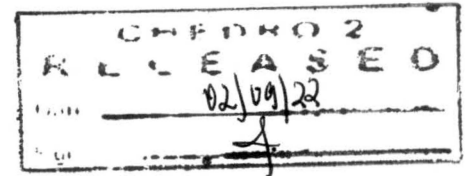




Republic of the Philippines
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION
Region 02



REGIONAL MEMORANDUM ORDER
No.037, series of 2022

FOR : ALL PRESIDENTS/OFFICERS-IN-CHARGE/HEADS OF PUBLIC AND PRIVATE HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS IN REGION 2

SUBJECT : CHED-DOH JOINT MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR NO. 5 SERIES OF 2021, "GUIDELINES ON THE RESUMPTION OF COLLEGIATE SPORTS STAY-IN TRAINING DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC"

DATE : JANUARY 8, 2022

Attached is a copy of the **Joint Memorandum Circular (JMC) No. 5, series of 2021** of the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) and Department of Health (DOH) regarding the **Guidelines on the Resumption of the Collegiate Sports Stay-In Training During the COVID 19 Pandemic.**

The said Joint Memorandum Circular shall apply to both public and private Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) conducting collegiate sports training during this COVID 19 pandemic.

For information and reference.


ATTY. MARCO CICERO F. DOMINGO
OIC-Director IV

Kindly rate the delivery of our services through the link below:

Link: <http://bit.ly/CHEDRO2CSS>

Your response shall help us improve our systems and procedures so we can better serve you.

Thank you.

Encl.: as stated

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COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

[Date] December 14, 2021

JOINT MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR

No. 05
Series of 2021

SUBJECT: GUIDELINES ON THE RESUMPTION OF COLLEGIATE SPORTS STAY-IN TRAINING DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

I. RATIONALE

The COVID-19 pandemic has caused disruption in education and all its aspects, including a halt of athletic competitions worldwide. Despite the changes brought about by the pandemic, such as restriction of group training in order to protect the health of athletes and closure of physical infrastructures of institutions and training facilities and/or centers, it is important that the physical and mental health of student-athletes in conjunction with their well-being are addressed. Increased sports participation at all levels makes an important contribution to the physical, psychological and emotional well-being of student-athletes. Studies have shown that participation in sports leads to reduced levels of anxiety and depression and improved fitness among other things. This will lead to direct economic, and educational benefits and contribution to social capital through connectivity and resilience creating stronger, cohesive communities at the population level.

Allowing the gradual return of face-to-face or physical training, with the strictest possible standards set by the lead governmental agencies and experts, will help in achieving a sense of normalcy.

In the pursuit of a holistic approach to increase physical and mental wellness and resilience of student-athletes in the tertiary level, CHED, in coordination with PSC and the DOH, issue these guidelines on the conduct of collegiate sports training during the COVID-19 pandemic, following the minimum health protocols set forth by the DOH and the provisions and guidelines of the Joint Administrative Order No. 2020-0001 entitled "Guidelines on the Conduct of Health



Enhancing Physical Activities and Sports during the COVID-19 Pandemic " issued by the PSC, Games and Amusements Board (GAB), and the DOH.

II. SCOPE AND COVERAGE

This Joint Memorandum Circular (JMC) shall apply to both public and private Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) conducting collegiate sports training during this COVID-19 pandemic.

