



Board of Education Called Meeting
August 7, 2020 4:00 PM
Virtual
154 Blountville Bypass
Blountville, TN 37617

1. Call to Order
2. New Business
 - a. Consideration of Approval of SCDE Operational Procedures (Currently in DRAFT form)
 - a. Comments and Consultation with Dr. Stephen May and Mr. Gary Mayes, Sullivan County Department of Health
 - b. Consideration of School Operations Beginning August 17, 2020
 - a. Survey Results from Parents, Staff, Certified and Classified
 - c. Consideration of Athletic Participation for Fall Sports
 - d. Discussion of Turf Fields
3. Adjournment

I, (print name) _____, the parent of (print name) _____, hereby give my consent for my child, a student in the Sullivan County Schools, to participate in the following activity _____ at _____ School.

I specifically understand and agree to the following:

1. There are risks inherent in participating in any sports or school extra-curricular activities and I understand that my child may be subject to injury or illness due to such participation.

2. Particularly at this time, during the COVID-19 pandemic, participation in school sports and school extra-curricular activities may cause an elevated risk of participants being diagnosed with the coronavirus.

3. I have discussed these risks with my child's physician, and understand the risks involved and give my consent for my child to participate.

4. I have also discussed the risks involved with personnel from the school, and am satisfied as to how the school will be administering the program and responding to the risks and agree to my child's participation.

5. I also understand that my child is under no obligation to participate in any extra-curricular activity.

Having satisfied my self regarding the risks of my child's participation, I knowingly and willingly give my consent for my child's participation, and I hereby release the school, the Sullivan County School Department, the Sullivan County Board of Education and Director of Schools and all school employees, agents and participants in said sporting events from any and all legal liability which might arise in any way, directly or indirectly from participation in school activities or extra-curricular activities.

Further, in the event that any liability should result to the Sullivan County School Department, the Sullivan County Board of Education, Director of Schools or any school employees, agents or participants in said sporting events, I agree to indemnify any and all such individuals, officials and entities from any and all such liability, to include attorneys fees and costs.

(Date) _____

Parent

COVID-19 Sports Regulations

The following regulations will be in place for all sports until further notice. **Regulations 1, 2, and 4 include the CDC's latest isolation/quarantine measures approved by the Tennessee Department of Health for the management of COVID-19 in schools.** These regulations do not guarantee safety, but they are meant to encourage safe practices that will maximize our ability to engage in sports competition during the COVID-19 pandemic. While much about COVID-19 and its spread remains unknown, our collective hope for continuing sports competition depends on the willingness of every member school to apply and enforce these regulations.

1. **Temperature checks are required for all coaches, players, and team personnel prior to every practice.** Anyone whose temperature measures 100.4 or greater must be sent home immediately and may not return to participation until he/she provides documentation that they have tested negative for COVID-19 or obtained a medical evaluation by a physician verifying that COVID-19 is not the cause of his/her fever.
 - **Isolation for COVID-19:** Any student or staff who has symptoms consistent with COVID-19 or who has been diagnosed with COVID-19 must isolate at home for a period of 10 days from the onset of their symptoms (or from the date tested if asymptomatic) AND must be fever-free (without the use of fever-reducing medications) AND have improvement in symptoms for at least 24 hours.
 - **Quarantine for exposure to COVID-19:** Any student or staff who has been in close contact (within 6 feet for 10 minutes or longer) of a person with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 must quarantine at home for a period of 14 days from their last exposure to that individual.

2. **No coach, player, or team personnel may participate in practice or a contest without first completing appropriate COVID-19 screening.** Persons should not participate while ill. If the answer is "YES" to any of the following questions, the coach, player, or team personnel may not participate until obtaining an evaluation by a medical provider verifying his/her fitness to safely do so:
 - Have you had any of the following symptoms in the past 7 days?
 - Fever
 - Cough
 - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
 - Shaking chills
 - Chest pain, pressure, or tightness with exercise
 - Fatigue or difficulty with exercise
 - Racing heart rate
 - Unusual dizziness
 - Loss of taste or smell
 - Sore throat
 - Nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea
 - Unusual rash or painful discoloration of fingers or toes
 - Do you have moderate to severe asthma, a heart condition, diabetes, chronic kidney or liver disease, or take medication or have a medical condition that

weakens your immune system? (details are not required; the purpose of the question is solely to ascertain whether the individual is high risk for severe symptoms).

- Have you or a family/household member been diagnosed with or tested positive for COVID-19 infection or been in close contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19 within the past 14 days?

Each coach, player, or team personnel member must be asked these questions before the first practice in which he/she participates, and again on at least a weekly basis.

A printed list of the questions should be given to each coach, player, or team personnel member with instructions that the questions are continuing throughout the season. If at any time the answer to any question becomes “YES,” the individual should promptly inform the head coach or team trainer and should obtain an evaluation by a medical provider before further participation.

