

2021 BASKETBALL CONSIDERATIONS

* Adapted from IHSA, IDPH, CPS, and OSA Winter Sports Guidelines

** Created for implementation at whichever time is allowed by the Illinois Governor's Office, IHSA, IDPH, CPS, and CDPH

- General information, including all pertinent screening procedures/required record keeping, can be found in the [Winter Sport Guidance](#) document

This document is intended to provide specific guidance for schools conducting practices and hosting contests during the 2020-2021 basketball season. While the risks of basketball are higher than all other approved Winter Sports, there are measures that can be taken to try to lower those risks. We summarize those measures here.

Primary Considerations:

- All standard [CPS Health and Safety Protocols](#) must be followed.
- Gatherings of up to 50 people are allowed. The number includes athletes, coaches, officials, and any additional personnel.
- All attendees must fill out the [CPS Health Screener](#) and have their temperature checked prior to entry in the building.
- Thirty foot distance between teams should be maintained.

Additional Considerations:

- Reinforce proper hand hygiene (washing or hand sanitizer use) among all participants
- Keep cleaning and hand hygiene materials readily available (i.e. hand sanitizer, disinfecting wipes, etc.) for the team and coaching staff.
- Cloth Face Coverings (CFCs) or masks must be worn by all students, coaches, and additional personnel at all times (**including during practice and play**)
- The district will provide participants - athletes and staff - with two CFCs.
 - Participants are responsible for cleaning and maintaining these items.
 - These items may be supplemented by their own items.
- Maintain, monitor and reinforce social distancing for your team and coaching staff at all times.
- For practices, teams (students and coaches) are **fixed** in "cohorts" following tryouts.
- Adhere to the [Chicago Public League Competition Protocol](#) for eligibility and hosting etiquette.
- Students should have their own backpacks/bags for clothes storage. Under no circumstances, should the students use common storage.
- Students may not share water bottles or towels.
- Prepare athletes to arrive at the competition venue in competitive attire.

- Following tryouts, for practices, teams are organized into “cohorts”
 - A cohort contains no more than 15 student athletes.
 - The integrity of the cohort should be maintained to the extent possible.
 - The purposes of fixed cohorts are to limit random mingling and to facilitate contact tracing.

Tryouts

- The first two days of practice, starting **TBD** (the official start of the season) are designated for tryouts primarily for Freshman and other levels as needed (i.e. Freshman, Sophomore, Junior Varsity, and Varsity). Regular practice can replace tryouts if the roster for your team is set.
- The maximum capacity of student-athletes for tryouts is 20 per session/level, plus no more than 2 coaches.
- Student-athletes must pre-register for tryouts coordinated by school personnel. Student-athletes must be grouped in cohorts according to registration.
- Upon completion of tryouts, rosters must be fixed for the season at 15 players maximum per level, which now becomes the new cohort.

Structure of the high school season:

- The Varsity schedule is 9 conference games + city/IHSA playoffs. OSA will define the number of non-conference games based on recommendations by the IHSA.
- During the week, Sophomore and Varsity boys and girls games are played Monday through Friday. Sophomore and Varsity conference games (boys and girls) start at 4:30 pm, and 7:00 pm respectively.
- Freshman games will be played on Saturday at 9 am.
- Contests may only be scheduled with other schools within IDPH COVID-19 Region 11 (City of Chicago) or out-of-region within 30 miles (no out-of-state travel is permitted).
 - All competition schedules must be submitted to the Office of Sports Administration via the assigned APA for approval prior to the start of the competitive season.

Rosters

- Once rosters are determined by level on **TBD** (following tryouts), vertical movement between levels is prohibited.