III. DEFINITION OF TERMS

- A. **Administrative control** - refers to procedural interventions or modifications in policies, standards, and processes, that are meant to reduce the frequency and severity of exposure to infectious diseases (e.g. hygiene and disinfection protocols, temperature scan, work shifting, etc.).
- B. **Athletic association** - refers to any public or private organization that is responsible for governing inter-school athletic programs and competitions including, but not limited to, the Private Schools Athletic Association (PRISAA), the University Athletic Association of the Philippines (UAAP), the National College Athletic Association of the Philippines (NCAA), the Women's National Collegiate Athletic Association (WNCAA), the State Colleges and Universities Athletic Association (SCUAA), the Cebu Schools Athletic Foundation, Inc. (CESAFI), the National Capital Regional Athletic Association (NCRAA), the Association of Local Colleges and Universities Athletic Association (ALCUAA) and the National Athletic Association of Schools, Colleges and Universities (NAASCU);
- C. **Contact sports and activities** - refer to sports or activities that involve physical contact between and among participants (whether such physical contact is part of the rules of the games or not) or causing them to be within one (1) meter or less to any other person at any point during the activity (e.g. football, basketball, etc.).
- D. **Collegiate training** - refers to sports or activities in which a student-athlete engages in while being supervised or managed by the HEI, observing the health protocols as laid down in these guidelines to ensure the student-athlete's health and safety, without compromising the community and the country's welfare
- E. **COVID-19 Alert Levels System** - refers to the new Community Quarantine Classifications for dealing with COVID-19 covering entire cities and/or municipalities; aimed to manage and minimize the risk of the disease through system indicators, triggers, and Thresholds determined by the Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF-EID) to specify the public health and social measures to be taken in relation to the COVID-19 response, as may be updated based on new scientific knowledge, information about the effectiveness of control measures in the country and overseas, and its application. (Reference: Guidelines on the Implementation of Alert Levels system for COVID-19 response in pilot areas, as of November 04, 2021)

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1. Alert Level 1 - refers to areas wherein case transmission is low and decreasing, total bed utilization rate, and intensive care unit (ICU) utilization rate is low.
 2. Alert Level 2 - refers to areas wherein case transmission is low and decreasing, healthcare utilization is low, or case counts are low but increasing, or case counts are low and decreasing but total bed utilization rate and ICU utilization rate is increasing.
 3. Alert Level 3 - refers to areas wherein case counts are high and/or increasing, with total bed utilization rate and ICU utilization rate at increasing utilization.
 4. Alert Level 4 - refers to areas wherein case counts are high and/or increasing, with total bed utilization rate and ICU utilization rate at high utilization.
 5. Alert Level 5 - refers to areas wherein case counts are alarming, with total bed utilization rate and ICU utilization rate at critical utilization.
- F. **Engineering control** - refers to physical interventions or modifications in spaces or environments, that are meant to prevent the transmission of infectious diseases (e.g. use of physical barriers, exhaust ventilations, etc.).
- G. **Higher Education Institutions (HEIs)** - refers to educational institutions, private or public, undertaking operations of higher education program/s with an organized group of students pursuing defined studies in higher education, receiving instruction from teachers, usually located in a building or group of buildings in a particular site specifically intended for educational purposes.
- H. **Indoor sports and activities** - refer to sports or activities that are conducted inside an enclosed or indoor constructed facility with artificial ventilation and overhead enclosure.
- I. **On-campus training** – refers to the conduct of collegiate training of student-athletes in designated areas of the HEI. This may be stay-in or stay-out training.
- J. **Off-campus training** - refers to the conduct of collegiate training of student-athletes outside the premises of the HEI.
- K. **Outdoor sports and activities** - refer to sports or activities that are conducted in open spaces that are accessible to all individuals or in a space that may have a roof but not enclosed by walls.
- L. **Stay-in training** – refers to covid-restrictive training in which the student-athletes, coaches and those assisting in the training are isolated from the general public in order to limit exposure and reduce the opportunity for community spread. It includes HEIs with dormitory facilities adjacent to but not physically inside the campus.
- M. **Stay-out training** – refers to on-campus training in which student-athletes can travel to and from their residence for training.

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- N. **Student-Athlete** - refers to a student currently enrolled in any school who is a member of any of the school's athletic teams or programs and who represents or has intentions of representing the school in an inter-school athletic program or competition. The student-athlete must be enrolled in at least a minimum full-time curricular program and must be in good standing to be eligible to represent the school in an inter-school athletic program or competition.