- **Isolation/Quarantine:** Any student or staff who has symptoms consistent with COVID-19, has been diagnosed with COVID-19, or has been in close contact of a person with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 must follow the isolation/quarantine requirements in Regulation No. 1 above.
3. **No scrimmages, jamborees, 7-on-7 practice, or other types of practice with other teams is permitted.** Team versus team competition may take place only at official contests. [*Off-season practice in contact sports such as basketball, wrestling, etc., remains restricted to non-contact conditioning work consistent with the Governor’s order.*]
 4. **At contests all coaches, players, team personnel, officials, administrators, and fans must have their temperatures checked before entering the facility.** No one whose temperature measures 100.4 or greater may be admitted. Any coach, player, and team personnel refused admission under this regulation may not return to participation until providing documentation that he/she has tested negative for COVID-19 or obtained a medical evaluation by a physician verifying that COVID-19 is not the cause of his/her fever. For spectator screening areas, if a line forms or is anticipated to form, ensure 6 or more feet of separation between persons or household groups (e.g., ground markings and/or announcements).
 - **Isolation/Quarantine:** Any student or staff who has symptoms consistent with COVID-19, has been diagnosed with COVID-19, or has been in close contact of a person with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 must follow the isolation/quarantine requirements in Regulation No. 1 above.
 5. **At each contest the following symptom checklist shall be posted prominently** at the spectator entrance(s) instructing that anyone who is experiencing any of these symptoms during the preceding 7days must not be admitted:

- Fever
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Shaking chills
- Chest pain, pressure, or tightness with exercise
- Fatigue or difficulty with exercise
- Racing heart rate
- Unusual dizziness
- Loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea
- Unusual rash or painful discoloration of fingers or toes

6. **At contests in localities where fan attendance is permitted, member schools are encouraged to limit fan attendance to a number that will allow adequate social distancing (e.g., 1/4 to 1/3 of typical seating capacity, depending on the characteristics of the particular venue) and should mark/designate bleachers or seats in order to promote social distancing among spectators.** Member schools must facilitate compliance with any applicable state or local order limiting gathering sizes for participation in public events. In consultation with local health providers, member schools in areas experiencing high virus transmission should consider further limitations on attendance (e.g., family members only, or no spectators). Limit informal gathering in areas where social distancing cannot be maintained.
7. **Member schools will require that all fans wear facial coverings at all times while on-site (except children under age 2) and maintain social distancing (six feet, or the equivalent of two empty seats between themselves and other fans) from anyone other than those living in the same household.**
8. The temperature check and questionnaire requirements of Items 1 and 2 above, as well as the social distancing requirement of Item 7, **shall also apply to members of a school band or pep band, cheerleaders,** or other similar student groups attending a contest in a supporting role. Due to the potential increased risk of virus transmission during certain activities, the use of school bands at contests is discouraged. If the band is present, limit to a halftime performance or relocate the band from the stands to other available areas away from crowds and increase the amount of physical distance between band members. Increase the amount of physical distance between cheerleaders as well as between cheerleaders and other persons if projected voices are to be used.
9. **If a public address system is in use for a contest, the host school will make public service announcements at various times during the contest to remind those in attendance to use masks and maintain physical distancing.**
10. **The host school is responsible for providing staff to engage in frequent cleaning and sanitizing of restroom facilities during contests.**

11. **Concession stands are discouraged** because they tend to invite gatherings of people in close quarters. If a member school chooses to operate a concession stand at a contest, signage or other appropriate markings must be in place to encourage customers to maintain physical distancing while standing in line. Where possible, schools that choose to operate concession stands are encouraged to arrange for call-in orders in order to reduce the number of people gathering to stand in line and to limit the number of concession workers. All concession stand workers must wear facial coverings and must maintain as much physical distance as possible in the confines of the concession stand.

12. **All coaches must complete the free NFHS online course “COVID-19 for Coaches and Administrators,”** before the first contest (preferably as soon as possible). Administrators with athletic responsibilities are also encouraged to complete the course. The link to access the course is here: <https://nfhslearn.com/courses/covid-19-for-coaches-and-administrators>.

In addition to these regulations, TSSAA has developed the accompanying rules modifications and guidelines for returning to competition generally and for the specific fall sports. Those rules modifications and guidelines, like these regulations, do not guarantee the safety of participants and fans but are designed to encourage the member schools to engage in safe practices. The knowledge base related to COVID-19 is evolving. TSSAA may modify the regulations, rules modifications, and guidelines as more about COVID-19 is learned. All coaches and administrators are encouraged to check the TSSAA website regularly for any modifications to these regulations, rules modifications, or guidelines. TSSAA regulations are minimum regulations. Each member school is encouraged to remain apprised of local conditions and to consult with local health authorities in order to determine whether more rigorous standards are needed. The decision about whether and how athletic competition can be safely conducted is the responsibility of the administration of the school.

