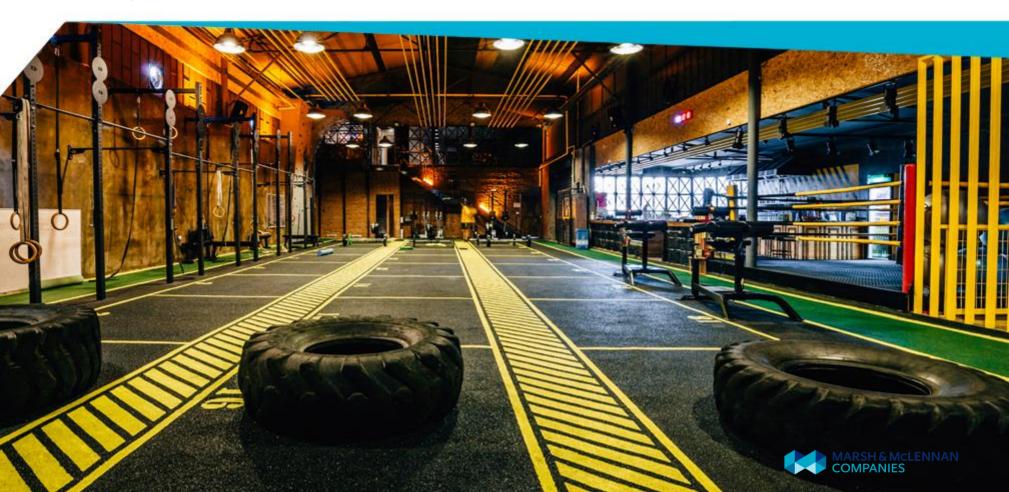


## Effective Strategies to Keep Your Members and Employees Safe

May 2016



#### Health and Fitness Clubs

#### Understanding and Managing Risk

#### **Today's Topics**

- Risks found in the fitness industry with examples of effective control strategies.
- Building a practical safety program basic foundation elements and different approaches.
- OSHA checklist what requirements apply to the industry (including new recordkeeping requirements).

15-Minute Question/Answer Period

#### **Presented by**

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#### Overview

#### **Health and Fitness Club industry (US only):**

\$22.4 billion in revenue, 34,500 clubs, 54 million members\*.

#### Employee and member injuries can have tremendous impact...

- Workers' compensation and general liability insurance premiums:
  - Combined insurance costs average 1.2%\* of revenue.
- Loss of high value employees:
  - Nearly 18,000 employees injured during 2014 (est. \$129m loss).
- Retained losses:
  - Offsetting one uninsured loss of \$25,000 requires gross sales of \$305,000 (based on 8.2%\* profit margin).
- Serious exposure to general liability losses:
  - Over 1/2 billion\* member visits per year.
  - Negligence multiplies size of the awards.
- Highly competitive business:
  - Reputational damage = market share loss.

\* 2014 IHRSA Profiles of Success

## **Industry Risk Characteristics**

- Strong: workforce young and physically fit.
  - Energetic, capable of heavy lifting tasks and repetitive work, when injury does occur tends to be less severe.
- · Weak: workforce young and physically fit.
  - Inexperienced management, overtraining, attempting excessive physical tasks, less likely to report injury.
- Heavy foot traffic: average 103\* visits per member annually.
  - 24/7 access, all weather.
- Member activities have intrinsic risk:
  - Bathing/showering.
  - Performing physical tasks they are unaccustomed to.
  - Being in a "motivational environment" that pushes physical limitations.

"Member awarded \$10.8 for stroke suffered due to being pushed too hard by personal trainer at club"

\* 2014 IHRSA Profiles of Success

## Hazard Discussion – Slip/Fall, Strains/Sprains

- Slip/falls in parking lot and entryways: ice, rain, snow covered surfaces.
- Slip/falls in locker/changing rooms: showers, wet floors from cleaning and sanitizing operations.
- Trip/falls in parking lot and entryways: potholes, broken curbing, folded over floor mats.
- Trip/falls inside: weights not returned to racks, equipment placed in aisle ways, towels left out.

- Ergonomic hazards:
  - Employees moving equipment.
  - Employees pushing/pulling laundry carts.
  - Repetitive motion, strain/sprain from overtraining (trainers, coaches).
  - Members adjusting weight plates, strains/sprains during supervised activities, sustaining injuries due to overly aggressive workout goals set by trainers.

## Hazard Discussion – Equipment, Cuts, Fire, and Severe Weather

- Treadmill falls.
- Cable breaking on equipment.
- Members/employees getting caught in equipment (e.g., treadmills).
- Unsupervised children getting injured playing on equipment.
- Stability ball bursts.
- Crushed/broken bones from dropping weights.
- Electrical shock from ungrounded or damaged equipment.
- Malfunctioning equipment.

