2)

- Mandatory COVID-19 training:
 - Official acknowledgement of training must be submitted prior to reporting for work.
 - All trainings to be documented and filed.
- As operationally possible, alternate staff schedule, creating separate “teams” to work each event to minimize overlap of varied employees and reduce exposure.
- Unless granted specific exception, all staff will not have close contact or in-person interactions with athletes / talent / “players access” personnel or touch surfaces/objects that aforementioned parties are likely to touch.

Athletes & Training Staff Best Practices

- Rigorous monitoring:
 - All athletes & training staff will be screened for body temperature and/or flu-like symptoms before on-site entry, with anyone confirmed with body temperature of over 100.4° F will not be allowed entry and will be advised to take measures consistent with public health guidelines.
 - Any athlete and/or training staff who test positive for COVID-19 must be reported to appropriate department(s) immediately so that a risk assessment may be conducted, response plan formulated, and communications plan activated.
- Athlete training protocols will follow the general roadmap below:
 - Individual athlete training
 - Small group training
 - Large group training
- Athletes and staff must adhere to the following:
 - No signs or symptoms of COVID-19 in the past 14 days
 - No close sustained contact with anyone who is sick within 14 days of beginning group training
 - To the best extent possible, avoid changes in small group participants to minimize overlap of varied athletes / staff.
- Face coverings (cloth or surgical-type mask) will be worn at all times other than while exercising (for athletes), when entering or leaving the venue/club facility, and while inside the venue/club facility.
- All participants should use their own equipment / should not share equipment and train so that physical distancing can be maintained.
- There will be no sharing of personal items (water bottles, towels, etc.).
- Any treatments with athletes should be done in a 1 on 1 manner with patient wearing face mask and clinician wearing face mask and gloves (change between patients)
- As operationally possible, assign athletes, training staff, and “players access” personnel their own dedicated entrances.

Physical Distancing Best Practices

- All employees, athletes, training staff, third parties, and anyone on the premises are required to maintain >6 feet (or current LA Public Health mandated) distance.
- Assess and make required changes to communal areas (office space, break room, locker room, restrooms, elevators, etc.) in order to adhere to physical distancing protocol
 - Mark and monitor capacity restrictions within individual areas/rooms as needed to ensure appropriate physical distancing following Los Angeles County Public Health guidelines.
- Only staff essential to operations, participating contracted players, and training staff permitted on premises. Encourage employees who are able to conduct work remotely to work from home.
- Any areas where personnel queue (i.e. entrances, restrooms, etc.) are clearly marked with capacities and physical distancing markers (currently at 6 feet).
- Stagger schedules, start times, and entry times as operationally possible.
- Stagger parking in parking lots/garages (at least one empty space between cars).
- As operationally feasible, high traffic doors (entrances, restrooms, etc.) to be propped open.
- Training sessions to be conducted following appropriate physical distancing guidelines and without any direct contact between athletes.

Sanitizing Best Practices (1/2)

- Disinfecting/sanitizing guidelines are not a replacement for cleaning but are an added level for prevention of germ and bacteria buildup.
- All surface sanitation products (spray and wipe) must be registered on EPA List N (Approved for use against SARS-CoV-2).
- Each venue to create and implement a detailed disinfectant plan that at the very least addresses the following areas:
 - Disinfection of high touch areas.
 - Increase Frequency of cleaning.
 - Monitor, report and track cleaning.
 - HVAC Air Purification protocols.
 - Restroom occupancy needs to be reviewed and or changed to either a 50% capacity or as otherwise determined by state and local guidelines.
 - Other Restroom operations including but not limited to the capacity, flow through, loitering, urinals, stalls, sinks, mirrors, supply replenishment, and staff oversight should be all reviewed.
 - Plan to follow a rigorous, monitored, and documented schedule.
- Hand sanitizer dispensers and/or hand washing stations to be placed and regularly maintained at entrances, key high-touch/high-contact areas, and other identified locations.
- Venues to identify where refuse will be collected and how it will be managed and discarded.

Sanitizing Best Practices (2/2)

- All personnel equipment is sanitized before, during, and after shifts and/or breaks. This includes, but is not limited to radios, scanners, keys, workstations, jackets, mop heads, brooms, etc.
- Athlete / training specific sanitization practices:
 - All training facilities (locker rooms, medical rooms, performance facilities, etc.) to be subject to daily regular disinfecting throughout the day, between different training groups, and a thorough disinfecting again at end of day.
 - Implement rigorous, frequent cleaning schedule/protocol of equipment with disinfectant before, during, and after training.
 - Any machinery / equipment that need to be shared (treadmills, exercise benches, etc.) must be disinfected between uses by different individuals.
 - Any personal used items that remain at the venue (towels, uniforms, etc.) to be washed in accordance with Los Angeles County Public Health and CDC directives.
 - Venues to work directly with sports leagues to implement any additional disinfecting/sanitizing directives.