Requirements and Considerations for Chicago Public League Contests

- **Cleaning and disinfecting the floor and seating areas**

- **Floor should be:**
 - Intermittent cleaning and disinfecting during the game by the coaching staff. Floors will need to be cleaned and disinfected using a disinfectant (spray bottle) supplied by the Facilities Department.
 - Damp mopped with disinfectant between quarters by at least (1) school custodian.
 - Damp mopped with disinfectant after each game (or a designated group of games) by at least (1) school custodian.
- **Student Athlete and Coaching Staff Seating area(s) should:**
 - Be designated during the game
 - Cleaned and disinfected after each game by the coaching staff. Disinfectant wipes will be supplied by the Facilities Department along with spray bottles and paper towels for spot cleaning and disinfecting. At the end of each practice and game, the areas will be cleaned and disinfected.
 - Social distancing must be strictly enforced
- **Signage**
 - Schools are responsible for posting the appropriate signage to indicate entry/exit points, health protocols and to mark separate areas for groups of up to 50 students and staff. To request additional signage, please reach out to your building manager or IFM manager. If your building manager or IFM manager cannot locate additional signage, please order what you need from the CPS Marketplace. Items that are in stock will be delivered within 24-48 hours of placing the order. If the signs are not in stock, they may take up to two weeks to obtain.
 - Signage (posted and on floor) should indicate traffic flow throughout these gatherings in the spaces in which they take place.
 - Use signage or floor decals/color tape to remind all present individuals to maintain social distance of at least 6 feet
 - Make foot-traffic single direction to encourage single-file movement at a 6 foot distance.
 - If rearranging of venue is not an option place "do not use" or "do not site here" signs
 - Signage should be designed and arranged in ways to prevent mass gatherings and minimize the generation of close contacts.

Any time a new set of chairs is brought for use by participating teams, the chairs must be cleaned and disinfected by the coaching staff prior to being used. Disinfectant will be supplied by the Facilities Department along with spray bottles and paper towels.

- **Cleaning and disinfecting the ball after practice and/or competition by the coaching staff**
 - In order to clean and disinfect a basketball:
 - Handlers must have clean hands.
 - Mix a quarter-teaspoon of dish detergent per gallon of water
 - With a clean cloth or towel, wipe down the basketball with the dish detergent-and-water mix
 - Rinse the basketball with water alone
 - Allow the basketball to air dry
 - Once dry, spray the basketball with an EPA approved disinfectant and let air dry.
 - See also: [Wilson Simple Game Ball Cleaning Method](#)
- **Cleaning and disinfecting the ball during practice and/or competition by the coaching staff**
 - Encourage frequent hand sanitizing or hand washing (when possible)
 - Coaching staff should routinely clean and disinfect the basketballs using disinfecting wipes.
 - [Six Steps for Safe and Effective Disinfectant Use](#)
 - Make use of multiple “game balls” or “practice balls” that are clean and ready to be used.
 - Any basketball that has already been used should be set aside in/on a separate container, rack, or area until they are able to be cleaned and disinfected.
 - Cleaning frequency during activity should occur according to the following schedule:
 - **During Practice**
 - Basketball is exchanged (with fresh basketball) or cleaned and disinfected every 20 minutes with disinfectant and disposable wipes.
 - **During Competition**
 - Every full time out the basketball is exchanged (with fresh basketball) or cleaned and disinfected with disinfectant and disposable wipes prior to resumption of play.
- **Facility Readiness**
 - Gym facility readiness includes the availability of PPE equipment, wipes, hand sanitizer, cleaning and disinfecting supplies (for use by Facilities staff and/or assigned school personnel), and adequate school personnel for necessary cleaning and disinfection before and after practices and games.