- Serious medical events while participating in supervised activities.
- Members, employees sustaining cuts/abrasions from sharp objects.
- Fire in "backroom" due to unsafe storage.
- Fire in sauna due to discarded newspapers/towels.
- Fire in laundry from a poorly maintained dryer.
- Tornado.
- Earthquake.

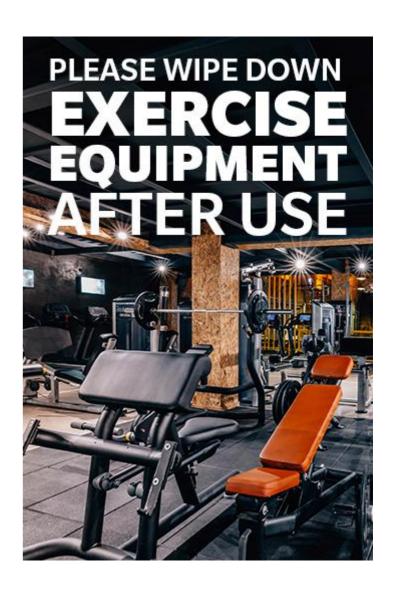
## Hazard Discussion – Violence in the Workplace, Chemicals, Long Tail Risks

- Member or employee:
  - Threatening/assaultive behavior.
  - Assault/robbery in parking lot areas.
  - Bullying/intimidation.
- Active shooter event.
- Shelter in place order.
- Bomb threat.

- Excessive exposure to high noise levels; audio systems in trainer-led activities.
- Chemical exposure to cleaning solvents/materials.
- Exposure to potentially cancer causing UV tanning systems.
- Injury during application of spray tan materials.
- Chemical exposure to caustic pool and spa chemicals.

#### Hazard Discussion - Communicable Diseases and Other

- Motor vehicle accident: use of company or personal vehicle while on company business.
- "Working alone" hazards: employee unable to get help when injured.
- Injuries sustained during food prep: lacerations and burns.
- Inadequate food safety procedures.
- Injury to child while being supervised: short term daycare.
- Exposure to communicable disease (MRSA, HIV, Hepatitis).
- Head lice breakouts.
- Drowning: pools and spas.



### Control Efforts: Slips/Falls



- ✓ Replace worn/smooth flooring materials with high grip surfacing.
- ✓ Make sure heavily traveled areas are free of obstacles/obstructions: do floor plan to assure equipment, benches, racks don't present trip hazards.
- ✓ Use entry mats to minimize tracked in water/snow: clean and/or replace frequently.
- ✓ Northern climes: assure salt/sand/plowing is done throughout storms, ask for more frequent service.
- ✓ Use warning cones/signs consistently to alert members and employees of slippery floor conditions.
- ✓ Do formal documented (log) **inspections** on a frequent basis, integrate with overall inspection process (inside, entry areas, parking lot).
- ✓ Raise and maintain employee awareness to the importance of maintaining safe walking surfaces.

## Control Efforts: Ergonomic Hazards





- ✓ Whenever possible use mechanical devices to reduce stress: moving dollies and jacks, spring loaded laundry cart bottoms, lifting straps, etc.
- ✓ Identify "high risk" lifting situations (i.e., heavy equipment, weights, boxes) where two person lifts must be used. Red label problem equipment and prohibit single person lifts.
- ✓ Complete formal inspections on any type of cart used for moving materials: repair broken or damaged castors in a timely fashion.
- ✓ Raise and maintain employee awareness to the importance of using safe lifting techniques.

## Control Efforts: Dealing With Emergencies



- ✓ Have a basic plan for evacuating the facility: all employees should understand their roles.
- ✓ Critical: keep an up-to-date emergency contact list in prioritized order for emergencies. Revise immediately after changes in management staff have occurred.
- ✓ Always have at least two employees with first aid training readily available to respond.
- ✓ Make sure required AED's are properly maintained.
- ✓ Provide first aid supplies commensurate with level of response to be provided (remember waste disposal).
- ✓ Let trained firefighters handle fires: priority for employees should be to get members and themselves to safety.
- ✓ Encourage "buddy system" use for members with known medical conditions.
- ✓ Provide training (and refresher training) on emergency response procedures: make sure newly hired employees understand their role.