Communications Best Practices

- Curate all updated COVID-19 event information on physical distancing, sanitization procedures, and event policies.
- Communication methods such as trainings, production meetings, and internal newsletters/alerts to educate and inform all team tenants and personnel of operational changes and guidelines.
- Post signage throughout, both inside and outside, the venue highlighting sanitization protocols, hand sanitizer locations, physical distancing markers.
- Communicate all COVID-19 policies and procedures to team tenants, professional sports teams, team staff, athletes, and entourages.
- Provide an Emergency Action Plan for all COVID-19 challenges
 - Designate the Chief Hygiene Officer, (CHO), the main point of contact person who is implementing and overseeing all cleaning and infectious protocols.
 - Emergency contact info of all personnel on property.
 - Ability to do contact tracing of all personnel and athletes.
 - Health Screening policy for personnel and athletes to follow.
 - Face coverings and PPE policy implementation.
 - Mass communication policy for CHO to be able to instantly communicate with all personnel.
 - Direct communication channels with LA County Public Health.

Phase II: Spectator-less Events

Personnel / Staff Best Practices

- All Personnel / Staff Best Practices in Phase 1 (Training & Facilities) to be maintained throughout Phase 2.
- Working with external partners (sports teams, event organizers, etc.), vet all staff lists to determine essential personnel necessary in venue to operate the event and keep to minimal numbers.
- As operationally possible, assign/schedule staff to alternate events, creating separate “teams” to work each event to minimize overlap of varied employees and reduce exposure.

Athletes & Training Staff Best Practices

- Physical distancing should be practiced to the extent possible on the field/in-game play and in training, though guidelines may be adjusted subject to limitations of competition and the fundamentals of certain sports.
- Face coverings (cloth or surgical-type mask) will be worn at all times other than while exercising or in game play (for athletes), when entering or leaving the venue/club facility, and while inside the venue/club facility.
- Rigorous monitoring:
 - All athletes & training staff will be screened for body temperature and/or flu-like symptoms before on-site entry, with anyone confirmed with body temperature of over 100.4° F will not be allowed entry and will be advised to take measures consistent with professional/collegiate/national league guidelines.
 - Any athlete and/or training staff who test positive for COVID-19 must be reported to appropriate department(s) immediately so that a risk assessment may be conducted, response plan formulated, and communications plan activated.
 - If players and training staff will engage in direct contact, they will be tested for COVID-19 on a weekly basis, at minimum.
- All efforts will be made to ensure that risks will be mitigated for the team's arrival. As operationally possible, private transportation will be arranged for all athletes and competition staff.
- All participants should use their own equipment / should not share equipment unless absolutely necessary.
 - Any training equipment that needs to be shared (treadmills, exercise benches, etc.) must be disinfected between uses by different individuals.
 - All shared operations equipment used for in-game play and other event preparation will be sanitized before and after every shift.
- There will be no sharing of personal items (water bottles, towels, etc.).
- Any treatments with athletes should be done in a 1 on 1 manner with patient wearing face mask and clinician wearing face mask and gloves (change between patients)
- As operationally possible, assign athletes, training staff, and "players access" personnel their own dedicated entrances.
- To the extent that physical contact is unavoidable, athletes & training staff will wash their hands before and after any interactions.

Food & Beverage Best Practices

- Back of House
 - Sanitizer buckets are used at the end of night (i.e. buckets of bleach water) for cut gloves, knives, etc.
 - Preparation and production areas in kitchens are clearly marked with kitchen tape to ensure social distancing is maintained.
 - Production menus are laminated for kitchen staff and sanitized after each use.
 - Cut/prepped produce is stored in sanitized sealed containers or bags.
 - Time and temperature guidelines are implemented on holding of all food aligned with LACPH requirements.
 - All warehouse/runners use Nitrile gloves for all deliveries, in addition to wiping down receivables. Sani-wipes and hand sanitizer stations are provided in all zones.
 - A sanitizing schedule for all equipment will be implemented through each shift by a designated sanitarian/steward. This includes inspecting all high-touch surfaces, mop heads, and kitchen small wares to ensure sanitization and safety requirements.
- Catering
 - All meals are served in pre-packed containers by food service attendants.
 - All snacks available are in single serving packaged size options.
 - Condiments are provided in individual pre-packaged portions.
 - Utensils are individually wrapped.
 - No outside vendor catering is allowed.
- Dining Table/Seating Space
 - Working personnel dining seating and tables are spaced throughout multiple catering areas to provide adequate physical distancing. All areas are sanitized as part of housekeeping guidelines.

