



FALL 2020 - RETURN TO ACTION

Considerations and Protocols Governing CAPPS Member Schools

This document provides the basic reopening parameters for the coming 2020-2021 school year. This information provides the minimum requirements as presented by CAPPS in coordination with local, state and national government regulations. As member schools develop protocols for their return to campus instruction and extracurricular participation consideration should be given to visitors to campus for CAPPS contests.

Sport specific parameters for COVID 19 mitigation will be provided in the addendum.

Purpose:

The purpose of the information presented herein is to provide direction for CAPPS member schools as they prepare for competition during the 2020-21 school year. It was created with the information and executive orders in place at this time. CAPPS will continue to monitor state, federal and CDC guidelines to determine if any modifications to this guidance may become necessary.¹

Goals:

To provide an organizational outline of governance which CAPPS member schools may utilize in preparing plans participation in league competitions.

Overview

For the 2020-21 scholastic year, disruptions in contest schedules are possible. Schools and CAPPS committee/board should meet to discuss and plan for these disruptions where possible. Individual CAPPS schools may be more restrictive than the policies presented herein, but may not be less restrictive. CAPPS member schools are required to develop protocols for mitigating the risk of COVID-19 spread during all CAPPS contests and activities. In developing and implementing these protocols, schools should follow all national and state requirements, taking into account their local context. Practice

Participation Protocols

Each school shall develop protocols in compliance with local, state and national government regulations. The protocols should apply to all levels of participation including off season and in season activities.

Affirmation (Self Screening)

The teams involved in the contest(s) shall affirm that the following self screening conditions are met prior to the contest. *All visiting schools will provide a roster of affirmed players and coaches prior to the contest.* (See communication examples in addendums)

Schools must require all staff, coaches, players, trainers, managers, team personnel, officials, clock, table, scoreboard operators and all other persons essential to the contest or activity to self-screen for COVID-19 symptoms before participating in CAPPS activities or entering areas where CAPPS activities are being conducted. The self-screening shall include, at a minimum, a positive affirmation that they do not have COVID-19 symptoms nor are they lab-confirmed with COVID-19, nor have they had close contact with an individual who is lab-confirmed with COVID-19. Symptoms are listed below.

Team and Officials Responsibilities

Each team (Home and Visiting) shall communicate to the other that all participants for the contests (players, managers, coaches and other team personnel) affirmed the self screening conditions prior to the contest. 22

Symptoms

- Feeling feverish or measured temperature greater than or equal to 100.0 deg F
- Loss of taste or smell
- Cough
- Difficulty breathing
- Shortness of breath
- Fatigue
- Headache
- Chills
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Shaking or exaggerated shivering
- Significant muscle pain or ache
- Diarrhea
- Nausea or vomiting

Covid 19 Positive Test - Return to School

In the event that a student or cohort, as identified by the member school, tests positive or shows COVID 19 symptoms, the school protocols shall apply to return to school.

Covid 19 Positive Test - Return to Play

For CAPPs participation purposes, a student who tests positive shall be cleared by a physician prior to returning to any CAPPs governed contest. This is in keeping with the CAPPs health and safety protocols.

Covid 19 Positive Participant in a Contest*

- **Notification to your school personnel, participants, parents, etc.**

Notification should be made in compliance with the school protocols in place for this type of occurrence.

- **Previous Opponent / Officials**

Any notification shall rest with the affected school administration and shall be in compliance with all local, state and national governance.

- **Future Opponent / Officials**

Any notification shall rest with the affected school administration and shall be in compliance with all local, state and national governance.

*** Definition of Close Contact - CDC Guidelines (as of August 7, 2020):**

A close contact is defined as any individual who was within 6 feet of an infected person for at least 15 minutes starting from 2 days before illness onset (or, for asymptomatic patients, 2 days prior to positive specimen collection) until the time the patient is isolated.

CAPPs Sanctioned Games

For the purposes of this document, interscholastic competition shall include all contests which occur between two or more participants within the CAPPs League. Contests shall include games, tournaments and meets once the post season begins.

- Participants should be as approved as stated in CAPPs By-Laws.

Game Protocols

The protocols listed herein establish the minimum level of action required for contests hosted by CAPPs member schools. Schools may implement protocols more restrictive than those shown here.

Tournaments

The decision to host or participate in tournaments shall be at the discretion of the school administration for each member school. If tournaments are hosted, the protocols herein shall be the minimum standard required.

Post Season

● When the contest is hosted by the CAPPS member school:

- Schools must agree on protocols prior to the contest and should be in keeping with the local rules and regulations governing the host school. The two schools should give consideration to the more restrictive of the two policies if they differ.

● When the contest is hosted at a neutral site:

- Schools must agree on protocols prior to the contest and should be in keeping with the local rules and regulations governing the neutral site host. Additionally, the host site rules should be in place if more stringent than the two competing schools.