Administrators and Coaches:

Attached are COVID-related regulations and guidelines that the TSSAA Board of Control approved on July 22, 2020. These regulations and guidelines are in effect immediately for all sports.

Non-contact fall sports may proceed in accordance with the TSSAA sports calendar. All contact sports, including the fall sports of football and girls' soccer, continue to be limited to strength training and conditioning in accordance with the Governor's Executive Orders. Executive Order No. 38 prohibited contact sporting events and activities. Executive Order No. 50 extended that prohibition through August 29, 2020. TSSAA is hopeful that the prohibition on contact sporting events and activities at the high school level will be lifted by August 3, 2020, which will allow teams to proceed in accordance with the TSSAA sports calendar in football and girls' soccer. However, in the event the prohibition is not lifted by that date, the Board of Control has approved a contingency plan that will allow those sports to proceed whenever the prohibition is lifted.

Circumstances related to the COVID-19 pandemic change on what seems to be a daily basis, and circumstances vary from one community to another. It will be challenging for administrators and coaches to balance concern for students' emotional well-being that is served by participating in athletics and their physical well-being which may mitigate against participation. Where to strike that balance may vary from community to community or school to school and on different days within the same community or school. These are the difficult decisions you will have to make on a weekly or even daily basis, irrespective of what TSSAA may do regarding sports calendars, schedules, or playoffs. Whatever your decisions about participation for your students may be, we at TSSAA simply remind you that the safety and well-being of your students and their families must always be the primary consideration.

COVID-19 Sports Regulations

The following regulations will be in place for all sports until further notice. These regulations do not guarantee safety, but they are meant to encourage safe practices that will maximize our ability to engage in sports competition during the COVID-19 pandemic. While much about COVID-19 and its spread remains unknown, our collective hope for continuing sports competition depends on the willingness of every member school to apply and enforce these regulations.

1. **Temperature checks are required for all coaches, players, and team personnel prior to every practice.** Anyone whose temperature measures 100.4 or greater must be sent home immediately and may not return to participation until he/she provides documentation that they have tested negative for COVID-19 or obtained a medical evaluation by a physician verifying that COVID-19 is not the cause of his/her fever.
2. **No coach, player, or team personnel may participate in practice or a contest without first completing appropriate COVID-19 screening.** Persons should not participate while ill. If the answer is “YES” to any of the following questions, the coach, player, or team personnel may not participate until obtaining an evaluation by a medical provider verifying his/her fitness to safely do so:
 - Have you had any of the following symptoms in the past 7 days?
 - Fever
 - Cough
 - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
 - Shaking chills
 - Chest pain, pressure, or tightness with exercise
 - Fatigue or difficulty with exercise
 - Racing heart rate
 - Unusual dizziness
 - Loss of taste or smell
 - Sore throat
 - Nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea
 - Unusual rash or painful discoloration of fingers or toes
 - Do you have moderate to severe asthma, a heart condition, diabetes, chronic kidney or liver disease, or take medication or have a medical condition that weakens your immune system?
 - Have you or a family/household member been diagnosed with or tested positive for COVID-19 infection or been in close contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19 within the past 14 days?

Each coach, player, or team personnel member must be asked these questions before the first practice in which he/she participates, and again on at least a weekly basis.

A printed list of the questions should be given to each coach, player, or team personnel member with instructions that the questions are continuing throughout the season. If at any time the answer to any question becomes “YES,” the individual should promptly inform

the head coach or team trainer and should obtain an evaluation by a medical provider before further participation.

3. **No scrimmages, jamborees, 7-on-7 practice, or other types of practice with other teams is permitted.** Team versus team competition may take place only at official contests. [*Off-season practice in contact sports such as basketball, wrestling, etc., remains restricted to non-contact conditioning work consistent with the Governor's order.*]
4. **At contests all coaches, players, team personnel, officials, administrators, and fans must have their temperatures checked before entering the facility.** No one whose temperature measures 100.4 or greater may be admitted. Any coach, player, and team personnel refused admission under this regulation may not return to participation until providing documentation that he/she has tested negative for COVID-19 or obtained a medical evaluation by a physician verifying that COVID-19 is not the cause of his/her fever. For spectator screening areas, if a line forms or is anticipated to form, ensure 6 or more feet of separation between persons or household groups (e.g., ground markings and/or announcements).
5. **At each contest the following symptom checklist shall be posted prominently** at the spectator entrance(s) instructing that anyone who is experiencing any of these symptoms during the preceding 7 days must not be admitted:
 - Fever
 - Cough
 - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
 - Shaking chills
 - Chest pain, pressure, or tightness with exercise
 - Fatigue or difficulty with exercise
 - Racing heart rate
 - Unusual dizziness
 - Loss of taste or smell
 - Sore throat
 - Nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea
 - Unusual rash or painful discoloration of fingers or toes
6. **At contests in localities where fan attendance is permitted, member schools are encouraged to limit fan attendance to a number that will allow adequate social distancing (e.g., 1/4 to 1/3 of typical seating capacity, depending on the characteristics of the particular venue) and should mark/designate bleachers or seats in order to promote social distancing among spectators.** Member schools must facilitate compliance with any applicable state or local order limiting gathering sizes for participation in public events. In consultation with local health providers, member schools in areas experiencing high virus transmission should consider further limitations on attendance (e.g., family members only, or no spectators). Limit informal gathering in areas where social distancing cannot be maintained.

