



**THE DISTRICT**  
YSLETA INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

# Athletics/Activities Plan

Reset, Reimagine and Respond:  
Reentry Plan for Fall 2020

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## Introduction

The following is the plan for Ysleta ISD to reintegrate our student-athletes into Classroom Learning and Online Learning following federal, state, and local guidelines and protocols, and proactively create systemic processes and procedures to accommodate the phasing in of student-athletes and programs on our campuses.

The health and safety of our student-athletes is our #1 priority, and the following guidance is based on what is currently known about the coronavirus disease (COVID-19). Ysleta ISD Athletics designed this guidance to help prevent workplace exposures to COVID-19 for all student-athletes, coaches, and staff, and it will be updated as additional information becomes available.

Athletics will continue to work closely with the UIL, campus administration, the State of Texas, and the City of El Paso health officials so timely and accurate information can guide appropriate responses. Local conditions will influence the decisions that public health officials make regarding community level strategies.

## Factors Impacting Continuity Of Return To Activity Plan

### A. Key Principles:

1. Due to the possibility of recurrent outbreaks this fall and winter, a state and local plan must be prepared for periodic school closures, as well as the possibility of teams having to isolate for 2-3 weeks while in-season. Development of policies must be implemented regarding practice and or/competition during temporary school closures, the cancellation of contests during the regular season, and the parameters for the cancellation for a premature ending to post-season events/competitions.
2. With the uncertainty of which phase will be attained at the beginning of a sport /activity season, scheduling contests that require less travel when possible is a consideration. If opponents at the time of a contest are subject to different restrictions, rescheduling that contest for a later date may be problematic.

## Health And Safety

### A. Key Principles:

1. **Limiting personal interaction:** Face-to-face interaction and person-to-person contact will be limited to essential activities that cannot be performed in an alternative (online or remote) fashion. When such activities are required, social distancing and other infection-spreading mitigating measures will be emphasized.
2. **Hygiene:** Hand-washing will be emphasized before, during, and after team activities when practicable.
3. **Cleaning and sanitation:** Routine and enhanced cleaning and sanitation measures will be implemented.
4. **Safe access to facilities:** Facility entry and exit points will be coordinated to minimize personal interaction and facilitate social distancing.
5. **Coach-student ratio:** Ysleta ISD staff will maintain state and local recommendations for coach-to-student ratio at all times.

6. **Student-athlete screening:** Daily symptom and temperature screening assessments will be required of student-athletes.
7. **Staff screening:** Staff will continue to be screened daily.

## Sanitation Guidelines And Response Strategies

### A. Disinfection and Sanitation

1. Athletic facilities will be disinfected and sanitized per industry guidelines before, during, and after activities. Emphasis will be given to high-touch surfaces and surfaces used by multiple student-athletes, with disinfection between users (checklist for staff).
2. Certain equipment will be sanitized after each use and before a new athlete uses it.
3. Specific athletic facilities in which an individual with a confirmed COVID-19 positive has been identified will undergo enhanced disinfection per Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and industry guidelines.
4. All balls will be sanitized after use during all skills sessions.

### B. Athletes and Staff

1. Both student-athletes and staff will sanitize hands before, during, and after workout. There will be multiple hand-sanitizing stations spread out among all workout areas.
2. There will be no high-fives, back slaps, or any other physical encouragement.
3. 6-foot social distancing will be maintained when not actively exercising.
4. 10-foot social distancing will be maintained when actively exercising.

