

Executive Order and Tennessee Pledge Guidance
Concerning Sporting Events and Activities: Guide for Williamson County Parks and Recreation Department's Partner Recreation Associations **Updated: 10/30/2020**

Throughout the course of the COVID-19 pandemic, Governor Bill Lee has issued several Executive Orders outlining health and safety guidelines for the resumption of sports and activities in Tennessee. The State of Tennessee has also issued “Tennessee Pledge” guidance that outlines best practices for contact and non-contact sports during the COVID-19 declared emergency.. The provisions of these authorities that apply to the activities of Williamson County Parks & Recreation (WCPR) are summarized below. All Recreation Associations are expected to familiarize themselves with these requirements and are expected to enforce them among their members, participants, team families and spectators when participating at Williamson County Parks and Recreation facilities. Recreation Associations that utilize school properties for their activities are also required to familiarize themselves with all applicable rules and guidelines promulgated by Williamson County Schools, including the terms of the Community Use Agreement, and are expected to enforce them among their members, participants, team families and spectators when participating at Williamson County School facilities.

Non-contact sporting events and activities generally present lower risk in terms of COVID-19 and are permitted where CDC and Tennessee Pledge guidelines are followed. “Non-contact sporting events and activities” mean sports that can be conducted while substantially maintaining appropriate social distancing, and that involve at most only close contact or proximity between participants that is incidental to the activity, are permitted where certain precautions are observed. Examples of non-contact sporting events and activities include, but are not limited to baseball, softball, volleyball, golf, disc golf, tennis and other racket sports, cycling, track and field and running events, cricket, swimming, and equestrian.

Contact sporting events can present moderate to high risk, and appropriate modifications are often necessary to further the safe resumption of some level of activity. Contact sports are sports for which there is a requirement or substantial likelihood of routine, sustained close proximity or physical contact between participants. For example, some sports, such as wrestling are scored by impacting an opponent, while others, including football or rugby, require tackling of players. Others like basketball, soccer, lacrosse, competitive cheer, rugby, ice and field hockey, rowing, mixed martial arts, wrestling, boxing, volleyball, water polo, and other combat sports involve participants being in close, sustained proximity and likelihood of physical contact.

For contact sports, certain components of training or competition are appropriate to limit or modify for the time being. For aspects of sports that are higher risk or involve greater physical contact, coaches and participants should focus on skill development and play that limits or reduces contact. Teams should strongly consider limiting competition to teams in your region or league/ conference and consider whether a shorter or abbreviated season might be a feasible and appropriate precaution. Teams should avoid scrimmages with other teams outside official competition.

INDIVIDUALS WHO CHOOSE TO ATTEND AND/OR PARTICIPATE IN SPORTING EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES AT WILLIAMSON COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITIES MUST ADHERE TO THE FOLLOWING TENNESSEE PLEDGE GUIDELINES. RECREATION ASSOCIATIONS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR INSURING COMPLIANCE AMONG THOSE PARTICIPATING IN THEIR ACTIVITIES:

- **Symptom Checks:** All Individuals reporting for a sporting event or activity should be screened for COVID-19 symptoms upon arrival by having temperature taken with a touchless thermometer.
 - *Temperature not to exceed 99.99 degrees. If the temperature of an individual exceeds 99.99, they may not be allowed into the facility and will be asked to return home until they are cleared according to current Tennessee Department of Health guidelines.*
- Individual must also be able to answer the following questions, which will be posted on signage at each location.
 - *Have you been in close contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19 in the past 14-days? (this does not apply to medical personnel, first responders, or others who encounter COVID-19 as part of their professional or caregiving duties while wearing appropriate PPE);*
 - *Are you experiencing a cough, shortness of breath, or sore throat?*
 - *Have you had a fever in the last 48 hours?*
 - *Have you had any new loss of taste or smell?*
 - *Have you had vomiting or diarrhea in the last 24 hours?*

IF ANY OF THE ABOVE ANSWERS ARE YES. PLEASE DO NOT ENTER THE PARK, FIELD OR FACILITY.

- **Wearing of Face Coverings:** A cloth or disposable face covering *must be worn* by all individuals while entering and in the facilities except as follows:
 - Any child under the age of 2
 - Anyone who has a medical condition related to breathing
- **Players and Officials may have their face coverings off while actively participating in the physical activity.**
 - **Coaches are to wear masks as much as possible. Masks must be worn by Coaches when they are in close contact with players (like in a huddle).**
 - **All other non-engaged participants (spectators) must still wear a face covering during the game/practice.**
- **Athletes, Officials and Coaches:**
 - Should maintain at least 6-feet of separation from others when not on the field of play or otherwise engaged in the event/activity where feasible. To further this practice, Williamson County Parks and Recreation will place physical markings in

the dugout, on benches, or on/in other shared areas to serve as social distancing reminders.