7. **Member schools will require that all fans wear facial coverings at all times while on-site** (except children under age 2) **and maintain social distancing** (six feet, or the equivalent of two empty seats between themselves and other fans) from anyone other than those living in the same household.
8. The temperature check and questionnaire requirements of Items 1 and 2 above, as well as the social distancing requirement of Item 7, **shall also apply to members of a school band or pep band, cheerleaders**, or other similar student groups attending a contest in a supporting role. Due to the potential increased risk of virus transmission during certain activities, the use of school bands at contests is discouraged. If the band is present, limit to a halftime performance or relocate the band from the stands to other available areas away from crowds and increase the amount of physical distance between band members. Increase the amount of physical distance between cheerleaders as well as between cheerleaders and other persons if projected voices are to be used.
9. **If a public address system is in use for a contest, the host school will make public service announcements at various times during the contest to remind those in attendance to use masks and maintain physical distancing.**
10. **The host school is responsible for providing staff to engage in frequent cleaning and sanitizing of restroom facilities during contests.**
11. **Concession stands are discouraged** because they tend to invite gatherings of people in close quarters. If a member school chooses to operate a concession stand at a contest, signage or other appropriate markings must be in place to encourage customers to maintain physical distancing while standing in line. Where possible, schools that choose to operate concession stands are encouraged to arrange for call-in orders in order to reduce the number of people gathering to stand in line and to limit the number of concession workers. All concession stand workers must wear facial coverings and must maintain as much physical distance as possible in the confines of the concession stand.
12. **All coaches must complete the free NFHS online course “COVID-19 for Coaches and Administrators,”** before the first contest (preferably as soon as possible). Administrators with athletic responsibilities are also encouraged to complete the course. The link to access the course is here: <https://nfhslearn.com/courses/covid-19-for-coaches-and-administrators>.

In addition to these regulations, TSSAA has developed the accompanying rules modifications and guidelines for returning to competition generally and for the specific fall sports. Those rules modifications and guidelines, like these regulations, do not guarantee the safety of participants and fans but are designed to encourage the member schools to engage in safe practices. The knowledge base related to COVID-19 is evolving. TSSAA may modify the regulations, rules modifications, and guidelines as more about COVID-19 is learned. All coaches and administrators are encouraged to check the TSSAA website regularly for any modifications to these regulations, rules modifications, or guidelines.

COVID-19 Sports Regulations

The following regulations will be in place for all sports until further notice. These regulations do not guarantee safety, but they are meant to encourage safe practices that will maximize our ability to engage in sports competition during the COVID-19 pandemic. While much about COVID-19 and its spread remains unknown, our collective hope for continuing sports competition depends on the willingness of every member school to apply and enforce these regulations.

1. **Temperature checks are required for all coaches, players, and team personnel prior to every practice.** Anyone whose temperature measures 100.4 or greater must be sent home immediately and may not return to participation until he/she provides documentation that they have tested negative for COVID-19 or obtained a medical evaluation by a physician verifying that COVID-19 is not the cause of his/her fever.
2. **No coach, player, or team personnel may participate in practice or a contest without first completing appropriate COVID-19 screening.** Persons should not participate while ill. If the answer is “YES” to any of the following questions, the coach, player, or team personnel may not participate until obtaining an evaluation by a medical provider verifying his/her fitness to safely do so:
 - Have you had any of the following symptoms in the past 7 days?
 - Fever
 - Cough
 - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
 - Shaking chills
 - Chest pain, pressure, or tightness with exercise
 - Fatigue or difficulty with exercise
 - Racing heart rate
 - Unusual dizziness
 - Loss of taste or smell
 - Sore throat
 - Nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea
 - Unusual rash or painful discoloration of fingers or toes
 - Do you have moderate to severe asthma, a heart condition, diabetes, chronic kidney or liver disease, or take medication or have a medical condition that weakens your immune system?
 - Have you or a family/household member been diagnosed with or tested positive for COVID-19 infection or been in close contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19 within the past 14 days?

Each coach, player, or team personnel member must be asked these questions before the first practice in which he/she participates, and again on at least a weekly basis.

A printed list of the questions should be given to each coach, player, or team personnel member with instructions that the questions are continuing throughout the season. If at any time the answer to any question becomes “YES,” the individual should promptly inform the head coach or team trainer and should obtain an evaluation by a medical provider before further participation.