## Student-Athlete Requirements

- A. FOR THE 2020-21 SCHOOL YEAR ONLY, ANY PARTICIPANT IN ATHLETICS OR MARCHING BAND, IN ANY GRADE LEVEL, WHO HAS NOT PREVIOUSLY COMPLETED A PRE-PARTICIPATION PHYSICAL EXAMINATION AND BEEN CLEARED FOR PARTICIPATION, WILL BE REQUIRED TO COMPLETE THE MEDICAL HISTORY FORM NOTED BELOW, AS WELL AS A PRE-PARTICIPATION PHYSICAL EXAMINATION PRIOR TO PARTICIPATION IN ANY UIL PRACTICES, GAMES, PERFORMANCES, OR MATCHES.
- B. **Medical History Form:** Each year prior to any practice or participation, a UIL Medical History form signed by both student and parent/guardian is required. A Medical History form shall accompany each Physical Examination, and shall be signed by both student and a parent or guardian. **Any “yes” answer to questions 1-22 requires further medical evaluation, which may include a physical examination.**
- C. Upon entering the first year in junior high athletics, students are required to undergo a physical examination signed by a physician, or a physician assistant licensed by a state board of physician assistant examiners, or a registered nurse recognized as an advanced practice nurse by the board of nurse examiners, or a doctor of chiropractic.
- D. Students should maintain 6 feet of space between each other – this includes groups, run groups, and common areas, including restrooms.
- E. Physical contact with others should be limited. Do not shake hands, hug, fist-bump or high-five.
- F. Athletes will use hand sanitizer before entering the facility, during workouts, and when exiting skills.
- G. Student-athletes are required to wash hands, utilize the “one in, one out” model, and sanitize hands after exiting restrooms. Trash cans will be placed near doors to encourage student-

athletes to open the door with the paper towel used to dry hands. Locker room use is not allowed for any reason.

- H. Drinking water will not be provided for student athletes. Student-athletes will be required to bring their own individually labeled water bottles, and are prohibited from sharing water bottles. Water refill stations will be provided and supervised by a coach.

## **YISD Staff And Student Screening Requirements** **(COVID-19 Reopening Response Plan: Campus Entry)**

### **EMPLOYEE SCREENINGS**

Employee self-screening and daily health checks will be instituted per the following protocols:

1. All employees should self-screen daily before coming onto campus or designated work area. Employees experiencing any COVID-19 symptoms should self-isolate and report findings to their supervisor.
2. Employees who have known close contact with a person who is lab-confirmed to have COVID-19 should self-isolate for 10 days.
3. Employees living with someone who experiences any of COVID-19 symptoms, whether they have a positive COVID-19 test or not, should self-isolate for 10 days.
4. Employees should check temperature prior to starting work. Ideally, temperatures should be taken at home or before entering the building. Contactless thermometers should be readily available on site for those unable to check temperature at home.
5. Employees should self-monitor and report any change in status
6. Employees should practice social distancing as duties permit.
7. Employees should wear a face covering at work if unable to maintain social-distancing guidelines.
8. Employees should cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue, dispose of tissue in the trash, and wash hands immediately with soap and water or use hand sanitizer.
9. Employees with a temperature of 100.0° F or higher should be sent to designated isolation area.
10. NOTE: Eating and drinking can affect the results of the temperature (especially if drinking hot beverages). If an employee's temperature reading is above 100.0° F, but there is an absence of COVID-19 symptoms, the employee shall wait 10-15 minutes before the temperature is rechecked. While waiting, the employee should NOT eat or drink anything, and should remove any winter clothing, hats or beanies.

### **STUDENT SCREENINGS**

The use of mass screenings for students is recommended and daily health checks will be implemented per following protocols.

1. Upon arriving to campus and at the start of every day of instruction, students will be asked if they have any COVID-19 symptoms. When asking an individual whether he/she has COVID-19 symptoms, schools must only require the individual to provide a "Yes" or "No" response to the overall statement that they are symptomatic for COVID-19, as opposed to asking the individual for specific symptom confirmation. Schools are not entitled to collect information during screening on specific health information of an individual beyond that they are symptomatic. It is recommended that schools accept a verbal response. The pre-

screening questions can be found under the district's approved screening protocol. Please refer to "Student Self-Screen Protocol" for more information.

2. Students who have known close contact with a person who is lab-confirmed to have COVID-19 should self-isolate.
3. Students living with someone who experiences any COVID-19 symptoms, whether they have a positive COVID-19 test or not, should self-isolate.
4. Check temperature of students prior to starting class. Ideally, temperatures should be taken before entering the building. The use of contactless thermometers and/or temperature kiosk is highly recommended.
5. Students should self-monitor and report any change in status.
6. Students should practice social distancing as duties permit.
7. All students for whom it is developmentally appropriate) should wear face coverings, except while performing activities where the mask cannot be worn, such as eating. Masks or face coverings are especially important in hallways, between classes and at the beginning and end of the school day, when students are most likely to congregate.
8. Students should cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue, dispose of tissue in the trash, and wash hands immediately with soap and water or used hand sanitizer.
9. Students with a temperature of 100.0° F or higher shall be sent to designated isolation area.
10. NOTE: Eating and drinking can affect the results of the temperature (especially if drinking hot beverages). If a student's temperature reading is above 100.0° F and there are no other COVID-19 symptoms, the student should wait 10-15 minutes to have the temperature rechecked. While waiting, the student should NOT eat or drink anything, and should remove any winter clothing, hats, or beanies. Three temperature readings within the designated 15 minutes is appropriate.