- Teams and or players should not be scheduled back to back.
 - 15 minutes between scheduled practices to allow facilities to be cleared/cleaned.
 - 30 minutes between scheduled games to allow facilities to be cleared/cleaned.
 - Should refrain from high fives, handshake lines, and other physical contact with teammates, opposing teams, coaches, umpires, and spectators. Coaches should regularly review social distancing rules and guidelines with athletes.
- **Spectators** should maintain at least 6-feet of separation from others not from the same household, including in seating areas or bleachers, and should refrain from entering athlete areas. Spectators are encouraged to observe activities virtually, rather than in-person, where possible.
- **Spectator limitations** will be enforced to help with socially distancing.
 - **Practices: Only players, coaches, and one parent per player will be allowed in during a team practice.**
 - **Games: Players, coaches, game staff, and 3 family members per player will be allowed in during a game.**
- **Personal Hygiene Practices:**
 - **All athletes and coaches must wash or sanitize their hands upon arriving and leaving each sporting event or activity. Designate hand sanitizer will be on site.**
 - **Athletes and coaches** should:
 - Regularly wash their hands or use hand sanitizer between activity while on site and generally wash their hands more frequently;
 - Avoid touching their face;
 - Practice good respiratory etiquette when coughing or sneezing; and
 - Limit spitting.
 - **Spectators** are encouraged to adhere to the above hygiene practices.
- **Sanitization:** Staff or volunteers should conduct regular disinfecting of high-touch surfaces, equipment and common areas using disinfectant cleaning supplies in accordance with CDC guidelines.
- **Bathroom Facilities:** The number of persons present in bathroom facilities at any one time will be limited to reduce potential exposure within those confined spaces, and sanitization of such areas should occur at increased intervals.

- **Equipment:**

- Sharing of equipment and personal items should be avoided. If equipment must be shared, all shared items and equipment should be properly cleaned and disinfected between each use.
- To the extent possible, the sharing of equipment or balls between teams should be avoided. For applicable sports, balls and equipment should be rotated on a regular basis to limit contact by multiple users unless sanitized.
- Coaches should avoid disseminating documents such as schedules and team rosters in paper form to the extent possible. Online sharing of such information is encouraged.

- **Food & Beverage:**

- Individuals should bring their own personal beverages to all athletic events and activities. Drinks should be labeled with the individual's name. Individuals should take their drink containers home each day for cleaning or use single-use bottles.
- No food is allowed into the facilities, unless needed for medical purposes.
- No concessions at this time in the parks.

- **Plan for potential COVID-19 cases:**

There should be no participation for a minimum of 10 days for positive cases and no participation for any close contacts of cases during a 14-day quarantine period. Teams should plan to provide the local health department with information on close contacts to assist with case investigation and contact tracing. Coaches should set expectations with athletes regarding potential changes to the season and consider stress or mental distress experienced due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Teams should **assess the risk of the particular activity or sport**. Appropriate modifications and precautions can further the safe resumption of activity.

- **Expectations and new protocols MUST be communicated to participants and families in advance of the practices or activity in question. Recreation Associations must have each team or individual sign that they have received information about the guidelines for using the park or school facility and have it on file.**

Spectator/Event Guidelines:

Entry to the Event

- Attendees should observe social distancing, by family unit, when approaching the building for entry
- Symptom checklist questions should be posted and asked of all entering the facility
- Temperature checks will be conducted
- Masks must be worn

Wearing of Face Coverings

- A cloth or disposable face covering **must be worn** by all attendees while entering and leaving campus and while on school property except as follows:
 - While eating and drinking
 - Any child who is under 2

Wearing of Masks by Coaches and Players

All personnel not actually engaged in play are required to wear masks at all time unless drinking or eating. This specifically includes Coaches and players on the sidelines.

Attendance

- Limit capacity based on a number that will allow adequate social distancing (1/4 to 1/3 is typical in the bleachers).
- Mark/designated seats in order to promote social distancing among attendees from anyone other than those living in the same household.
- Limit informal gathering in areas where social distancing cannot be maintained (i.e. standing in common areas, etc.)
- When preparing for social distancing in the seating areas, organization should ensure that each family/friend unit arriving together is seated together with at least 6' distancing between groups. A sample seating arrangement could mirror the graduation venue seating we established with four seats available with six feet of open/unused seating to the left and right with no one seated in front or behind those individuals.