IV. GENERAL GUIDELINES

- A. Collegiate sports training on-campus and off-campus premises is prohibited in areas under Alert level 5 and granular lockdown areas. HEIs located in provinces/cities/municipalities under Alert level 5 status and areas under lockdown shall ensure that student-athletes, coaching staff, medical team, cooks, drivers as well as all ancillary staff can immediately go home to their respective residences, following the DOH and LGU protocols.
- B. Virtual or online training is still highly encouraged and most preferred in high-risk areas. HEIs shall undertake to have virtual training of student-athletes regardless of the imposition of quarantine or alert level status. HEIs shall adopt leniency in facilitating virtual training and shall not sanction student-athletes who opt for virtual training.
- C. A training may be considered as on-campus stay-in if the athletes, coaches, and other personnel are training and staying in a common athletes' dormitory or housing facility located inside the campus of a college, university, or HEI. They shall not be allowed to go out of such training facility or common athlete's dormitory or housing facility during the period or duration of the training season and that stay-in training shall be at least for a period of 14 days.
- D. The athletes' dormitory or housing facility shall provide separate rooms with adequate and reasonable space for each athlete. Both the training and housing facilities, including provision for food and drinks, shall be isolated from the outside community of the school premises and free from possible sources of viral/bacterial transmission.
- E. HEIs shall be allowed to conduct on-campus stay-in training in Alert level 1, 2, 3, and 4 areas, subject to these guidelines.
- F. HEIs shall adhere to the prescribed minimum public health standards following the Prevent, Detect, Isolate, Treat, Reintegrate, and Vaccinate (PDITR+) strategies as provided for by DOH Administrative Order (AO) No. 2021-0043 entitled "Omnibus Guidelines on the Minimum Public Health Standards for the Safe Reopening of Institutions".
- G. For routine disinfection protocols, HEIs shall follow DOH Department Memorandum (DM) No. 2020-0157 entitled, "Guidelines on Cleaning and Disinfection in Various Settings as an Infection Prevention and Control Measure Against COVID-19".



H. CHED shall encourage coaching staff, student-athletes, and personnel, regardless of employment status, to be vaccinated for COVID-19. Vaccination shall follow the country's allocation framework for priority eligible population.

V. IMPLEMENTING GUIDELINES

- A. Before the resumption of the conduct of collegiate training, the HEI shall submit to CHED Central Office the Collegiate Training Activities' and Certificate of Compliance duly signed by its Athletics Director and approved by the HEI President, attesting to the following facts:
1. The HEI intends to resume collegiate training and has student-athletes who shall represent or intend to represent the school in an inter-school athletic program or competition. The HEI shall attach the list of the student-athletes who shall undergo collegiate training during this COVID-19 pandemic and the schedule of activities that shall be undertaken by the student-athletes. HEIs shall submit the list at least seven (7) days prior to the start of the activity.
 2. Complete list of rosters that shall include names of student-athletes, coaches, trainers, and all staff, including driver, kitchen staff, doctors, etc., who shall participate/assist in the collegiate training.
 3. The HEI shall adhere to the institutional, local, and national (IATF, DOH, and CHED) rules and regulations for the prevention and mitigation of COVID-19 cases.
 4. All individuals participating in the collegiate training shall be required to submit health declaration forms and vaccination certificates, if applicable, including health screening prior to every scheduled activity or event. Student-athletes, coaches, trainers, and all other participants who have no COVID-19 related symptoms and no relevant travel history or exposure within the last fourteen (14) days prior to the resumption of training shall be permitted to participate. COVID-19 vaccination of eligible individuals prior to resumption of training is highly encouraged.
 5. All student-athletes who shall participate in the training shall be obliged to submit their parents' or guardian's consent at least seven (7) days prior to the start of the activity.
 6. All student-athletes with ages below eighteen (18) years old shall only be allowed to participate in virtual training.
 7. The HEI has coordinated with the Local Government Unit (LGU) and accomplished all the necessary documentation and/or secured the necessary permits for the inter-zonal or intra-zonal movement of the participants concerned and the resumption of collegiate training in school premises.
 8. Any waiver shall not release the institution of any liability in case of violation of the provisions of these guidelines or negligence on the part of the HEI in the conduct of



their collegiate training.