Game Basics

● Game Times shall be established to allow for

- Fans entering and exiting the gym, arena or stadium
- Teams entering and exiting the playing area
- Cleaning / disinfecting areas for both fans and teams

● Warmups

- Protocols shall be established to limit contact prior to the contests as time / space allow

● Locker Rooms

- If available, the locker room and/or bathroom protocols shall be distributed prior to the contests in keeping with the host facility protocols and local ordinances
- If not available, CAPPS will notify schools in advance of the contests.

● Attendance

- Maximum attendance shall be governed by the rules of the host site and any state and local ordinances which may apply. Any restrictions shall be communicated to the teams prior to the contest with as much lead time as possible

- **Ticketing** - Any ticketing or tracking for admission is the responsibility of host school. No money may be collected for tickets.

Cancellation / Rescheduling of CAPPS Contests

○ Health and Safety Concerns (COVID-19 Related)

• Procedure

- School should notify opponent as soon as possible once school administration determines the inability to compete as scheduled

• Make Up Opportunity

- If possible the contest should be rescheduled for the next possible playing date as it fits both team's schedules
- If no make up date can be established, the game shall be shown as a no contest for each team and not a forfeiture

○ Health and Safety Concerns (non-Covid)

- School should notify opponent as soon as possible once school administration determines the inability to compete as scheduled
- The district shall determine whether forfeiture of the contest is required if the contest cannot be rescheduled or made up. If the contest will not affect the overall district standings, the district may declare the game to be a no contest for the team involved.

○ Other Concerns (non-Covid)

- Failure to participate in a contest and failure to complete a season are discussed in CAPPS Bylaws.

Cancellation / Rescheduling of Contests - Post-Season

○ Contests

○ If a Team cannot compete due to COVID 19

- Postponement, if possible, but rescheduling cannot interfere with next round of playoffs
- As necessary and approved by the CAPPS office a replacement team may be inserted into the bracket or championship.

○ Cancellation of Championship

- While possible, this is the last option CAPPS will entertain for the season and activity involved.

Protocols for CAPPS Activities:

These protocols were created with the information and executive orders in place at this time. CAPPs will continue to monitor state, federal and CDC guidelines to determine if any modifications to this guidance may become necessary.

Face Coverings Required- Executive Order GA-29

Consistent with the latest Governor's Executive Order GA-29, face coverings are required at all CAPPs activities as outlined below. This includes the 2020-2021 school year, unless modified at a later date. CAPPs activities include any game, meet or tournament event between two or more participants hosted by a CAPPs member school.

1. For the purposes of this document, face coverings include non-medical grade disposable face masks, cloth face coverings (over the nose and mouth), or full-face shields to protect eyes, nose, and mouth. Face shields may be superior to cloth face coverings in many circumstances, given improved ability to see mouth movements and improved air circulation.
2. All persons ten years of age or older must wear face coverings or face shields upon entry to an area where CAPPs activities are being conducted and when not actively practicing or playing in the contest, unless an exception listed below applies.
3. The face coverings requirements do not apply to a school in a county that meets the requirements of paragraph 11 of Executive Order GA-29, unless the local member school administration chooses to implement these requirements locally. Even in these circumstances, the wearing of face coverings or face shields is strongly encouraged.

Exceptions to the wearing of face coverings or face shields include any person

- With a medical condition or disability that prevents wearing a face covering;
- While a person is consuming food or drink;
- While the person is in a swimming pool, lake, or similar body of water;
- When a group of persons maintains at least 6 feet of social distancing; or
- Any other reason or circumstance indicated

Practice and Contest Areas, Locker Rooms, Bathrooms and Other Common Areas

Host school protocols should address the following areas:

- Hand sanitizer, disinfecting wipes, soap and water, or other similar disinfectants are made readily available in these areas.
- Common areas should be regularly and frequently cleaned and disinfected including all frequently touched surfaces such as doors, tables, chairs, benches, bleachers, lockers, and restrooms.
- All surfaces in practice, warm-up, game or contest areas should be thoroughly disinfected before and after each use.
- All equipment and balls should be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected before, during and after the contest.
- Food, water, drinks and other similar items, if provided, should be available in a manner that ensures coaches, participants and officials are not sharing these items.

CAPPS Contests

Teams and Participants

- Transportation for students is to be determined by local member school administration.
- Teams and participants are required to wear face coverings as described in Executive Order GA-29. (Note: exception is allowed when actively practicing or playing in the contest).
- The host school should designate an area for teams to load and unload separate from fans, spectators, and other individuals not essential to the team or group.
- Visiting team locker rooms, if available, should be cleaned and sanitized by the host school before the visiting team arrives. Schools should limit access to these facilities to only students and staff essential for the game or contest.
- Before each game or contest, both schools shall follow the self screening protocols described in this document to screen all coaches and participants, staff members, contractors, volunteers, sports officials, contest judges, and any individuals otherwise involved in working the event. These individuals should affirm the requirements described in the self screening protocols.

Officials

- The host site should provide sports and contest officials an area to enter and exit separate from fans when possible. Officials should be provided a meeting area, if applicable, that has been cleaned and disinfected prior to their arrival.
- Pregame or pre-event meetings between teams and/or sports and contest officials should be planned to allow appropriate distancing between individuals.
- Pregame and post-game gestures of sportsmanship should be conducted between teams and sports and contest officials in ways planned to help reduce the risk of spread of COVID-19.
- All participants should be provided with entry and exit plans for contest areas that maintain separation from non-participants and fans.