3. **No scrimmages, jamborees, 7-on-7 practice, or other types of practice with other teams is permitted.** Team versus team competition may take place only at official contests. [*Off-season practice in contact sports such as basketball, wrestling, etc., remains restricted to non-contact conditioning work consistent with the Governor's order.*]
4. **At contests all coaches, players, team personnel, officials, administrators, and fans must have their temperatures checked before entering the facility.** No one whose temperature measures 100.4 or greater may be admitted. Any coach, player, and team personnel refused admission under this regulation may not return to participation until providing documentation that he/she has tested negative for COVID-19 or obtained a medical evaluation by a physician verifying that COVID-19 is not the cause of his/her fever. For spectator screening areas, if a line forms or is anticipated to form, ensure 6 or more feet of separation between persons or household groups (e.g., ground markings and/or announcements).
5. **At each contest the following symptom checklist shall be posted prominently** at the spectator entrance(s) instructing that anyone who is experiencing any of these symptoms during the preceding 7 days must not be admitted:
 - Fever
 - Cough
 - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
 - Shaking chills
 - Chest pain, pressure, or tightness with exercise
 - Fatigue or difficulty with exercise
 - Racing heart rate
 - Unusual dizziness
 - Loss of taste or smell
 - Sore throat
 - Nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea
 - Unusual rash or painful discoloration of fingers or toes
6. **At contests in localities where fan attendance is permitted, member schools are encouraged to limit fan attendance to a number that will allow social distancing and should mark/designate bleachers or seats in order to promote social distancing among spectators.** Member schools must facilitate compliance with any applicable state or local order limiting gathering sizes for participation in public events. In consultation with local health providers, member schools in areas experiencing high virus transmission should consider further limitations on attendance (e.g., family members only, or no spectators). Limit informal gathering in areas where social distancing cannot be maintained.
7. **Member schools will require that all fans wear facial coverings at all times while on-site** (except children under age 2) **and maintain social distancing** (six feet, or the equivalent of two empty seats between themselves and other fans) from anyone other than those living in the same household.
8. The temperature check and questionnaire requirements of Items 1 and 2 above, as well as the social distancing requirement of Item 7, **shall also apply to members of a school**

band or pep band, cheerleaders, or other similar student groups attending a contest in a supporting role. Due to the potential increased risk of virus transmission during certain activities, the use of school bands at contests is discouraged. If the band is present, limit to a halftime performance or relocate the band from the stands to other available areas away from crowds and increase the amount of physical distance between band members. Increase the amount of physical distance between cheerleaders as well as between cheerleaders and other persons if projected voices are to be used.

9. **If a public address system is in use for a contest, the host school will make public service announcements at various times during the contest to remind those in attendance to use masks and maintain physical distancing.**
10. **The host school is responsible for providing staff to engage in frequent cleaning and sanitizing of restroom facilities during contests.**
11. **Concession stands are discouraged** because they tend to invite gatherings of people in close quarters. If a member school chooses to operate a concession stand at a contest, signage or other appropriate markings must be in place to encourage customers to maintain physical distancing while standing in line. Where possible, schools that choose to operate concession stands are encouraged to arrange for call-in orders in order to reduce the number of people gathering to stand in line and to limit the number of concession workers. All concession stand workers must wear facial coverings and must maintain as much physical distance as possible in the confines of the concession stand.
12. **All coaches must complete the free NFHS online course “COVID-19 for Coaches and Administrators,”** before the first contest (preferably as soon as possible). Administrators with athletic responsibilities are also encouraged to complete the course. The link to access the course is here: <https://nfhslearn.com/courses/covid-19-for-coaches-and-administrators>.

In addition to these regulations, TSSAA has developed the accompanying rules modifications and guidelines for returning to competition generally and for the specific fall sports. Those rules modifications and guidelines, like these regulations, do not guarantee the safety of participants and fans but are designed to encourage the member schools to engage in safe practices. The knowledge base related to COVID-19 is evolving. TSSAA may modify the regulations, rules modifications, and guidelines as more about COVID-19 is learned. All coaches and administrators are encouraged to check the TSSAA website regularly for any modifications to these regulations, rules modifications, or guidelines.

General Rule Considerations for all TSSAA Sports Returning to Competition During the COVID-19 Pandemic

Pre-Game Procedures

- While it has always been customary to shake hands as a part of the pre-game conferences and activities, this should not take place during this pandemic.
- Pre-game conferences will take place with fewer officials, coaches and staff than in years past. Refer to the sport specific guidelines for details.

Team Benches

- Social Distancing is encouraged for bench personnel. Schools should carefully consider the role of all bench personnel and eliminate those who are non-essential.
- Players and coaches should provide their own water, sports drinks, etc.

Officials Table / Press Box

- Should be limited to essential personnel to ensure social distancing. Schools should carefully consider the role of all personnel at the officials' table and press box and eliminate those who are non-essential.

Post-Game Procedures

- Handshakes, hugs, etc. have always been an integral part of postgame procedures. During this pandemic, these should not take place.