Event Production Best Practices

- Building Access: Stagehands and production crew access limited to those actively working only.
- Load In/Out Guidelines: Stage crew uses LACPH Construction Guidelines to load in and load out events.
- Check In Area: For large crews, create a check-in area outside of the venue to keep proper physical distancing until shift/crew call starts.
- Truck Parking: Venue coordinates with broadcast networks on TV truck parking plan for each event.
- TV Crews: Limited to essential personnel who are required to stay in assigned work areas only. Networks provide different credential or wristband that limits access to their specific work location (i.e. TV Truck, bowl, locker room, etc.).
- Media Feeds: Broadcasting network provides game feed in assigned areas for credentialed media.
- Event/Operations Crew: Event/Operations crews stations moved to Marshalling Area so they can adhere to physical distancing during events.

Media Best Practices

- *Note:* The presence, quantity, working roles, and locations of media members in the venue is dependent on the decisions from the professional sports leagues and team tenants.
- Designated rooms / spaces
 - Media Room: Limited capacity in media and press areas with reduced space and chairs to ensure proper physical distancing, currently 6'.
 - Press Conferences: Work with Teams/Professional/University Sports Leagues to limit number of reporters in each press conference.
 - A designated room in the locker room corridor will be provided for pre and post-game interviews.
- A single camera and reporter provided by Network/Broadcast television rights holder will be required to provide a pool feed of interviews to media watching in press room due to physical distancing requirements.
- Access Levels: Court and dressing room hallway access is limited based on physical distancing.
- Photographers: Recommend photographers shoot from elevated locations and not on the playing surface, adhering to proper physical distancing.
- Broadcast Locations: As operationally possible, recommend camera operators are moved to seating sections or other specified location to allow for physical distancing with players.

Physical Distancing Best Practices

- All Physical Distancing Best Practices in Phase 1 (Training & Facilities) to be maintained throughout Phase 2.
 - *Exception:* Physical distancing should be practiced to the extent possible on the field/in-game play and in training, though guidelines may be adjusted subject to limitations of competition and the fundamentals of certain sports.
- Non game-related physical contact or unsanitary behavior (fighting, spitting, chewing tobacco, etc.) is strictly prohibited.
- As operationally possible, assign separate entrances and/or arrival times for specific cohorts of personnel (athletes, training staff & “players access” personnel, general venue staff, media, etc.).

Sanitizing Best Practices

- All Sanitizing Best Practices in Phase 1 (Training & Facilities) to be maintained throughout Phase 2.
- Venue Heads of Department are responsible for cleaning the following production equipment after each event: lighting board, consoles, spotlights, sun guns, microphones, headsets, belt packs, hard hats, etc.
 - Certain broadcast and event equipment, including monitors, League issued scoring equipment, etc., will be cleaned and sanitized before and after each event
 - Technical cleaning service is brought in as frequently as three times per week for specialty equipment, and cleaning company/cleaning staff to handle on other days.
 - Staff to sanitize all stations and cameras daily, before and after events, and provide easily accessible disinfecting wipes and gel for the crew to use as desired.
- Mechanical equipment: At the beginning and end of each shift, the assigned loading dock personnel sprays and wipes down each high-touch areas (scissor lifts, forklifts, pallet jacks, carts, etc.).

Communications Best Practices

- All Communications Best Practices in Phase 1 (Training & Facilities) to be maintained throughout Phase 2.
- Venue Website: Update event policies on websites on an ongoing basis, with relevant COVID-19 information and guidelines to be emphasized.
- E-mail, Social Media & Consumer Media: Promote all COVID-19 policies and procedures via email, social postings and, as appropriate, interviews with television, radio and print outlets.

Additional Best Practices

- Deliveries: No outside deliveries are brought directly into the venue. Venue personnel accepts deliveries outside of the venue and brought in by venue staff to reduce outside carriers from entering the venue.
- Security
 - Perimeter Checkpoints: Place barricade surrounding the venue to separate general public from event personnel, athletes, etc.
 - Tunnel Management: Tunnel access to/from back of house and field of play areas is not stopped during gameplay.
 - Player/Official Escorts: To be handled based on physical distancing guidelines as established by LACPH and Professional Leagues.
 - Event Level Ramp Access: Limited to players and essential personnel only (20 - 25 vehicles). Alternate entrances are assigned for all other personnel.
- Parking
 - Stagger parking in parking lots/garages (at least one empty space between cars).
 - Valet Procedures (players): Attendants switch gloves after each car. Attendants use sanitization wipes to clean steering wheel, shift knob, and door handles before and after vehicle is parked.
 - Limit event level ramp access to players only.
 - Procedures for visiting team drop-offs and pick-ups, per league and LACPH requirements.
 - No car service vehicles (limos/Uber/Lyft) can park inside the event level loading dock. Drop-off and pick-up only, drivers must stay inside the vehicle.