B. Before the conduct of collegiate training, HEIs shall undertake the following:

1. HEIs shall create a task force on-site to help coordinate an independent response against COVID-19. The task force shall include the following individuals:
 - a. Athletics Director;
 - b. Team Doctor for physical and mental purposes;
 - c. Student Health representative;
 - d. Safety and Health Officer; and,
 - e. Biosecurity Officer
2. The task force shall perform the following:
 - a. Ensure compliance to the minimum public health standards during the conduct of allowed physical activities and establish mechanisms to monitor compliance with the said standards, as provided under the said guidelines and DOH policies;
 - b. Keep abreast of the latest government regulations and adopt whenever applicable;
 - c. Monitor the health status and symptoms of athletes and personnel before, during, and after the activity and during stay in the housing facilities;
 - d. Keep records, through minimal contact means, of individuals who used the facilities for the purpose of contact tracing in the event the need for such arises; and,
 - e. Refer suspect, probable, and confirmed COVID-19 cases to appropriate health authority/health facilities, as necessary
3. The creation of a technical screening and monitoring group among the members of the Technical Working Group (TWG) plus representatives from each of the athletic associations shall also be considered. For this purpose, the TWG shall consider the use of contact tracing/health declaration applications and other relevant technology already existing.
4. The HEI shall re-engineer or re-design the layouts of its training and housing facilities, as necessary, so that its student-athletes and participants shall be able to practice physical distancing throughout the duration of the training, activity, or event.



5. The HEI shall determine the occupancy capacity of the sports facilities following the physical distancing protocols and shall strictly observe the same during the conduct of collegiate training, attached herein as Annex "A".
6. On-campus stay-in training shall be allowed in Alert level 1, 2, 3 and 4 areas, subject to the following conditions:
 - a. Student-athletes shall be housed in a dedicated dormitory or housing facility for the duration of the training.
 - b. Before entry to the training ground or venue, student-athletes shall be required to undertake a 14-day self-quarantine for unvaccinated or partially vaccinated individuals or a 7-day self-quarantine for fully vaccinated individuals, subject to future iterations, which is done in isolation after entering campus and before training starts.
 - c. HEIs shall ensure that the training facilities are conducive to quarantine.
 - d. HEIs may opt to test their student-athletes and other participants using RT-PCR before training starts. In such an event, HEIs shall shoulder the expense for the RT-PCR swabbing of their participants.
 - e. HEIs shall start training only for student-athletes and participants who test negative for COVID-19 or who have undertaken the 14-day or 7-day self quarantine depending on the vaccination status. In case the participant tests positive for COVID-19, HEIs shall coordinate with the LGU and employ the necessary mechanism for the transfer of participants who test positive for COVID-19 to the appropriate facility.
 - f. Once training commences, student-athletes and personnel assisting in the training shall be isolated from the general public and be in a semi-bubble set-up with facilitated mobility from accomodation-venue-accommodation. Appropriate administrative and engineering controls shall be employed so that student-athletes and all other participants shall be physically separated from the general population. Provided, a vehicle shall be dedicated solely to transport the participants from the training facility and the dormitory/housing facility.
 - g. HEIs shall provide the necessary accommodation, transportation, provision for food and drinks, and physical and mental health services as may be necessary.
 - h. In case of re-entry for on-campus stay-in training, a negative RT-PCR test and completion of the necessary isolation or quarantine days, shall be observed before the participant shall be allowed to resume his assigned task.



- i. HEIs shall ensure that classes of student-athletes shall be prioritized in scheduling their training. Once limited face-to-face classes resume, as authorized by the Commission, and there is a need for limited face-to-face classes of student-athletes in the stay-in training, the aforementioned protocols shall be followed, specifically.
- 7. On-campus stay-out training shall be allowed in areas deemed safe for normal sports activities. The Commission shall issue the necessary supplemental guidelines for this purpose.

