

# New Top Flight Event Format

The Top Flight staff has worked on a new format to help us through the upcoming 2020-2021 season. We have tried to identify and address many of the concerns which might be related to pandemic issues at hand. Although we understand we cannot eliminate the risk of exposure we are doing our due diligence to minimize the risk to our participants, patrons and staff.

## 1) How do we minimize the amount of people in the gym at any given time?

- a. The format for all Top Flight events will be changed to the following
  - i. Pools of 4 teams playing on 2 courts at the same time.
    1. This will give each team 3 full matches (25/25/15).
    2. We will split up the six matches across two courts. This will require 3 rounds of play taking approximately 3 hours to complete.
    3. There will be no ref team (score table, line judges nor R2s)
    4. Warmups will only be done prior to the first match. No warmups will be held before rounds 2 and 3.
  - ii. Pools of 3 teams playing on 1 court.
    1. This will give each team 2 full matches (25/25/15). There will be 3 rounds of play taking approximately 3 hours to complete.
    2. Each match will guarantee three sets to be played. Each team will play guaranteed 6 sets on these dates.
    3. Sitting team will not ref nor be by the court. Players must socially distance when sitting and waiting for their next match.
    4. Warmups will be done prior to a team's first match. A team who played the previous match will not have warmups for their next consecutive match.
  - iii. Will not have 5 team pools across two courts.
- b. By instituting the above format we will be able to reduce the overall player and team attendance in the facility by up to 50%.
- c. In addition we will be recommending spectators limit the amount of people in attendance where possible. We are recommending only one spectator per athlete attend.

## 2) How will matches be reffed?

- a. We will employ a single R1 for all matches.
- b. R1s will use electronic or hand whistles and wear a mask at all times.
- c. The R1 will ref the match and keep score from the ref stand.
- d. Any call the R1 cannot definitively see himself will result in an automatic replay.
- e. There will be no designated work team to assist reffing duties.
- f. Ref stands will be cleaned and disinfected between each wave.

- 3) Will there be handshakes before and/or after matches.**
  - a. No, each team will line up on the 3m line and wave prior to the match starting and once again when completed.
- 4) Will outside food policies be changed?**
  - a. Top Flight will relax our rules regarding outside food.
  - b. Concessions will be open with a limited selection of options (snacks and drinks) but teams can bring in items as they need.
- 5) What time will the facility open?**
  - a. Doors to the gym will open no earlier than 30 minutes prior to the start of their first scheduled match.
- 6) Will there be a gap in time where people can leave the gym before other waves enter?**
  - a. There will be a 15-30 minute window between waves.
  - b. Additional cleaning will be done during this time frame in preparation of the next wave of teams.
  - c. Volleyballs will be either sanitized and/or replaced for each subsequent wave.
- 7) Payment options at the facility?**
  - a. Credit, debit and contactless payments will be preferred.
  - b. If paying by cash please pay the exact amount. We want to reduce the amount of cash/coin exchanging hands whenever possible.
- 8) Seating options at the facility?**
  - a. Top Flight will have limited bleacher seating. Please socially distance if using bleachers.
  - b. In addition there may be space available for you to bring your own chairs.
- 9) Will masks be required while in the facility?**
  - a. Masks and/or face coverings will be required for all individuals in the facility..
  - b. Spectators wearing masks must wear them properly covering their mouth and nose.
  - c. Players will be required to wear masks at all times while in the facility.
  - d. Coaches, referees and general staff will be required to wear masks at all times.
  - e. Refusal to wear a mask will be grounds to be removed from the facility.
- 10) Miscellaneous Items**
  - a. Top Flight will use the gap of time between waves to have their staff clean and disinfect the facility including bleachers, shelves, bathrooms, nets, poles, ref stands, balls, carts and every other general area. This will require as few people in the gym as possible so please do not arrive more than 30 minutes before your scheduled start time.
  - b. Shelves will be available for players to store their bags and equipment. We highly recommend no congregating or standing in the aisle by the shelves when using them.
  - c. Top Flight may use fewer courts in the gym to reduce headcount in the facility as well as create additional space between players, coaches, refs and parents.
  - d. We recommend all people not on the court abide by social distancing guidelines wherever possible. We also recommend washing hands before and after playing.
  - e. We recommend players on the bench to socially distance as much as possible.
  - f. Temperature checks will be done on everyone entering the facility. You must have a 100.3 or less reading to enter. If you fail the test you will be denied entry.
  - g. If you do not feel well or have not felt well in the past 48 hours then we recommend you stay at home.