Dressing Facilities

- If available, dressing facilities for game officials and teams should be large enough for them to use social distancing protocols and should be properly cleaned and sanitized prior to their arrival.

Contest Officials

- Officials are not responsible for monitoring activities on the sidelines, such as social distancing, hand washing, symptoms of illness, handshakes, or other such issues. The responsibility of monitoring remains with school personnel.
- Cloth face coverings are permissible. If worn, they should be solid in color, all alike, and not contain any images or logos.
- Electronic whistles are permissible, but not likely to be available
- Officials should provide their own water, sports drinks, etc.

2020-21 NFHS Soccer Rules Modifications

Pregame Conference (5-2-2d)

- Limit attendees to head referee or center referee, the head coach from each team, and a single captain from each team.
- All individuals maintain a social distance of 6 feet.
- Suspend handshakes prior to and following the Pregame Conference.

Ball Holders (6-1)

- Encourage social distancing of 6 feet

Team Benches (1-5-1)

- Players and coaches are encouraged to practice social distancing in the team box.

Substitution Procedures (3-4)

- Maintain social distancing of 6 feet between the substitute, officials and/or teammate(s) by encouraging substitutions to occur closer to the center line.

Officials Table (6-2; 6-3)

- Limit to essential personnel which includes home team scorer and timer with a recommended distance of 6 feet between individuals. Visiting team personnel (scorer, statisticians, etc.) are not deemed essential personnel and will need to find an alternative location.

Pre and Post Match Ceremony

- Suspend the pregame world cup introduction line and send players to their field positions with bench personnel lined up on the touch line (3-6 feet apart) for introductions.

2020-21 NFHS Volleyball Rules Modifications

Prematch Conference (1-2-4a; 1-6-2; 1-6-3; 2-1-10; 5-4-1h, k; 5-6-1; 7-1-1; 7-1-1 PENALTIES 1; 9-1a; 12-2-3)

- Limit attendees to one coach from each team, first referee and second referee.
- Move the location of the prematch conference to center court with one coach and one referee positioned on each side of the net. All four individuals maintain a social distance of 3 to 6 feet.
- Suspend the use of the coin toss to determine serve/receive. The visiting team will serve first in set 1 and alternate first serve for the remaining non-deciding sets.
- Suspend roster submission at the prematch conference. Rosters are submitted directly to the officials' table before the 10-minute mark.

Team Benches (5-4-4b, 9-1-2, 9-1-2 NOTE, 9-3-3b)

- Suspend the protocol of teams switching benches between sets. In the event there is a clear and distinct disadvantage, teams may switch sides, observing all social distancing protocols. Officials will determine if a disadvantage is present.
- Limit bench personnel to observe social distancing of 3 to 6 feet.

Deciding Set Procedures [1-2-4b, 5-4-4c, 5-5-3b(26), 9-2-3c]

- Move the location of the deciding set coin toss to center court with team captains and the second referee maintaining the appropriate social distance of 3 to 6 feet. A coin toss, called by the home team, will decide serve/receive.
- Suspend the protocol of teams switching benches before a deciding set. In the event there is a clear and distinct disadvantage, teams may switch sides, observing all social distancing protocols. Officials will determine if a disadvantage is present.

Substitution Procedures (2-1-7, 10-2-1, 10-2-3, 10-2-4)

- Maintain social distancing of 3 to 6 feet between the second referee and the player and substitute by encouraging substitutions to occur within the substitution zone closer to the attack line.

Officials Table (3-4)

- Limit to essential personnel which includes home team scorer, libero tracker and timer with a recommended distance of 3 to 6 feet between individuals. Visiting team personnel (scorer, statisticians, etc.) are not deemed essential personnel and will need to find an alternative location.

Equipment and Accessories (4-1)

- Cloth face coverings are permissible. (4-1-4)
- Gloves are permissible. (4-1-1)

Legal Uniform (4-2)

- Long sleeves are permissible. (4-2-1)

- Long pants are permissible. [4-2-1i (1)]
- Under garments are permissible, but must be unadorned and of a single, solid color similar in color to the predominant color of the uniform top or bottom. [4-2-1h (3), 4-2-1i (2)]

Officials Uniform and Equipment (5-3)

- By state association adoption, long-sleeved, all-white collared polo shirt/sweater are permissible. (5-3-1 NOTES 2)

Cross Country

- Social distancing of at least 6 feet should be maintained at all times. No hugging, shaking hands, or fist bumps for support/encouragement.
- Cross country meets should consider using staggered, wave or interval starts.

Possible Rule Modifications

- 8-1-3a: Consider widening the course to at least 6 feet at its narrowest point.

Finish

- Consider using finish corrals and FAT timing for larger meets as easier to distance at finish.
- With no FAT timing system consider alternative means of finish place and time to address congestion at finish line.
- Consider using image-based equipment at finish to assist with picking place to avoid congestion.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces and exercise equipment.