C. During conduct of collegiate training

- 1. Screening at the entry point
 - a. Establishment of a screening or triage area at different points-of-entry:
 - i. Health declaration or symptom assessment
 - ii. Non-contact temperature check
 - iii. Isolation area near points-of-entry for symptomatic individuals
- 2. Personal hygiene kits
 - a. The HEI shall require its student-athletes, officials, and personnel assisting to bring their own personal hygiene kits which shall contain the following: 70% alcohol or hand sanitizer, travel size packet of cleansing wipes/tissue paper or small hand towel, and travel size hand soap.
- 3. Continuous health status monitoring
 - a. HEIs shall monitor the health status of student-athletes, officials and personnel assisting who have COVID-19 symptoms, based on DOH's recent issuances and definitions.
 - b. In case the participants develop COVID-19 symptoms or test positive for COVID-19, HEIs shall coordinate with the LGU and employ the necessary mechanism for the transfer of participants who are symptomatic and test positive for COVID-19 to the appropriate facility.
- 4. Student-athletes and all other authorized personnel shall:
 - a. Wear face masks at all times and other appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) as mandated by the IATF and DOH
 - b. Accomplish the Health Declaration Form
 - c. Have their temperature checked and recorded in the Health Declaration Form. Anyone with a temperature of 37.5 degrees Celsius or higher shall not be allowed to enter the premises and shall be brought to the isolation

area or room. The HEI shall develop a mechanism on how to ensure that the participant shall be attended to, as provided under DOH AO 2021-0043.

5. The HEI shall provide an adequate number of handwashing or hand sanitizing stations at entrance and exit points of the training grounds or premises. All participants shall be required to wash or sanitize their hands before or immediately after entry. Participants shall be advised to follow unidirectional / one-way movement through the facilities. Also, a limited number of persons shall be allowed in the locker rooms at any given time, based on physical distancing protocols.
6. The HEI shall require student-athletes to go straight to their accommodation or housing facility for in-campus stay-in training.
7. Student-athletes and individuals who are engaging in high-intensity exercise or workouts shall be allowed not to wear masks during the conduct of exercise or physical activity, subject to the condition that at least two (2) meters physical distancing in outdoor facilities or three (3) meters in enclosed and indoor facilities are observed, together with other preventive measures (e.g. placement of barriers between individuals, proper ventilation, etc.) are strictly observed.
8. Coaches shall always wear face masks during training. Student-athletes who are not undergoing training shall wear a face mask while inside the training ground or venue. The use of face shield shall be in line with the latest recommendations or national guidelines.
9. Body conditioning activities and drills are allowed across all Alert Levels. Contact sports training is allowed only under Alert Level 2 or below.
10. HEIs may apply for exemption for contact sports training under higher Alert Levels to CHED who shall endorse such for approval of the IATF provided it involves more stringent health measures including but not limited to: a) mandatory vaccination for all participants; b). Full bubble; c) continuous testing, i.e. RT-PCR every 14 days and 2 antigen tests in between, as per the latest scientific/medical knowledge and information and the effectiveness of control measures locally and abroad.
11. Training venues shall be disinfected before and after training following DOH DM 2020-0157.
12. Installation of visual cues or signages to communicate strategies to prevent infection transmission shall include:
 - a. Physical distancing of at least one (1) meter distance
 - b. Cough and sneeze etiquette
 - c. Proper hand hygiene and control



- i. Face, eyes, nose, and mouth shall not be touched
 - ii. Thorough handwashing with soap and water for 20-30 seconds
 - iii. In the absence of soap and water, use alcohol-based hand sanitizer ($\geq 70\%$ alcohol) or isopropyl/ ethyl alcohol. Hand sanitizer is not a replacement for good hand hygiene
 - iv. Proper use and disposal of PPE
13. In case of swab testing upon the initiative of the HEI, COVID-19 testing protocols shall be aligned with the DOH DM 2020-0258 and its amendments, entitled, "Updated Interim Guidelines on Expanded Testing for COVID-19".
14. Only student-athletes and personnel in the complete list of rosters in the Collegiate Training Activities' Certificate of Compliance, duly signed by the Athletics Director and approved by the HEI President, shall be allowed to enter the school and train.
15. The Safety and Health Officer designated by the HEI shall monitor all participants' compliance to minimum public health standards and rules of these guidelines.
16. Strictly no audiences shall be allowed during training.
17. Sharing of non-personal equipment (e.g. sports equipment, toilet, shower room, locker) shall be permitted, provided these are routinely disinfected before and after every use. HOWEVER, equipment that are used orally (e.g. water gear used for snorkeling and scuba diving, and mouth guards), and equipment that have prolonged contact with the face (e.g., headgear or helmets and fencing masks) shall not be allowed to be shared or rented out.