- It is the responsibility of the host school to communicate with local staff (Facilities, Custodial, Athletic Department, Coaches) to ensure that cleaning will be handled in a manner consistent with building expectations.
- **“Game Operations Kit”**
 - All teams should be equipped with a “Game Operations Kit” **(created by and supplied by coach(es) and/or athletic director)** for all practices and competitions comprised of:
 - Access to a phone and preferably email
 - Sheet of emergency information of all participants
 - Screening/Eligibility Documentation
 - Thermometer provided by Facilities, unless already on hand by coaching staff
 - PPE - Disposal surgical face masks, gloves, and hand sanitizer provided by Facilities Department
 - Basketballs for warm-ups
- **Locker rooms**
 - Locker rooms will remain closed until district-wide clearance is provided by CPS. Neither home or visit team or any other entity participating in designated CPS events should make use of locker rooms or any areas connected to the locker rooms.
- **Scorers Table Considerations**
 - Athletes should use hand gestures (raised hand) to signal requests for substitution (this would replace traditional “check-in” at the scores table).
 - Referees must follow social distancing protocols when communicating with team members at the table.
 - Masks must be worn at all times. The Scorer table should be cleaned and disinfected after each quarter and game by the coaching staff. Disinfectant will be supplied by the Facilities Department along with spray bottles and paper towels.
 - The score-clock should be covered with plastic wrap which would protect the board from the chemicals and allow the wrap to be removed as needed.
- **Personnel at games - Max (50) No Spectators will be allowed.**
 - (20) school representatives per team
 - Maximum of (15) players per team
 - Maximum of (4) coaches per team

- (1) discretionary administrator
 - (2) Security Officers
 - (3) Game Officials
 - (2) Score table workers (Official Scorer, Clock Operator)
 - (1) Announcer/Streamer
 - (1) paramedic/trainer
 - (1) floater (OSA, custodial staff, or (home) school based administrator)
- **Teams Seating**
 - Benches must be staggered into rows to facilitate 6 ft social distance (if this is not feasible then chairs should be separated by 6ft or athletes can use bleachers (in a manner that ensures social distancing is maintained))
 - Cleaning materials (sprays bottles, paper towel, hand sanitizer, gloves, etc.) must be placed in prime locations for officials and scorers to clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces.
- **Requirements and Considerations for Coaches:**
 - Coaches and/or Athletic Directors must communicate practice and all competition guidelines in a clear manner to student participants and their parents.
 - Coaches must strictly adhere to the protocol for screening and attendance reporting for practices and games.

AED equipment should be available in accordance with state guidelines and those published in standard CPS Sports Guidance (add link; see previous guidance).

Requirements and Consideration for Officials:

- [NFHS Guidelines \(link\)](#) for officials
- Officials must sign in with the school to ensure COVID-19 Screening.
- Use of electronic whistles and/or whistle covers on the regular whistle is required.
- Whereas various rules require interactions between officials, coaches and athletes (NFHS Rules 4-2, 4-3), alternative methods of communications include utilization of the P.A. system, hand signals or written communication must be used.
- Notification of Disqualification (NFHS Rules 4-2-2d, e) shall occur from a distance via use of hand signals or the P.A. system.
- Require a distance of 6 feet between individuals seated at the desk/table.
- Bring personal hand sanitizer and wash your hands frequently.
- Do not share equipment and follow social distancing guidelines.

- Communication with coaches and participants must be done at the appropriate social distance.
- Refrain from fist bumps, high fives, shaking hands and other comparable forms of body contact .
- Wear a face covering at all times.

Requirements and Considerations for Student Athletes:

- Student athletes should be responsible for their own supplies such as a water bottle, towel placed in a backpack or gym bag.
- Students should wear their own appropriate workout clothing and not share clothing with anyone. All equipment and clothing should be washed immediately upon returning home.
- Hand washing and the use of hand sanitizer should be frequent and thorough at all contests and practices.
- Athletes should tell coaches promptly if they become ill. Parent or guardian should be called, and the athlete should leave immediately.
- Face coverings are required at all times, **including while engaged in training, competing or other activity.**

Requirements and Considerations for Parents:

- Make sure your child and immediate household members are free from illness before participating in practice and competition (if sick, stay home).
- Provide personal items for your child and clearly label them.
- Help make sure that your child is washing/cleaning clothing and personal items after each use.

Eating and drinking:

- Ensure 6 foot distance whenever athletes are eating or drinking.
- Have extra face coverings available as needed.