

NOTES ON THE SAFE REOPENING OF A.A. MEETINGS – 5/15/21

Anyone listening to the news of late can attest to the fact that recommendations regarding COVID19 precautions are rapidly changing. Just this past week, the CDC proposed that fully vaccinated individuals may go about outside without masks and associate inside maskless with others on a limited basis.

Of course, the CDC does not create the rules and regulations under which we live. Those are put forward by state and local governments. California has the tiered system whereby colors indicate the level of restrictions required by the current state of the pandemic in a particular area. As of this week, both Imperial and San Diego Counties are in the Orange Tier (Moderate) as are almost all other parts of California.

The current guidance for gatherings:

- **When vaccine status or testing is unknown:**
Indoors discouraged but maximum capacity of 25% or 25 people (whichever is fewer). Wearing a mask and social distancing is required.
- **When all are fully vaccinated:**
Indoors, maximum of 150 people.
Outdoors maximum of 300 people.

The current guidance for specific facility types analogous to our meetings assuming the fact that vaccine status for all attending an A.A. meeting will be unknown.

- **Places of Worship**
Indoors maximum 50% capacity (wearing a mask and social distancing required).
- **Restaurants**
Open for outdoor service (social distancing and masking- unless eating – required).
Indoors at 50% capacity (social distancing and masking – unless eating – required).

We must remember that while these are the Orange Tier guidelines, the facilities in which we hold our meetings may have other rules and/or additional restrictions to which we must adhere. Each A.A. group is autonomous and must decide by group conscious how and when they wish to return to in-person meetings. There is excellent information on re-opening considerations and on conducting a sharing session on the Area website <area8aa.org>.

FOR THE MOST UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION ON COVID19 CONSIDERATIONS
(In both English and Spanish)

San Diego County - <sandiegocounty.gov> coronavirus

Imperial County - <icphd.org>

