



EAST ALLEGHENY SCHOOL DISTRICT

ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

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Dear Parents,

First and foremost, we hope that you and your loved ones are safe and healthy. We have received questions from the community about if and how COVID-19 will change this year's athletic season. We know this outbreak has been stressful to many and recognize that exercising and participating in activities like sports can be a healthy way to cope with stress and connect with our community. After careful thought and planning, we are excited to let you know that we plan to resume youth sports while following CDC considerations to protect players, families, and our community.

The health and safety of our athletes, staff, and volunteers remain our highest priority. Below, you will find a summary of actions we are taking to help ensure we are lowering COVID-19 risk as much as possible while also allowing our athletes to play. We are:

- Intensifying cleaning, disinfection, and ventilation within our facilities and premises by cleaning and disinfecting frequently touched surfaces on the field, court, or play surface at least daily or between use as feasible, cleaning and disinfecting shared objects and equipment between use, and ensuring safe and correct use and storage of disinfectants.
- Reducing physical closeness or contact between players when possible by allowing players to focus on building individual skills (like dribbling or kicking), keeping children in small groups, and staggering arrival and drop off times, putting signs and tape on floors or playing fields to ensure that coaches and players stay 6 feet apart, discouraging unnecessary physical contact, such as high-fives, handshakes, fist bumps, and hugs.
- We will compete against teams in our local area and within the WPIAL.
- Promoting healthy hygiene practices such as providing hand sanitizer before and after practices and games, encouraging children to cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or to use the inside of their elbow, and reminding them to not spit.
- Requesting that coaches, youth sports staff, officials, parents, and spectators wear a cloth face covering during practices and games. Players may opt to wear a cloth face covering on the sidelines and the dugouts, and during play if feasible. As a reminder, cloth face coverings should not be placed on young children younger than 2 years of age, anyone who has trouble breathing, or is unconscious, incapacitated or otherwise unable to remove the cover without assistance.
- Limiting the sharing of equipment by providing extra equipment to minimize the need to share or encouraging players to bring their own equipment. Each student-athlete must bring their own water bottle. Please do not share water bottles with anyone else.

Anyone who is sick or has been in contact with someone who has COVID-19— including players, family members, coaches, staff and spectators — should not attend practices or games. Be on the lookout for symptoms of COVID-19, which include fever, cough, or shortness of breath. Call your doctor if you think you or a family member is sick.

If someone does get sick during practice or at a game, we have plans in place to isolate and transport that person to their home or healthcare facility. If you have a specific question about this plan or COVID-19, please contact Dave Loya, Athletic Director, 412-824-9700 ext. 1005 for more information. You can also find more information about COVID-19 at www.cdc.gov.

We look forward to seeing you. Now, let's play!

Thank you and stay healthy,

Dave Loya
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