## **Covid-19 Symptoms, Testing & Management**

Staff/students who have the following non-emergent **COVID-19 Symptoms** on arrival or become sick during the day must be separated from others and placed in designated isolation area until they can be evaluated and sent home. The designated screening station liaison personnel will ensure students are sent to the designated isolation area. Most common symptoms are fever, cough, and shortness of breath; however, children are less likely to have symptoms compared to adults, and many have no clinical symptoms.

### **COVID-19 Symptoms**

- Feeling feverish or a temperature of 100.0°F or higher
- Chills
- Repeated shaking with chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Muscle pain
- Headache
- Sore throat
- New loss of taste or smell
- Gastrointestinal symptoms like nausea/vomiting/diarrhea
- Children with undiagnosed new and/or untreated rash or skin condition

The following protocols will apply when staff/students present with COVID-19 symptoms:

- Promote isolation by separating staff/student from others and place in designated campus isolation room. If no designated isolation room exists, a designated area with closable doors may serve as a temporary isolation room until the potentially sick individual can leave.
- Restrict the number of persons entering the isolation area.
- Close off areas used by a sick individual until they can be disinfected per EPA Guidance on Disinfectants. If possible, wait 24 hours to clean areas to increase the chances of the virus becoming inactive.
- Appropriate PPE must be utilized in conjunction with universal precautions and proper hand hygiene. Use clinical judgment to evaluate the risk of exposure and implement appropriate PPE. Consider use of protective eyewear, facial shield, gown, gloves and N95 mask to decrease risk of droplet transmission.
- Immediately following the isolation of a student or staff member with COVID-19 symptoms, consider temporarily relocating students and staff in close contact to allow for disinfection of the classroom.

The following protocols will apply when staff/students present with a test-confirmed case in the school:

- When a test-confirmed case of COVID-19 occurs, the campus should identify any individuals who had high risk close contact with the positive case. All students/staff potentially exposed to the case should self-isolate for 14 days before returning to work/school.
- Schools must close off areas that are heavily used by the individual with the lab-confirmed case (student, teacher, or staff) until the non-porous surfaces in those areas can be disinfected, unless more than three days have already passed since the person was on campus.
- Written notification must be sent to all teachers, staff, and parents/guardians of students if a positive COVID-19 case is identified at a campus.
- Campus COVID-19 Response Team must also notify the El Paso Department of Public Health at (915) 212-6520.

### **High-Risk Close Contact**

This refers to high-risk close contact with an individual who is test-confirmed to have COVID-19. High-Risk Close Contact is defined as someone who was within 6 feet of an infected person for more than 15 minutes or longer **without** wearing a mask, face shield, or without a desk divider in place starting from 2 days (48 hours) before illness onset (or for asymptomatic patients, 2 days prior to specimen collection) until the time the patient is isolated.

### **Inclement Weather Plan**

Campus personnel should continually monitor weather trends and forecasts. In the event of inclement weather, the screening stations should be moved to large common areas (i.e. gymnasiums, auditoriums) to ensure students in screening lines are adequately protected from the inclement weather. If a campus lacks adequate large facilities to house screening stations and screening lines indoors, consider marking off designated hallways and ensure adequate supervision to monitor students while entering to be screened. Multiple groups can meet in a larger space (gym or cafeteria) if social distancing is enforced, desk dividers are used, desks all face the same direction, and students continue to wear masks.