Fans and Spectators

- Schools and/or host sites shall post visible signs and/or messaging at all entrances stating any individuals who are confirmed to have, suspected of having, are experiencing symptoms of, or have been in close contact with an individual who has been confirmed to have COVID-19 should not enter the facility.
- Schools may allow spectators to attend games, contests, or events as determined by the host school protocols, and in keeping with state and local rules for maximum capacity limitations.
- Schools may choose to conduct contests with no spectators; however, the host school cannot allow home spectators to the total exclusion of visitor spectators;
- Schools can and should develop a protocol for limitations on the maximum number of spectators allowed. Such protocol should include reasonable allowances for spectators from all participating schools, and shall be communicated to all schools attending.
- Seating should be established and marked in a way that maintains a minimum six feet of distance between groups.
- Groups should maintain at least six feet of distance from other groups at all times, including the process of admission and seating. A group is defined as no more than 10 people including the members of the household and those persons who traveled together to the facility.
- Spectators, audiences, fans and media are required to wear face coverings as described in Executive Order GA-29.

- Fan and spectator areas including bleachers, stands, walkways, and other spectator areas should be located to provide at least ten (10) feet of distance from team/group areas such as team benches or performance areas.
- Food, water, drinks and other similar items, if provided, should be available in a manner that ensures coaches, participants and officials are not sharing these items.
- **Individuals not essential to the team or group should not be given access to contest areas, performance areas, courts, or fields at all before, during, or after contests and events.**

Concession Stands and Food Service

- If made available by the host school, all state and local rules in place for food service must be followed.

Sample Communications for Self Screening Affirmations

Home Team

In preparation for today's contest between our school and _____, I attest that the following:

- All coaches and team personnel involved in the contest have affirmed today that they meet the COVID self screening conditions required to participate.
- All team members involved in the contest have affirmed today that they meet the COVID self screening conditions required to participate.
- Site based officials involved in the contest have affirmed today that they meet the COVID self screening conditions required to participate.

Covid-19 Self Screening Affirmation

Schools must require all staff, coaches, players, trainers, managers, team personnel, officials, clock, table, scoreboard operators and all other persons essential to the contest or activity to self-screen for COVID-19 symptoms before participating in CAPPS activities or entering areas where CAPPS activities are being conducted. The self-screening shall include, at a minimum, a positive affirmation that they do not have COVID-19 symptoms nor are they lab-confirmed with COVID-19, nor have they had close contact with an individual who is lab-confirmed with COVID-19.

To assist your fans and team personnel, the following protocols are in place for contests at our facility:

1. Fan capacity limitations
2. Fan PPE
3. 3. Entrance and Exit from the facility

If you have any questions, please contact me by reply email or by phone at

_____.

Visiting Team

In preparation for today's contest between our school and _____, I attest that the following:

- All coaches and team personnel involved in the contest have affirmed today that they meet the COVID self screening conditions required to participate
- All team members involved in the contest have affirmed today that they meet the COVID self screening conditions required to participate

Covid-19 Self Screening Affirmation

Schools must require all staff, coaches, players, trainers, managers, team personnel, officials, clock, table, scoreboard operators and all other persons essential to the contest or activity to self-screen for COVID-19 symptoms before participating in CAPPS activities or entering areas where CAPPS activities are being conducted. The self-screening shall include, at a minimum, a positive affirmation that they do not have COVID-19 symptoms nor are they lab-confirmed with COVID-19, nor have they had close contact with an individual who is lab-confirmed with COVID-19.

A roster of our team members and coaches that have been affirmed to participate in today's contest, is included in this communication.

If you have any questions, please contact me by reply email or by phone at

_____.

To Officials' Chapter Assignor or Crew Chief

In preparation for today's contest between our school and _____, I attest that the following:

- All coaches and team personnel involved in the contest have affirmed today that they meet the COVID self screening conditions required to participate
- All team members involved in the contest have affirmed today that they meet the COVID self screening conditions required to participate
- All site based officials have been briefed in the COVID 19 protocols and have affirmed today that they meet the COVID self screening conditions required to participate

Covid-19 Self Screening Affirmation

Schools must require all staff, coaches, players, trainers, managers, team personnel, officials, clock, table, scoreboard operators and all other persons essential to the contest or activity to self-screen for COVID-19 symptoms before participating in CAPPS activities or entering areas where CAPPS activities are being conducted. The self-screening shall include, at a minimum, a positive affirmation that they do not have COVID-19 symptoms nor are they lab-confirmed with COVID-19, nor have they had close contact with an individual who is lab-confirmed with COVID-19.

To assist our officials, the following protocols are in place for contests at our facility:

- Official's Locker Room
- Special Instructions
- Entrance and Exit from the facility

Any responsibility with the enforcement of COVID 19 protocols will rest with the game administrator on duty and not the officiating crew.

If you have any questions, please contact me by reply email or by phone at _____ .