D. After training:

1. After 10-15 minutes of rest, student-athletes, coaches, and personnel shall be assessed and monitored for any presence of signs and symptoms related to COVID-19 infection before leaving the venue.
2. Cleaning and disinfection of the training venue, gym, sports facilities, and changing rooms, among others shall be performed after every training.
3. All participants shall wear a face mask and other PPE, as may be required by IATF, upon leaving the training venue.

E. COVID-19 protocols

1. Isolation, quarantine, and reintegration protocols shall be consistent with the DOH AO 2021-0043 or the latest national guidelines.



2. All student-athletes, coaches/staff, and other personnel assisting in the training exhibiting flu-like symptoms including, but not limited to, fever, cough, and weakness shall be reported by the Safety and Health Officer immediately to the Barangay Health Emergency Response Team (BHERT), Local Health Office, and/or other appropriate authorities/facilities for monitoring and observance of the following protocols:
- a. All symptomatic individuals shall be isolated immediately. HEI should follow the necessary protocols for the treatment of symptomatic individuals as discussed in the latest DOH guidelines.
 - b. The Safety and Health Officer shall compile records of all individuals who have been on-site or who have had close contact with the suspect case/s.
 - c. If the suspect case is confirmed to be COVID-19 positive, the Safety and Health Officer shall provide the records to the concerned provincial, city, or municipal LGU through its Provincial Epidemiology and Surveillance Unit (PESU) and City Epidemiology and Surveillance Unit (CESU) or Municipal Epidemiology and Surveillance Unit (MESU) to facilitate contact tracing.
 - d. All close contacts of probable and confirmed cases shall be notified and undergo the necessary quarantine with specific instructions from the Safety and Health Officer and/or health authorities on monitoring of symptoms and possible next steps.
 - e. Fully vaccinated individuals who are close contacts of probable and confirmed COVID-19 cases shall undergo a seven (7)-day quarantine period, provided that the individual remains asymptomatic for the duration of the seven (7) day period with the first day being the date immediately after the last exposure. In the event that the RT-PCR test needs to be performed on the asymptomatic individual, it may be tested not earlier than the fifth (5th) day after the date of the last exposure. Should the RT-PCR test yield a positive result, or he/she becomes symptomatic, he/she shall follow the prescribed testing and isolation protocols.
 - f. Unvaccinated or partially vaccinated individuals who may be close contacts of suspect, probable, and confirmed COVID-19 cases shall undergo a 14-day quarantine.
 - g. All asymptomatic confirmed cases shall be placed in isolation for a minimum of 10 days from first viral diagnostic test. All symptomatic suspect, probable, and confirmed cases shall be placed in isolation for a minimum of 10 days from onset of first symptom. Suspect, probable, and confirmed cases shall be isolated in the proper facility depending on the severity of symptoms.



- h. In the event that an individual is confirmed to be COVID-19 positive, the conduct of training and other activities shall be suspended. The venue shall be placed under lockdown for at least 24 hours for contact tracing and disinfection of all facilities, surfaces, and equipment used. Completion of contact tracing and disinfection activities shall be considered for the resumption training after lockdown. Venues shall be available for use of other teams who are not part of the identified close contacts of the positive COVID-19 case, provided they have undergone disinfection.
- 3. HEIs shall designate an isolation area or room within the premises that is different from the school/university clinic for individuals needing further assessment due to the presence of flu-like symptoms, exposure to a COVID-19 probable or suspect case, or individuals awaiting transport to the appropriate health facility.
 - a. The isolation area/room shall be subjected to the minimum public health standards and protocols on COVID-19 mitigation:
 - i. Routine disinfection of the isolation room/area
 - ii. Physical distancing
 - iii. Adequate ventilation
 - iv. Availability of appropriate PPE including the Safety and Health Officer/attending personnel. PPE shall be worn during isolation at all times.
 - b. HEIs shall ensure that appropriate detection, monitoring, isolation, and transport protocols must be in place.
 - c. HEIs shall coordinate with the barangay and/or the LGU for the appropriate transport to the appropriate facility as described in the DOH DM 2020-0178 entitled, *"Interim Guidelines on Health Care Provider Networks (HCPNs) During the COVID-19 Pandemic"*