## Preparation For Conducting Activities

- A. Ysleta ISD Plan For Beginning Activity Phase: Health and Safety of Students and Staff is a Priority.
- B. Administrative Considerations in preparation of beginning activity phase:
  1. Pre-participation Physical Evaluation:
    - a. UIL Guidelines and recommendations of Athletic Trainers
  2. Mandatory Trainings:
    - b. Ysleta ISD Coaches undergo mandatory trainings in COVID-19 screenings and facility disinfecting guidelines
  3. Conduct of Conditioning and Practice Sessions:

These criteria will be determined by state and/or local governments and must be strictly followed.

### **1-4A Football**

- Sept. 8: Strength, Conditioning, & Sport Specific activities
- Sept. 14: Begin Acclimatization Period
- Sept. 24-26: Scrimmage
- Oct. 2: First game

### **2-5A & 1-6A Football**

- Sept. 8: Strength, Conditioning, & Sport Specific activities
- Sept. 14: Begin Acclimatization Period
- Sept. 24-26: Scrimmage
- Oct. 2: First game

### **1-4A Volleyball**

- Sept. 8: Strength, Conditioning, and Sport Specific instruction only
- Sept. 14: Practice begins
- Sept. 18: First game

### **2-5A & 1-6A Volleyball**

- Sept. 8: Strength, Conditioning, and Sport Specific instruction only
- Sept. 14: Practice begins, Scrimmages allowed September 17
- Sept. 18: First game

### **Cross Country**

- Sept. 8: 4A Schools May start Interschool Competition
- Sept. 8: 5A & 6A Schools May start Interschool Competition
- Sept. 12: First Meet

### **Team Tennis**

- Sept. 8: 4A Schools - Meets/Tournament may begin after September 8
- Sept. 8: 5A & 6A Schools - Meets/Tournament may begin after September 8
- Sept. 18: First Matches

### **Cheerleading**

- Sept. 8: Practice begins

## Parent/Guardian Communication Plan

- A. Frequent emails will be sent to all parents/guardians outlining return to campus plan & safety measures.
- B. Constant & detailed communication via email with parents/guardians.



# CONDUCTING ACTIVITIES

## ENTRY PROCEDURES

Each campus will identify, develop, and implement screening stations to ensure all students are safely, efficiently, and properly screened prior to entering the school building. A campus screening station should be a designated area that manages two to three screening lines. Each screening line will consist of an adult equipped with a contactless thermometer checking the temperature of every student before clearing them and allowing entry into the building. Each screening line will be marked by floor markers which are 6 feet apart and ensure students practice social distancing while awaiting screening.

Additional personnel should be assigned to greet students directing them to the screening stations. As students are screened, adults acting as liaisons should direct students who fail the screening test to the designated isolation room for further evaluation.

All adults who are assigned to man the screening station and screening lines will wear an appropriate face covering and wash their hands frequently.

### Isolation Room

Each campus should designate a room utilized to isolate students and/or staff that fail to meet before school screening parameters or become ill during the school day. If no designated isolation room exists, a designated area with closable doors may serve as a temporary isolation room until the potentially sick individual can leave. Restrict the number of persons entering the isolation area. Properly sanitize and disinfect the room per EPA Guidance on Disinfectants. Appropriate PPE must be utilized in conjunction with universal precautions and proper hand hygiene.

When applicable, the isolation room should be located near the nurse's clinic to provide the nurse with flexibility to tend to students throughout the day while maintaining their day to day duties. Individual's working in the isolation room should wear appropriate PPE, N95 mask, protective gown, gloves, and plastic face shield.

## LOCKER ROOM COORDINATION

### UIL Recommendations

- Schools should make hand sanitizer, disinfecting wipes, soap and water, or similar disinfectant readily available in these areas.
- All congregate areas should be regularly and frequently cleaned and disinfected including all frequently touched surfaces such as doorknobs, tables, chairs, lockers, and restrooms.
- Any equipment that will be kept in student lockers and/or in these areas should be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected each day prior to students accessing these areas. Schools should develop a plan for managing the storage, cleaning and disinfecting, and redistribution of student equipment.
- Schools should consider identifying staff to monitor locker rooms and other areas where students may congregate to ensure effective use of school protocols. When possible, schools should open windows and/or doors or otherwise work to improve air flow by allowing outside air to circulate in these areas.