Contact Tracing

- The community organization renting WCS facilities will be responsible for contacting the Williamson County Health Department for contact tracing, not WCS. This means that the organizations should have information immediately available upon their request which includes the retracing of steps and whereabouts of the individual(s) who has tested positive for COVID19. Contact tracing is now part of the community use agreement and failure to comply will result in termination of use. The phone number for the Williamson County Health Department is 615- 794-1542. The e-mail address for the WC Health Department is WCHD.COVID@tn.gov.

Spectator/Event Guidelines:

Entry to the Event

- Spectators should observe social distancing, by family unit, when approaching the gate for entry
- Symptom checklist questions should be posted and asked of all entering the facility
- Temperature checks will be conducted
- Masks must be worn

Wearing of Face Coverings

- A cloth or disposable face covering **must be worn** by all spectators while entering and leaving campus and while on school property except as follows:
 - While eating and drinking
 - Any child who is under 2
- Players not on the fields or courts of play should be spaced with maximum distancing and should remain masked.
- All personnel not actually engaged in play are required to wear masks at all time unless drinking or eating. This specifically includes Coaches and players on the sidelines.

Fan Attendance

- Limit capacity based on a number that will allow adequate social distancing (1/4 to 1/3 is typical in the bleachers); this number could be more based on reserved seating sold before games
- Mark/designated bleachers or seats in order to promote social distancing among spectators from anyone other than those living in the same household
- Limit informal gathering in areas where social distancing cannot be maintained (i.e. standing on the track and/or children playing behind the end zones, etc.)
- When preparing for social distancing in the seating areas, organization should ensure that each family/friend unit arriving together is seated together with at least 6' distancing between groups. A sample seating arrangement could mirror the graduation venue seating we established with four seats available with six feet of open/unused seating to the left and right with no one seated in front or behind those individuals.
- No tailgating

Contact Tracing

The community organization renting WCS facilities will be responsible for contacting the Williamson County Health Department for contact tracing, not WCS. This means that the organizations should have information immediately available upon their request which includes the retracing of steps and whereabouts of the individual(s) who has tested positive for COVID19. Contact tracing is now part of the community use agreement and failure to comply will result in termination of use. The phone number for the Williamson County Health Department is 615-794-1542. The e-mail address for the WC Health Department is WCHD.COVID@tn.gov.

Cleaning

The host school is responsible for frequent cleaning and sanitizing of restrooms, concession areas, etc.

Williamson County Parks and Recreation

COVID-19 GUIDELINES ACKNOWLEDGMENT FORM

Individuals who choose to attend and/or participate in sports and other activities at Williamson County Parks and Recreation facilities must adhere to the Executive Orders of Governor Bill Lee, the Tennessee Pledge guidelines, and all rules and policies of Williamson County Parks and Recreation, including but not limited to those related to the COVID-19 pandemic such as the “Tennessee Pledge Guidance Concerning Sporting Events and Activities: Guide for Williamson County Parks and Recreation Department’s Partner Recreation Associations.” In addition, individuals who participate in activities through Williamson County Parks and Recreation that take place on campuses or in facilities of Williamson County Schools must adhere to all requirements of the Williamson County Schools related to the COVID-19 pandemic, including but not limited to the “Event Guidelines for Indoor Use”, “Spectator Guidelines” and “Supervisor Guidelines” and the Williamson County Schools’ “Community Use Agreement”.

As a condition of participation, individuals must execute the acknowledgement below:

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

I hereby acknowledge that I have reviewed, understand, and agree to abide by the guidelines for sporting events and activities at Williamson Parks and Recreation facilities (and, if applicable, Williamson County Schools’ facilities) as outlined in the documents referenced above and available in the registration packet. I understand that these guidelines may be revised or updated from time to time, and that I will be responsible for adhering to all future amendments and modifications thereto. I recognize that failure to adhere to these guidelines may result in a denial of entry or removal from Williamson County Parks and Recreation facilities and/or from Williamson County Schools’ facilities.

I am executing this Acknowledgment either on my own behalf, or on behalf of my minor child, who is being registered for participation. If executing on behalf of my minor child, I have full authority to execute this document on his/her behalf.

Name: _____

Electronic Signature: _____