Pregame and Postgame Ceremony

- Establish cross country specific social distancing meet protocols including the elimination of handshakes before and after the match.

NFHS Football Rule Modifications

BALL (Rule 1-3-2)

- The ball holders should maintain social distancing of 6 feet at all times during the contest.

FACE MASKS [Rules 1-5-1a, 1-5-3c(4)]

- Cloth face coverings are permissible.
- Plastic shields covering the entire face (unless integrated into the face mask and attached to the helmet and clear without the presence of any tint) shall not be allowed during the contest.

GLOVES (Rule 1-5-2b)

- Gloves are permissible but still must comply with Rule 1-5-2b by meeting either the NOCSAE Standard or the SFIA Specification.

CHARGED TIME-OUTS AND AUTHORIZED CONFERENCES (Rules 2-6-2, 3-5-3, 3-5-8)

- A single charged time-out may be extended to a maximum of two minutes in length.
- The authorized conference for the charged time-out should take place between the 9-yard marks and not at the sideline for social-distancing purposes. (It would be permissible for no more than three coaches to be involved in this conference and for technology to be used.)
- Each game official and player should have their own beverage container brought out to them on the field.

INTERMISSION BETWEEN PERIODS AND AFTER SCORING (Rule 3-5-7I)

- The intermission may be extended to a maximum of two minutes between the first and second and the third and fourth periods and following a try, successful field goal or safety, and prior to the succeeding free kick.

FOOTBALL GAME OFFICIALS MANUAL CONSIDERATIONS

GAME OFFICIALS UNIFORM AND EQUIPMENT

- Electronic whistles are permissible (supplies are limited).
- Cloth face coverings are permissible.
- Gloves are permissible.
- Do not share uniforms, towels and other apparel and equipment.

PREGAME CONFERENCE, COIN TOSS AND OVERTIME PROCEDURES

- For the coin toss, limit attendees to the referee, umpire and one designated representative from each team.
- Coin toss should take place in the center of the field with designated individuals maintaining social distancing of 6 feet.

- Maintain social distancing of 6 feet while performing all pregame responsibilities with all officiating crew members, game administration staff, line-to-gain crew, clock operators, individuals handling the balls during the game and team personnel.
- For the overtime procedure, please use the same procedure as used at the start of the contest for the coin toss.



STATE OF TENNESSEE
EXECUTIVE ORDER
BY THE GOVERNOR

No. 55

**AN ORDER TO FACILITATE AND RESPOND TO CONTINUING EFFECTS OF COVID-19
BY AMENDING PRIOR EXECUTIVE ORDERS**

WHEREAS, each Tennessean should continue to protect themselves and others by following applicable health guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and other public health authorities to slow the spread of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19), including practicing effective social distancing, personal hygiene measures, and usage of face coverings; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 remains a threat to our citizens, our healthcare systems, and our economy, requiring ongoing regulatory flexibility to cope with continuing effects and risks due to the COVID-19 emergency; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services has recommended the establishment of certain nursing facilities for residents who become COVID-positive in order to protect other residents and provide additional flexibility for health care system capacity; and

WHEREAS, measures should be taken to promote the safety and health of teachers, school administrators, staff, volunteers, and students and mitigate the spread of COVID-19 in K-12 schools and institutions of higher education, which are designed to keep schools open and promote student success; and

WHEREAS, athletics should continue because they are an important part of education and community and provide many benefits for student-athletes, though commonsense precautions must be taken due to COVID-19 as part of any athletic activity; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 58-2-107, and other general emergency and management powers of the Governor under law, the temporary suspension of selected state laws and rules and the other measures contained herein are necessary to facilitate the response to the ongoing effects of the emergency resulting from COVID-19.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Bill Lee, Governor of the State of Tennessee, by virtue of the power and authority vested in me by the Tennessee Constitution and other applicable law, do

hereby declare that a state of emergency continues to exist in Tennessee and accordingly order the following:

Effective immediately, Executive Order No. 36, dated May 12, 2020, as extended by Executive Order No. 50, dated June 29, 2020, is amended by adding the following new paragraphs:

- 23.6 Commercial driver licenses with medical cards are extended until September 29, 2020. The provisions of Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-50-413, are hereby suspended to the extent necessary to delay the cancellation of a Class A, B, or C driver license with a medical card issued for more than ninety (90) days that is set to expire between March 12, 2020, and September 29, 2020. Class A, B, and C driver license holders affected by this suspension will have until September 30, 2020, to submit a new medical card to the Department of Safety and Homeland Security to avoid cancellation. Renewal requirements shall return to their original schedule in subsequent years. Any Class A, B, or C driver license that was downgraded between July 1, 2020 and the date of this Order shall be converted back to the previous license class if the sole reason for the downgrade was the expiration of Executive Order No. 36. Drivers who, since their last medical certificate was issued, have been diagnosed with a medical condition that would disqualify the driver from operating in interstate commerce, or who, since their last medical certificate was issued, have developed a condition that requires an exemption or Skill Performance Evaluation from FMCSA are not covered under the suspension in this paragraph.
- 23.7 CDL Expiration Extension. The provisions of Tennessee Code Annotated, Sections 55-50-311, 55-50-336, and 55-50-337, are hereby suspended to the extent necessary to delay the expiration of all valid Class A, B, C, PA, PB, and PC driver licenses that are set to expire between March 12, 2020, and September 29, 2020. Class A, B, C, PA, PB, and PC licenses shall instead expire on September 30, 2020. Any Class A, B, C, PA, PB, or PC driver license that was downgraded between July 1, 2020 and the date of this Executive Order shall be converted back to the previous license class if the sole reason for the downgrade was the expiration of Executive Order No. 36.
- 34.1 Designation and Payment for Certain Nursing Facilities as “COVID-19 Skilled Nursing Facilities/Units.” The provisions of Tennessee Code Annotated, Titles 4, 68, and 71 and related regulations and policies are hereby suspended to the extent necessary to provide the Department of Health and the Division of TennCare the necessary authority and discretion to select, designate, and reimburse certain nursing facilities, or units within certain nursing facilities, as “COVID-19 Skilled Nursing Facilities/Units”.
- 34.2 Medicaid Payments to “COVID-19 Skilled Nursing Facilities/Units.” The provisions and requirements of Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 71-5-105, are hereby suspended to the extent necessary to permit the Division of TennCare to implement additional acuity-based payments for Medicaid members in nursing facilities designated as “COVID-19 Skilled Nursing Facilities/Units”.

38.2 Licensed alcohol and drug abuse counselors can practice telemedicine. The provisions of Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 63-1-155(a)(1), and any other state or local law, order, rule, or regulation that would limit the application of this Paragraph 38.2 are hereby suspended, retroactively to March 26, 2020, when Paragraph 38.1 suspended provisions of law to permit telemedicine by other licensed health care providers, to the extent necessary to allow telehealth or telemedicine services to be provided by an alcohol and drug abuse counselor licensed under Title 68. This suspension does not otherwise alter or amend an alcohol and drug abuse counselor's scope of practice or record keeping requirements.

Effective immediately, Executive Order No. 38, dated May 22, 2020, is amended by deleting Paragraphs 2.c., 2.d., and 2.e. and substituting instead the following:

- c. Local education agencies and schools shall, notwithstanding any orders or provisions to the contrary, have the authority to permit, but are not required to permit, school-sponsored sporting events and activities, provided that all such activities, including practices and games or competition, must be conducted in a manner consistent with COVID-19-related regulations adopted by the Tennessee Secondary Schools Athletic Association. Non-school-sponsored athletics, including practices and games or competition, must be conducted in a manner consistent with guidance from the Tennessee Economic Recovery Group (i.e., Tennessee Pledge), including further and updated operational guidance to be forthcoming. Collegiate and professional sporting events and activities must be conducted pursuant to the rules or guidelines of their respective governing bodies.

Effective immediately, Executive Order No. 38, dated May 22, 2020, is amended by adding the following new paragraph:

12.1 Waiver of application fee to expand premises. The provisions of Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 57, and related rules and other state or local laws, orders, rules, or regulations are temporarily suspended to the extent necessary to waive the \$300.00 application fee for restaurants, limited service restaurants, and all other establishments licensed under Title 57, Chapter 4, that apply to the Alcoholic Beverage Commission to expand the boundary of their premises covered under such license to sell alcoholic beverages for on-premises consumption in response to COVID-19.

Effective immediately, Executive Order No. 53, dated July 1, 2020, regarding limited liability protection for health care providers and hospitals, is amended and extended by adding the following language to the end of Paragraph 4:

This Order is hereby extended for thirty (30) days, and shall continue in effect until 11:59 p.m., Central Daylight Time, on August 30, 2020.

Effective immediately, Executive Order No. 54, dated July 3, 2020, regarding local government authority concerning face coverings, is amended by deleting Paragraph 8 and substituting instead the following:

8. Term and effective date. This Order shall be effective upon execution and shall remain in effect until 11:59 p.m., Central Daylight Time, on August 29, 2020.

Effective immediately, Executive Order No. 54, dated July 3, 2020, is amended by adding the following new paragraph:

9. Face coverings in schools and higher education institutions. Local education agencies, schools, and institutions of higher education are strongly encouraged to implement a policy requiring the use of face coverings by students and staff, with appropriate exemptions, and consistent with any policies issued by the Tennessee Department of Education. No policy, local order, or official may prohibit a student, teacher, school employee or contractor, or visitor from voluntarily wearing a face covering except to the extent that such face covering presents a safety or security risk.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have subscribed my signature and caused the Great Seal of the State of Tennessee to be affixed this 31st day of July, 2020.



GOVERNOR

ATTEST:



SECRETARY OF STATE

