

Hamilton Wenham Youth Basketball COVID 19 Protocol
Fall/Winter 2020
Updated December 19,2020

Introduction

The below rules aim to allow for non-contact basketball activities to comply with the most recent guidance effective November 7, 2020 by the Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, related to reopening procedures for Businesses and Other Entities Providing Youth and Adult Amateur Sports Activities.

The rules and modifications apply to all players, coaches, parents, safety directors, spectators, and league officials. These rules and modifications were submitted to the Board of Health for approval.

The intent of this submission and outline is for Hamilton Wenham Youth Basketball to conduct practices and modified gameplay. All rules will be discussed in advance with all above parties and participants. Prior to the start of the season, rules will also be disseminated to all players, parents and other related and/or interested parties.

Waivers, Screening, and Policies Regarding Exposure to COVID-19

- Families will sign a COVID-19-specific season waiver, pledging to self-screen, in accordance with recommended guidelines, before any HWYBB practice or other event, while promising to stay home if symptomatic.
- Families will also be responsible to review a daily Covid Screening “Checklist” prior to entering attending each Hamilton Wenham Youth Basketball (HWYBB) practice or other event
- A designated Safety Director for each group (separate from coaching staff) will be responsible for collecting and recording responses from daily screening checks, collecting the season COVID-19 waiver, taking attendance, and coordinating cleaning of surfaces between sessions.
- No individual is allowed to attend any HWYBB event if they have had a known exposure to COVID-19, an elevated temperature, or any symptoms of respiratory infection, such as cough or shortness of breath, sore throat, sneezing or runny/congested nose.
- Any player, coach, or league official who develops the above-mentioned respiratory symptoms will not be allowed to participate until they have been seen by, and cleared by, their health care provider. Also, any player presenting with any cold-like symptoms, mild or otherwise, will not be allowed to participate until they have been seen by, and cleared by, their health care provider. In addition, they will not be permitted to participate in any subsequent HWYBB event until the HWYBB Safety Director has received written proof from the individual’s health care provider that they are safe to return.
- If any player, coach, or league official is diagnosed with COVID-19, we will, in order to maintain confidentiality to the fullest extent, request that a nurse from the Hamilton or Wenham Boards of Health (“BOH”) inform any and all others who have been in contact with that individual. Daily attendance and screening responses recorded by safety directors will be utilized for this purpose. HWYBB will also inform the appropriate town board of health and follow their instructions as far as further measures.

Equipment to Bring

- Ear-looped masks are required for all in attendance. Players are asked to bring an extra mask.
- All players will be responsible for having their own ball and water bottle for each practice session.

Pickup Procedures

- No player is to be dropped off early, or picked up late, from any HWYBB practice.
- If a player arrives early, he or she is to remain in their vehicle until the event begins.
- Players will arrive to the facility fully dressed (outside of footwear)
- Outside of hydration/mask breaks, masks are required at all times for all players, coaches, safety personnel, and spectators at all HWYBB events.
- Players will wait outside of the gym (preferably in their cars and not in a large group) with their masks on, waiting for the Coach to provide a signal to enter the facility after sanitizing and other safety preparation have been conducted. This can be an electronic signal (eg text message to parents) or a manual signal (eg a flag or hand wave from the coach)
- Upon Coach's notification, players will walk through the main entryway to the gym

Capacity Limits

- No more than 20 people can be present at any HWYBB event, including players, coaches, safety personnel, and spectators.
- If the total number of coaches, players, and safety personnel in the gym is under 20, parents may sign in with that group's safety director until the capacity of 20 is reached.

Sanitizing Protocols

- HWYBB will provide and make available hand sanitizer and wipes to all players and coaches.
- Sanitizing stations will be set up at the entrance and exit to the facility.
- Coaches will provide each player with hand sanitizer both immediately upon arrival to the
 - event and immediately prior to departing the practice.
- Coaches will provide each player with hand sanitizer both immediately before and after each drill
- Shared basketballs will be wiped down prior to and after group use, in conjunction with hydration/masks breaks where players will use hand sanitizer
- Players' families should clean all equipment at home, after each HWYBB event, with a CDC-approved disinfection method.
- HWYBB coaches and managers will likewise sanitize all used equipment and basketballs after each HWYBB event.
- Any individual training equipment used by a player for purposes of a drill (e.g cones) will be sanitized after each use and prior to another player using it by a coach.

Signage and Designated Zones

- Signs will be posted at various locations throughout the facility to enforce protocols related to social distancing, hand washing, masks, and other information.
- Players and any parents in attendance will report to that player's designated area on the sideline to store equipment, wash hands with hand sanitizer, and prepare for participation
- Parents must remain in their corresponding player's zone for the entirety of the practice
- Designated areas will be clearly marked and consistent for each practice.

- Players will have a designated hoop to report. These will also stay consistent for each practice.
- During breaks, players will return to their designated area, sanitize hands, and hydrate.
- Designated areas will be socially distanced and should be consistent for each practice session

Restroom Protocols

- Bathroom breaks are allowed on a one-at-a-time basis. Players must sanitize hands before leaving and prior to re-entering the court.
- Bubblers must not be used.

Food and Drink

- All are prohibited from eating during any HWYBB event. They may bring a beverage from home (e.g. a water bottle), but no sharing whatsoever is allowed.
- Concessions, or sales of food or any other items, will be prohibited.

On-Court Procedures

- Coaches are encouraged to formulate practice plans to work best within social distancing guidelines.
- Training will be provided from HWYBB to help volunteer coaches execute on practice plans
- Training will also be provided to coaches from HWYBB to learn about the responsible use of masks, including how to properly take them on and off

Exit and Pickup Procedures

- Upon the completion of the practice, players will exit the gym directly and in a timely fashion. Players will exit the gym through the opposite side door.
- No player is allowed to linger after the event ends.

Post-Practice Procedures

- A 15 minute buffer will take place between groups to avoid “overlap” between sessions.
- During the buffer time, any frequently-touched surface including bathrooms, bubblers, door knobs, benches, will be cleaned/disinfected, either by custodial staff or otherwise coordinated by the safety director.

These Protocols are subject to change, remaining fluid upon the guidance of the CDC, Boards of Health, and other sanctioning bodies.