- Schools must require staff and students to wear face coverings while inside locker rooms, meeting rooms, training rooms, band halls and other areas where students may congregate other than shower facilities.
- As part of their overall plan, schools should develop a plan for mitigating risk of spreading COVID-19 when disinfecting, cleaning, and laundering items such as towels, practice clothes, and uniforms. This plan should include protocols for redistributing these items to students. Involved staff should be trained specifically on these protocols.

### **WORKOUT GROUPS**

- A. Student-athletes workout and skills groups will be coordinated by Ysleta ISD staff to minimize exposure.
- B. An isolation room will be provided for an athlete who exhibits symptoms.

### **OUTDOOR/INDOOR REGULATIONS**

- A. Determined by state and local guidelines
  - Entry/Exit Procedure
  - In School Hours
  - Before School Hours
  - After School Hours
  - Weekend Hours
  - Student locker assignment plan to implement social distancing
  - Training room protocols – determined by Athletic Trainers

### **WORKOUT PROCEDURES/GUIDELINES**

- A. Procedures subject to change pending release of guidelines by state and local agencies.
- B. Face coverings should be worn when not actively exercising.
- C. Coaches are required to wear face coverings.
- D. Both student-athletes and staff will sanitize hands before, during, and after workout. There will be multiple hand-sanitizing stations spread out among the conditioning and skills areas.
- E. There will be no high-fives, back slaps, or any other physical encouragement.
- F. 6-foot social distancing will be maintained when not actively exercising.
- G. 10-foot social distancing will be maintained when actively exercising.
- H. Spotting is allowed, but it is recommended the spotter's mouth and nose are covered.
- I. Bars and other equipment will be sprayed and wiped after every use.
  1. Sport-specific skills may include specific sports equipment.
  2. Any equipment should be regularly disinfected during sessions.
  3. Equipment should not be shared between groups.

### **When Activity is Allowed:**

- A. Limitations on Gatherings: To be determined by state and local guidelines.
- B. Facilities Cleaning:
  1. Adequate cleaning schedules should be created and implemented for all athletic facilities to mitigate any communicable diseases.

2. Prior to an individual or groups of individuals entering a facility, hard surfaces within that facility should be wiped down and sanitized (chairs, furniture in meeting rooms, locker rooms, weight room equipment, bathrooms, athletic training room tables, etc.).
3. Individuals should wash their hands for a minimum of 20 seconds with warm water and soap before touching any surfaces or participating in workouts.
4. Hand sanitizer should be plentiful and available to individuals as they transfer from place to place.
5. Weight equipment should be wiped down thoroughly before and after an individual's use of equipment.
6. Appropriate clothing/shoes should be worn at all times in the weight room to minimize sweat from transmitting onto equipment/surfaces.
7. Any equipment such as weight benches, athletic pads, etc. having holes with exposed foam should be covered.
8. Students must be encouraged to shower and wash their workout clothing immediately upon returning to home.

C. Physical Activity and Athletic Equipment:

1. There should be no shared athletic equipment (towels, clothing, shoes, or sports specific equipment) between students.
2. Students should wear their own appropriate workout clothing (do not share clothing) individual clothing/towels should be washed and cleaned after every workout.
3. Any equipment, such as sports balls, should be regularly disinfected during workout sessions. This equipment should not be shared between groups. After a group has used such equipment, that equipment must be thoroughly disinfected before being used by a different group.
4. Individual drills requiring the use of athletic equipment are permissible, but the equipment should be cleaned prior to use by the next individual.
5. Hand sanitizer should be plentiful at all practices.

D. Hydration:

1. All students shall bring their own water bottle. Water bottles must not be shared.
2. Water refill stations will be supervised by a coach.

## **EXIT PROCEDURES**

- A. Student-athletes must exit via a predetermined route that is learned during orientation, while practicing social distancing and avoiding contact with other student-athletes and staff.
- B. Students must sanitize their hands when they exit the facility.
- C. Parents must stay in vehicles during pick-up process.
- D. Follow routes for diagrams of facilities.

## **Training Room Protocols**

Managed by the athletic trainer.