F. Contingency Plan

- 1. HEIs shall develop a contingency plan which is ready to be implemented when an individual develops COVID-19 symptoms or is considered a suspect, probable, or confirmed COVID-19 case during the training.
- 2. Any individual who tests positive shall be immediately isolated and be subjected to confirmatory tests.
- 3. Once confirmed positive, he/she shall be allowed to return only after a 14-day quarantine and upon being medically cleared by the Health Officer.



4. In case of lockdowns after detection of a positive case, individuals shall remain inside the training and/or housing facility to preserve the integrity of the bubble.

VI. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

A. CHED shall:

1. Coordinate with PSC and develop a standard protocol for the conduct of sports and other physical activities adherent to the minimum public health standards set by the DOH:
 - a. Develop a training guideline in coordination with the Philippine Olympic Committee (POC) thru PSC, to establish safety guidelines and protocol for all HEIs' athletic teams and coaches in close consultation with their respective National Sports Associations (NSAs) consistent with International Olympic Committee (IOC) rules of games and training regulation; and
 - b. Conduct random inspection/monitoring of HEI premises where the training is being held, ensuring the safety and health of students and training personnel in stay-in training and if allowed, on-campus stay-out training.

B. CHED Regional Offices (ROs) shall:

1. Monitor the implementation of the policy and training guidelines issued by CHED and consolidate reports and recommendations from collegiate athletic associations and HEIs athletic offices;
2. Create a registration hub of all HEIs athletic associations and athletic leagues operating within their respective regions to ensure that all of the said parties are compliant with the minimum public health standards and protocol during training and sports activities;
3. Issue Certificate of Compliance upon complete submission of the documents;
4. Handle complaints related to the violation of CHED guidelines/IATF/DOH rules and regulations; and
5. Organize and coordinate actual visits to the school with the HEI and/or other government agencies concerned, in case of violation of CHED guidelines/IATF/DOH rules and regulations.

C. HEIs shall:

1. Develop prevention, detection, monitoring, isolation, and transport protocols;
2. Submit to CHED all the documents needed for conduct of collegiate training as stated in the implementing guidelines;



3. Provide accommodation and transportation services as may be required by the situation;
4. Conduct regular disinfection during the entire training session; and
5. Submit health reports if any (e.g. a student-athlete or personnel contracts COVID-19) to CHED and appropriate health authority/facility.

D. Athletic Association members shall :

1. Provide technical advice and/or expertise with the Commission; and
2. Assign one focal person to attend all coordination meetings and monitoring and random inspections if necessary.

E. DOH shall:

1. Continuously update the set minimum public health standards based on most recent evidence available and issue succeeding updates through appropriate policy issuances;
2. Provide technical assistance in developing the necessary health standards, protocols, and guidelines on the conduct of health-enhancing physical activities and sports; and
3. Provide technical assistance, through DOH Centers for Health Development (CHDs), in the inspection of HEIs conducting collegiate training.

F. PSC shall:

1. Provide technical assistance, guidance, and technical expertise in line with the amateur sports training regulations and rules of games if needed by the HEIs; and
2. Provide CHED Office of the Executive Director (OED) Sports unit with a focal person to attend to all activities of the OED Sports Section in relation to the aforementioned regulations.

VII. VIOLATIONS

Failure to submit the Certificate of Compliance as required under Section V (a) of these guidelines and any violation of these guidelines shall constitute discontinuance of the conduct of collegiate training. If public interest demands, CHED may, without notice, order an HEI to immediately suspend the conduct of its collegiate training.

