



Subject: Interim update on ARC Covid-19 plans and policies  
July 10, 2020

Greetings, ARC members! We hope you all are healthy and well, and finding safe ways to enjoy your summer. We have loved seeing so many members getting back out on the water, and are missing those of you who have not yet been able to return. We hope that we can all be together again soon.

As some of you may have seen, New York State has issued Interim Guidance for Sports and Recreation During the Covid-19 Public Health Emergency (see here: <https://www.governor.ny.gov/sites/governor.ny.gov/files/atoms/files/SportsAndRecreationMasterGuidance.pdf>). The guidance categorizes "crew with two or more rowers in shell" as a "moderate risk sport." It further provides that "[e]ffective July 6, 2020 in regions that have reached or surpassed Phase 3 of the State's reopening and in accordance with this guidance, participants in lower and moderate risk sports and recreation activities may partake in all types of play, except competitive tournaments requiring travel."

We wanted you to know that we are carefully considering this guidance from New York State, as well as other information and guidance from the CDC, other national health experts, and US Rowing, and we are monitoring regional health data related to Covid-19. The Strategic Planning Committee is engaged in a continuous and ongoing process of evaluating how we can operate to the fullest extent possible while minimizing risk to our members. With the health and safety of our members as our primary concern, and mindful of the old adage that just because you CAN do something does not mean that you SHOULD do it, at this time we have no immediate plan to deviate from our current model of singles-only rowing (except for members of the same household). We know that many of our members are anxious to get back to team boats, but at the present time we have deemed the risk too high.

We will continue to evaluate new information and guidance as it becomes available, and update our members promptly if and when we decide to make changes to the current program structure. As always, we welcome your thoughts, ideas and feedback on this or any ARC-related issue.

Sincerely,

Your ARC Strategic Planning Committee

Rebecca Clark, Patrick Thompson, Rene Bloomer, Karen Lesperance, Anne Murphy and Christina Dowd