## **Preparing Staff & Athletes**

Preparing and educating students/staff for a Sept. 8, 2020, start:

- A. All Ysleta ISD Campus Athletic Coordinators will meet with Ysleta ISD Health Services and Emergency Management to learn new procedures and protocols. Athletic Coordinators will meet with Head Coaches to train in new procedures and protocols and head Coaches will meet with Coaches to train in new procedures and protocols.
- B. Student-athletes will be required to participate in a teleconference meeting with their coach to walk through the entry and exit procedures for their specific high school. During this orientation, student-athletes will:
  1. Review the social distancing “waiting line” on the sidewalk prior to reaching the screening station.
  2. Use hand-sanitizing station prior to reaching the screening station.
  3. Get screened by Ysleta ISD staff prior to entering the Facility.

## **Preparing Facilities**

- Sanitation supplies delivered, installed, and placed in predetermined places.
- Trash Cans delivered and placed strategically for paper towels used at racks.
- Social Distancing Signs, RR Signs, Hand washing signs, Check in Signs will be made and hung.
- Sidewalks will be marked for social distancing spots during check in process.
- Indoor Facilities marked for social distancing spots after check in process.
- Social distancing markings installed throughout facility.
- Hand Sanitizing stations will be set up throughout the facility for use.

## **Contest/Event/Activity Procedures Outside School Day**

### **OFF-HOUR STUDENT ACTIVITIES**

“Off-hours” are defined as before and after school. Student activities conducted before or after school hours shall be under the direction and supervision of the school sponsor hosting the event. The hosting school sponsor will properly screen the participating students as described under the Student Screening protocol. Once students have been properly screened and cleared by their sponsor and participate in the event activity, the students are considered to be “cleared” for the rest of that school day. A student participating in an after-school activity who did not go to school that day will be screened and cleared by the school sponsor before being allowed to participate.

Principals shall establish set times defining before and after school, for example, students may arrive early but not before 7:00 AM and students remaining after school should be off campus by 7:00 PM unless authorized by the principal for a specific event related to athletics, fine arts, and parent nights.

### **Before School Entry**

1. Each principal should identify and authorize certain faculty leaders of CTSOs and other student organizations to conduct before-school activities.
2. Authorized faculty leaders should have the necessary resources to conduct initial daily entry and screening, such as no-touch thermometers; hand sanitizer or hand-washing stations; and ability to perform screening for symptoms of COVID-19.
3. Principals should establish a training program for authorized faculty leaders, so they are able perform entry protocols and screen students.
4. Authorized faculty leaders should be issued specific keys for areas on the campus needed for their specific CTSO or student organization.
5. Principals should establish a key control, no-touch thermometer, and general resources accountability and tracking system for all faculty leaders.
6. Faculty leaders should establish a specific time for entry before school. For example, the faculty leader would conduct entry and screening protocols from 7 to 7:10 a.m. Outside of that time period, students are restricted from entering campus until the normal-entry and screening process go into effect at the start of the school day. Faculty leaders should identify early-arriving students ahead of time, so they don't end up monitoring an early entry point for hours for any student arriving early.
7. Once arriving early on campus, students should not be allowed to leave campus except in the case of emergency or at the request of a parent.

### **After School Entry**

1. There is no need to perform entry protocols for students already on campus who are reporting to an after-school program. These students would have already met the protocols at the start of the school day; however, faculty leaders should continue to monitor for COVID-19 symptoms.
2. Students reporting to after-school programs should not be allowed to leave campus and return. They should report directly to their faculty leader after the last bell.
3. Principals should establish a time by which all students reporting to an after-school program should be in place. For example, if school ends at 4 p.m., all students should be at the location of their after-school program by 4:30 p.m., and all other students should be cleared from the campus by that time.
4. Principals should establish a time by which all after school programs should end and all students are to be off campus (for example, 7 p.m.). Principals may make exceptions for specific events.
5. Faculty leaders should maintain control of their students at all times, both before and after school.

### **Weekend Use of Facilities**

Principals should follow all guidelines contained under the before and after categories above and establish specific entry and exit times.

### **Other Off-Hour Use of Facilities**

Principals should follow TEA guidelines and limit or eliminate the use of facilities by vendors, organizations and the public at large. These uses may include the public use of track and field facilities, town hall meetings, guest speakers at assemblies, off campus organizational use of theaters and conference rooms.