## Control Efforts: Biological Hazards (communicable disease)



- ✓ Provide ample sanitation supplies: disinfecting sprays and wipes should be readily available throughout the facility and their use should be required.
- ✓ Wipe down equipment as frequently as possible!
- ✓ Laundry: washing used towels and robes properly in hot water and hot dryers will ensure that they are thoroughly cleaned and safe to redistribute to members and employees.
- ✓ Provide and encourage the use of hand sanitizer.
- ✓ Provide the appropriate training, personal protective equipment, cleaning materials, and disposal bags for cleaning up body fluid spills.
- ✓ Cleaning: thoroughly clean the entire facility during nonbusy periods and after closure – daily basis.
- ✓ Education: ensure all employees are aware of the dangers of communicable disease (MRSA, Hepatitis, HIV, etc.) and that they can be prevented by proper sanitation.

## Control Efforts: Mitigating General Liability Claims



- ✓ Maximize the use of hold harmless agreements.
- ✓ Provide "more than adequate" lighting.
- ✓ Use signage to warn of potential hazards.
- ✓ Keep good documentation of inspections, equipment maintenance, etc.
- ✓ Maximize the use of CCTV systems.
- ✓ Competency (certification/accreditation): establish minimum requirements and track/confirm compliance.
- ✓ Train club managers, and all employees, on appropriate response when member reports incident.
- ✓ Provide adequate tools for club managers to complete effective investigations: procedures/checklists, digital camera, interview questions, etc.
- ✓ When an unsafe condition, equipment, or practice is discovered take corrective quickly across all similar circumstances across the organization (with legal approval).

## A Safety Program Pulls It All Together

## Committed Management

Scorecards - Metrics
Safety Teams or Committees
On-Line and Hard Copy Safety Manual
Risk Management Information System (RMIS)
Learning Management System

#### **Cleaning Schedule**

Max possible frequency document

#### **Training & Awareness**

Use training matrix and document attendance, use posters, text blasts newsletters, company website, etc.

#### **Incident Reporting & Investigation**

Provide club managers with tools and training

#### **Emergency Preparedness**

Outline plan, responsibilities, practice, keep contact info up to date

#### **Area Hazard Inspections**

High-frequency, multi-layered document using logs, checklists

#### **Equipment Inspections**

Workout machines, accessories, weight racks, saunas, spa pumps, fire exiting, emergency lighting, etc.

Job Hazard Analysis Risk Assessment Programs

### Different Approaches - Safety Program Structure

#### Safety Program Must Reflect the Organizational Structure

- Corporate-driven highly-centralized.
- Regional/district based.
- Shared services.
- Single site-oriented stand alone.

#### Critical Characteristics

- Must be practical and affordable: yet adequately resourced!
- Integrated into operations: baked in, not bolted on.
- Meet regulatory obligations.
- Effective in reducing losses.
- Effective in mitigating risk.
- Metrics driven: must get return on investment.

## Tips for Avoiding "Manager Meltdown"

- Provide the tools:
  - Train/orient managers in safety responsibilities.
  - Equipment safety checklists, inspection sheets, written program templates.
  - Implement a Learning Management Systems that provides training content and tracks attendance, also provides email reminders when employees need training.
  - Implement Document Management System.
  - Steady supply of new safety posters, handouts, other materials.
- Combine member and employee safety concepts into one.
- Create a safety calendar that outlines activities for each month: avoid overload.
- Integrate safety into every operations meeting:
  - Communicate that these are priority activities by discussing them frequently.
  - Give accolades frequently.

## Key Element: The Use of Metrics to Drive Improvement

- **Employee injuries**: use the number of workers' compensation claims or OSHA reportables to calculate rate: compare performance to Bureau Labor Statistics industry average of 2.4 injuries and illnesses per 200,000 hours (100 emps).
- Workers' compensation costs: at year end calculate rate using incurred losses and payroll or hours worked.
- Member injuries: number of GL claims per \$1M sales, hours worked, etc.

Use metrics in a scorecard format to identify opportunities and motivate managers to support safety activities.

## Last But Not Forgotten: OSHA!

- Understand your compliance "risk" (depends on exposures/activities being carried out by your employees).
- Level of enforcement varies widely (federal versus state).
- Create procedure for managers: what to do when OSHA shows up at the door.
- Common citation issued in Fitness Industry: HAZCOM.
- New requirement: Recordkeeping!
  - Maintain log.
  - Post summary.
  - Call OSHA to report within 24 hours: inpatient hospitalization, amputation, or loss of an eye that was the result of a workplace injury (fatalities within 8 hours).
- More information in Appendix.

## Control Strategies: Avoiding Problems With OSHA



- ✓ OSHA poster in employee break area.
- ✓ OSHA 300 log (if more than 10 employees).
- ✓ OSHA Summary (between Feb 1 thru April 30).
- ✓ Make sure you have written Hazard Communication Program on site.
- ✓ Have all material safety data sheets.
- ✓ Containers properly labeled.
- ✓ Provide personal protective equipment where necessary.
- ✓ Make sure fire extinguisher inspections are completed.
- ✓ Check first aid kits: restock on regular basis.
- ✓ Post evacuation map.
- ✓ Have safety committee meeting minutes available (where required by state law).

