

COVID-19 Phase 4 Guidelines (2-8-21)

**All participants and coaches must wear a face covering that fully covers their nose and mouth and fits snugly against the sides of the face with no gaps, whether indoors or outdoors, when unable to maintain at least 6 feet social distance from another individual, unless a medical condition prohibits the participant from wearing a face covering.

*Please follow the All Sports Policy recommendations for athletes/staff/coaches testing positive and close contact tracing.

*Additional mitigation information is available on the home page of the SIJHSAA Website and in the Forms and Documents Section of the site. (www.sijhsaa.com)

Lower Risk Sports (Bowling)

1. Full practices are permitted
2. Non-conference contests, out of EMS region contests, out-of-state contests, tournaments, and State Series allowed.

Medium Risk Sports (Volleyball)

1. Full Practices may be conducted.
2. Intra-squad scrimmages may be conducted with parental consent.
3. Contests allowed within conference and EMS region or out of region within 30 miles.

High Risk Sports (Basketball)

1. Full practices may be conducted.
2. Intra-squad scrimmages may be conducted with parental consent
3. Contests allowed within conference & EMS region or out of EMS Region within 30 miles.

Gathering Limitations (From IDPH All Sports Policy)

The guidance requires sports organizers to set up their physical space to allow for at least 6 feet of social distance for all participants not engaged in the sports activity (e.g., on the bench or sidelines). (See Physical Workspace minimum guidelines #3). The guidelines also encourage organizers to configure the area of play to allow for at least 6 feet social distance between participants, whenever possible (See Physical Workspace encouraged best practices #1). Ultimately, the team should only bring the personnel who can fit in to the space while allowing appropriate distancing. The guidelines also encourage organizers to consider prioritizing attendance for some groups (e.g., athletes, coaches, officials, medical staff, event staff, security) compared to others (e.g., spectators, media, vendors).

There is no specific crowd size limit on athletes, coaches, and staff, but obviously social distancing must be maintained at all times by all people on the sidelines and organizers should do everything possible to limit the number of people in a given space, especially spectators, in order to mitigate the risk of virus spread. **Sports organizers or venues should configure space to ensure there is at least 30 feet social distance between spectators and participants or, in the case 30 feet is not practicable for the venue, spectators are seated on the opposite side of the playing space (e.g., field, court) from participants not actively engaged in play and at a distance of at least 12 feet from the playing space. If there is no seating opposite, seat spectators at least 12 feet from the playing space. I hope the following clears up many questions in terms of what 12 feet means from the playing space? Here is the interpretation we received: "Imagine a 12-foot buffer around the playing space. Spectators should be seated in bleachers or other seating beyond that 12 foot buffer."** The maximum number of spectators is 50.

*Red print . . . updated on 2/8/21.