### **Contest/Event/Activity Procedures**

1. Transportation to events (state and local guidelines must be followed):
  - a. Schools must consider social distancing requirements when scheduling contests and events for the fall. Social distancing (as required by state or local health department) will be maintained on buses/vans.
2. Social distancing:
  - a. Sidelines/benches: Appropriate social distancing will be maintained on sidelines/bench during contests and events. Consider using tape or paint as a guide for students and coaches.
  - b. Persons in attendance: Group people into tiers, from essential to non-essential, and decide which tiers will be allowed at an event:
    1. Tier 1 (Essential): Athletes, coaches, officials, event staff, medical staff, security
    2. Tier 2 (Preferred): Student support groups, media, family
    3. Tier 3 (Non-essential): Spectators, vendors

### **TEAMS AND PARTICIPANTS**

#### **UIL Recommendations**

- If the school is planning to offer transportation for students, schools should follow [TEA guidance](#) related to such transportation.
- Teams and participants are required to wear face coverings as described in Executive Order GA-29.
- The host site should designate a cleaned and disinfected area for teams to unload and load buses separate from fans, spectators, and other individuals not essential to the team or group.
- Visiting team /group locker rooms should be cleaned and sanitized by the host site before the visiting team arrives. Visiting teams/groups are responsible for cleaning and disinfecting equipment once it is unloaded. Schools should limit access to these facilities to only students and staff essential for the game, contest, or event.
- Before each game, contest, or event, schools should follow the screening protocols described above to screen all staff members, contractors, volunteers, sports officials, contest judges, and any individuals otherwise involved in working the event. These individuals should also self-screen as described in these screening protocols.
- Fan and spectator areas including bleachers, stands, walkways, and other spectator areas should be at least six feet from team /group areas such as team benches or performance areas. Where distancing is not feasible, other methods should be utilized to slow the spread of COVID-19, such as face coverings, implementing engineered controls such as physical barriers, or other risk mitigation efforts the school deems appropriate.
- As previously indicated, water or other drinks and/or food may be provided. Schools or host sites should consider doing so in a manner that ensures students are not sharing these items.
- Other areas used by participants, such as press box areas, should be cleaned and disinfected prior to and after use. Sites should develop plans for providing access to these areas that limit or remove potential contact between participants and non-participants.



- 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 dressing and 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. 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.

### **Student Groups not directly involved in the game or contest**

Student groups such as marching bands, cheerleaders, drill teams, and other groups approved by the school district may attend and perform at games or contests in which they are not competing. Schools should consider limiting the number of participants to those essential to the performance.

- These student groups should remain separate from the game or contest participants at all times. These student groups should avoid mixing with fans or non-group members throughout the game or contest.
- Student groups are required to wear face coverings as described in Executive Order GA-29.
- Schools should consider limiting the number of students and staff given access to the playing areas and ensure protocols for entering and exiting the playing areas are in place.
- Fans and spectators should be located to provide at least 10 feet of distance from bands playing wind instruments from the stands.
- These students should maintain appropriate distancing from game or contest participants at all times, including when on the sideline.

### **Spectators, Audiences, Fans and Media**

Schools may allow spectators to attend games, contests, or events within a maximum 50% capacity limitation, provided that appropriate spacing between spectators is maintained according to the protocol, and according to the following:

- Schools and/or host sites should post visible signs and/or messaging 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.
- Spectators, audiences, fans and media are required to wear face coverings as described in **Executive Order GA-29**.
- Sites are encouraged to utilize remote ticketing options to help manage capacity limitations within a maximum 50% occupancy. Paper tickets and programming should be minimized to help avoid transferable materials.
- If possible, set reserved times for entry to avoid mass arrivals.
- 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.
- Schools should not allow seating in consecutive rows, and should block off seating to maintain a minimum six feet of distance between groups.
- Pathways for spectator ingress and egress should be clearly marked and unobstructed.
- Schools should provide hand sanitizing stations and/or hand washing stations at entrances and inside the facility.
- Seating, hand rails, and other common surfaces should be cleaned and disinfected prior to each game or contest.
- Press Box seating should include social distancing of at least six feet between individuals when possible.

- Schools should limit access to working media providing coverage of the event to ensure protocols are followed.
- Post-game interviews should be conducted while wearing face coverings and maintaining at least six feet of distance between the interviewer and individual being interviewed.