# Thank You Q&A NEXT!

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### Marsh's Workforce Strategies Practice – What We Do

1

#### Health & Safety/ Life Safety

- Safety Strategy Development & Implementation
- Safety Performance Excellence (SP<sup>X</sup>)
- Global Safety Excellence Assessment
- Health and Safety Inspections
- · WC Gap Analysis
- OSHA Compliance
- Safety Management
   System Consulting
- Product Liability

2

#### **Ergonomics**

- Call Intake and Resolution Management
- Ergonomics Gap Analysis
- Ergonomic Exposure Mapping
- Job Analysis
- Safe Motion Dynamics
- 5S Workplace Organization
- Slip, Trip, Fall Assessments

3

#### Transportation/ Fleet/Auto

- Fleet Gap Analysis
- PACE Driver Training
- CSA Compliance
- Injury Avoidance Gap Analysis

4

#### Behavioral

- Safety Culture Improvement
- Safety Leadership Excellence
- Behavioral Risk Improvement
- Behavioral Services Risk Consulting
- Behavioral Performance Plus

5

#### **Industry Expertise**

- Retail/Wholesale/DC
- Industrial/ Manufacturing
- F&B/Restaurant
- Sports/Entertainment
- Construction
- Real Estate
- Healthcare
- Education and Public Entity
- · Hospitality/Gaming

# Appendix OSHA OVERVIEW

## Appendix OSHA OVERVIEW

| Required Activity                                       | Comment   | Needs   |
|---|---|---|
| Provision of first aid                                  | Need to have at least 2 first aid trained employees                     | Training and provision of first aid supplies                            |
| Handling hazardous chemicals (e.g., cleaning materials) | Also called Hazard<br>Communication: Employee<br>Chemical Right To Know | Training, material safety data sheets, labeling, inventory of chemicals |
| Emergency response plan                                 | Should also include procedure for member medical events                 | Simple plan, evac maps posted, and some sort of drill                   |
| Testing emergency lighting & emergency eyewashes        | Emergency eyewash   | Lighting: trip test monthly, 90-<br>minute test annually                |
| Emergency exit signage                                  |   | Confirm designated exits have illuminated signs                         |
| Fire extinguisher inspection                            | Have an outside contractor do annual inspections                        | Visual inspection monthly and full inspection annually                  |
| Keeping a log of injuries                               | Only applies if you have more than 10 employees                         | 300 log and post summary Feb 1 to April 30                              |

## Appendix OSHA OVERVIEW

| Required Activity   | Comment  | Needs   |
|---|--|---|
| Blood, body fluids, and communicable diseases             | If any employee could be exposed to fluids during medical response or clean up   | Written blood-borne pathogen program and training; provide clean up and disposal materials, Hep B shots     |
| Safety committees   | Recommended for all but required in some states                                  | Engage employees, get feedback, risk reduction projects, keep minutes                                       |
| Safety plan   | Recommended for all but required in some states                                  | Simple outline of hazards in the workplace, control strategies and responsibilities                         |
| Providing personal protective equipment (PPE assessments) | Employer needs to provide safety glasses, gloves, face shields, etc. when needed | PPE assessments to determine when needed  |
| Associates exposed to excessive noise                     | Exposure to loud music for extended periods of time results in hearing loss      | Written hearing conservation program, annual audiograms, surveys when necessary, provide hearing protection |

## Appendix OSHA OVERVIEW

| Required Activity                               | Comment                                   | Needs   |
|---|---|---|
| OSHA poster                                     | Required for all                          | Post in area where employees gather   |
| Provide automatic external defibrillators (AED) | Required for all                          | States have different requirements when an employer provides AED's: training and medical directives, inspection |
| First aid kits                                  | Required with first aid trained employees | Need to have kits match use:<br>basic supplies versus first train<br>versus EMT                                 |

Important Note: the requirements outlined in this table only address activities commonly found in Sports and Fitness Clubs and is not intended to be an all inclusive list of regulatory requirements.

## Additional Workplace Safety Regulations May Apply!

- Equipment and Building Maintenance
  - Electrical Safe Work Practices.
  - Machine Lockout (large equipment where plug cannot be controlled).
  - Fall Protection (when working at heights).
  - Use of Ladders (training, ladder inspection).
  - Respiratory Protection (painting, welding, caustic chemical handling).
  - Confined Space (entry into chillers or large scale air handling).
  - Hot Work for controlling welding or brazing operations.
- Construction operations fall under CFR 1926.
- Pool chemicals may trigger Hazardous Material Management requirements.
- Occurrence of ergonomic-type injuries may trigger ergo program requirements.



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