



# INTERNATIONAL POLO CLUB

## COVID-19 Polo Protocol Summary

In response to the continued threat of the coronavirus (COVID-19) and with the guidance of the United States Polo Association (USPA), the International Polo Club Palm Beach (IPC) will not be open to the general public during the 2021 polo season. IPC will offer a limited number of tickets to Sunday Brunch in the Veuve Clicquot Pavilion for spectators as well as exclusive pre-sold tailgates and boxes. There will be no day of event ticket sales. While it is disappointing that many in the local community and general public spectators won't be able to attend, our main priority is to preserve the sport of polo and allow those in the sport to continue their livelihood. The team at IPC will also be introducing various safety protocols to keep everyone safe on the grounds. Please visit [www.internationalpoloclub.com](http://www.internationalpoloclub.com) for more information on our Reopening Guide.

Only authorized persons will be permitted access to the facility as outlined below.

### POLO OPERATIONS:

- While on the IPC venue grounds, everyone will be required to wear a face mask and practice social distancing unless mounted on a horse/competing.
- IPC will not be responsible for COVID-19 testing for the teams/players. If the majority of teams prior to each Tournament vote that they would like testing to be implemented, IPC Polo Operations will support the request and manage collecting official results of each PLAYER (only) from a valid medical organization to verify every player on each team has negative COVID-19 results before playing of the tournament begins.'
- IPC Polo Operations will administer temperature checks to groomers and players 45 minutes before the scheduled start of each game. Persons with a temperature below 100.4° F (37.8° C) will be allowed to play. On temperature screening, any person with a temperature higher than 100.4° F (37.8° C) will be sent to a private area, to wait at least 10 minutes for secondary temperature screening and consultation. If the second attempt indicates no fever, the person shall be permitted to play in the game/be part of the polo support operation. If the second attempt also indicates a fever, the person will be sent home immediately and advised to seek medical attention. The team should have a substitute ready to play in this scenario.

### IMPORTANT POLO TEAM QUESTIONS:

#### **What happens if a player contracts COVID-19? How will it affect the team?**

IPC will treat this with the same standards as a "player injury." If one player has tested positive for COVID-19, players will be encouraged to monitor their symptoms but tournament play will continue with a substitute in the positive player's place. The positive player will need to go into 10-day mandatory quarantine before playing again at IPC. The player will need to be free of symptoms and provide IPC with a valid negative COVID19 test before returning to play. They will also need to pass temperature screening prior to the game.

#### **What happens if a groom or member of a team organization contracts COVID-19?**

Team is responsible for monitoring their own organization. Groom or member of team will need to go into 10-day mandatory quarantine before returning to IPC. The person(s) will need to be free of symptoms and provide IPC with a valid negative COVID19 test before returning to play. They will also need to pass temperature screening prior to the game.

#### **If a team has to drop out of a tournament to quarantine, can they resume playing after the quarantine? Are they entitled to a refund or partial refund of entry fees?**

If a team has to drop out of playing a particular tournament due to COVID-19 they will not receive a refund. They can play again after the 10-day quarantine period, showing negative test result and pending they are not showing any further symptoms/pass temperature screening prior to game.

#### **Will the teams receive a refund on prepaid fees if IPC and USPA have to cancel any of the Tournaments?**

If IPC Polo Season is canceled due to COVID-19 related reasons, prorated refunds will be credited or applied towards the 2022 season.

### ENFORCEMENT

Security and announcers will be responsible to constantly remind everyone of social distancing. All IPC staff members will have the authority to remind anyone on IPC property of the necessity of social distancing. We understand that many people have quarantined together for the past several months; however, we ask that everyone abide by social distancing protocols while on the grounds. This is very important for the effective enforcement of everyone on the grounds as well as developing good habits. In the event of inclement weather (thunderstorms), participants must go to their personal vehicles in the event of a delay and may not congregate in areas/under tents/barns within the facility.

#### **Limiting access around each game** **(PASS SYSTEM - see below)**

#### **Each Polo Team gets:**

- **14 player passes.** These are color unique, have team name, date, and time of game, and are numbered 1-14. These are for players, wives, trainers, vets, farriers, etc. Teams can determine their "essential staff".
- **16 groom passes.** These are color unique and numbered 1-16. These are for spare horse holders and extra game staff. Team staff that enters with a truck and trailer will not need a pass, however will be subject to temperature check and required to wear masks.
- Security is asked to keep every pass and mark off the numbers so there are no duplicates.

### **Weekday/Saturday Games**

- Members and member guests may attend weekday games. Guests must be accompanied by the member. Social distancing and facial coverings will be mandated as per our guidelines.
- Media MUST coordinate “day of” access with Hannah Stephens [hstephens@equestriansport.com](mailto:hstephens@equestriansport.com). 24 hours notice required.

### **USPA Essential Staff List:**

USPA is asked to submit a list of their essential staff for each day including umpires, filming crew, USPA officials etc. The list is segregated under headings to help security locate names quickly. Security will have this list and check off names as they enter. No name on list, no entry.

### **IPC Essential Staff List:**

IPC will have a list of essential staff including timers, score keepers, flaggers, medics, Polo Operations staff, etc. Security will have this list and will check off names as they enter. No name on list, no entry.

*\* If exit and re-entry required, please coordinate directly with Polo Operations Team. For any additional questions please contact: Haley Bryan at [hbryan2485@aol.com](mailto:hbryan2485@aol.com).*

### **SUNDAY GAME PROTOCOLS**

- Authorized persons only allowed access.
- Touchless check-in system will be implemented and tickets will be scanned upon entry via Ticketleap.

- Masks are mandated at all times unless eating/drinking while seated in designated area.
- Stadium green seating: Not sold at this time. Limited availability for players and designated family members with mandated social distancing monitoring via security personnel.
- **Box seating:** Will be socially distanced to configured to meet CDC guidelines.
- **Tailgates:** Restricted numbers and social distancing parameters will be put in place. This will be contingent on County, State and USPA decisions and guidelines.
- **Queuing for Sunday Brunch access:** Stanchions, floor markers and signage will be provided. Limited seating.
- Tables will be positioned to maintain at least a 6-foot distance from all other tables and any high foot traffic areas (e.g., routes to bathrooms, entrances, exits).
- Box meals/snacks served with tamper-resistant stickers.
- Satellite Bars will have stanchions/designated queuing markers.
- Elevator and check-in attendants will wear gloves.
- Box Office on Sunday will have outdoor satellite set-up and require socially distanced queuing with markers.
- IPC staff will continue to diligently clean and sanitize bathrooms
- Hand sanitizing stations will be available throughout the grounds.
- Temperature checks for all staff are required daily, as well as those players competing in the matches.