VIII. SANCTIONS

- A. Any HEI found violating the provisions of this JMC may be subjected to the following sanctions depending upon the extent/severity of its violations:



1. Written reprimand;
 2. Suspension of the conduct of its on-campus collegiate training;
- B. The Commission may also issue an immediate suspension of its on-campus collegiate training before actual visit of CHEDROs as preventive measures when situations on the ground call for an urgent remedy.
- C. Sanctions shall be without prejudice to the filing of the corresponding administrative or criminal cases for acts committed in violation of existing rules and regulations of other government agencies such as Cybercrime Act, Data Privacy Law, Dangerous Drugs Act, and others.

IX. REPEALING CLAUSE

All other issuances inconsistent with the provisions of this Joint Memorandum Circular are hereby amended, modified, or repealed accordingly.

X. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE

In the event that any provision or part of this Joint Memorandum Circular is declared invalid or unconstitutional, those provisions not affected by such declaration shall remain valid and subsisting.

XI. EFFECTIVITY

These guidelines shall take effect immediately after its publication in the Official Gazette or in any national newspaper of general circulation, with three (3) certified copies to be filed with the Office of the National Administrative Register (ONAR) of the UP Law Center.



J. PROSPERO E. DE VERA III, DPA

Chairman

Commission on Higher Education



FRANCISCO T. DUQUE III, MD, MSc

Secretary

Department of Health

Annex B. References

1. DOH Administrative Order No. 2021-0043 entitled "Omnibus Guidelines on the Minimum Public Health Standards for the Safe Reopening of Institutions"
https://drive.google.com/file/d/15U5N9I2abqD5r_ovBWEz_rin88ZAEbn9/edit
2. DOH Department Memorandum No. 2020-0157 entitled, "Guidelines on Cleaning and Disinfection in Various Settings as an Infection Prevention and Control Measure Against COVID-19"
<https://doh.gov.ph/sites/default/files/health-update/dm2020-0157.pdf>
3. DOH Department Memorandum 2020-0178 entitled, "Interim Guidelines on Health Care Provider Networks (HCPNs) During the COVID-19 Pandemic"
<https://doh.gov.ph/sites/default/files/health-update/dm2020-0178.pdf>
4. DOH Department Memorandum 2020-0258 entitled, "Updated Interim Guidelines on Expanded Testing for COVID-19"
<https://doh.gov.ph/sites/default/files/health-update/dm2020-0258.pdf>
5. Guidelines on the Implementation of Alert Levels system for COVID-19 response in pilot areas, as of November 04, 2021
<https://www.officialgazette.gov.ph/downloads/2021/09sept/20211104-IATF-Guidelines-RD.pdf>
6. Inter-agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases Resolution No. 142 series of 2021
<https://doh.gov.ph/sites/default/files/health-update/IATFResolution142.pdf>
7. PSC-GAB-DOH Joint Administrative Order No. 2020-0001 entitled "Guidelines on the Conduct of Health Enhancing Physical Activities and Sports during the COVID-19 Pandemic "
https://doh.gov.ph/sites/default/files/health_advisory/DOH%20GAM%20PSC%20-%20JA%202020-0001.pdf



Annex A. Allowable Threshold for Non-Professional Sports and Physical Activities per Risk Severity Area

		RISK SEVERITY RATING				
		ALERT LEVEL 5	ALERT LEVEL 4	ALERT LEVEL 3	ALERT LEVEL 2	ALERT LEVEL 1
Outdoors						
Individual		Allowed at home only	Allowed: Fully vaccinated - beyond general area of residence Unvaccinated or partially vaccinated - at home	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed
Group based	Contact sports activities	Not allowed	Not allowed	Not allowed*	70%	Full capacity
	Non-contact sports activities	Not allowed	30%	50%	70%	Full capacity
Indoors (Asymptomatic Fully Vaccinated individuals)						
Individual		Allowed at home	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed
Group based	Contact sports activities	Not allowed	Not allowed	Not allowed*	50%	Full capacity
	Non-contact sports activities	Not allowed	10%	30%	50%	Full capacity

Minimum Public Health Standards and precautions shall be observed at all times.

* HEIs may apply for exemption for contact sports training under higher Alert Levels to CHED, who shall endorse such for approval of the IATF.

