Flathead County School Activities Guidelines and Procedures for Covid-19 2020-2021 for HS & MS Activities Programs

Under the terms of the Governor's directives, the "sponsor" of an event is responsible for ensuring compliance with applicable requirements issued by the Governor or the local Health Officer, including but not limited to the use of masks and the maintenance of appropriate physical social distancing throughout the entirety of the event. For purposes of athletic events and activities, the School District of the home team is deemed to be the sponsor of the activity and is therefore responsible for ensuring compliance with the requirements by all in attendance, including both the home team and the visiting team. It is therefore incumbent upon the District of the home team to ensure that visiting teams from outside of Flathead County are aware of the terms of this plan and provide an indication that they will comply with them, prior to the activity or event. The aim of this plan is to mitigate and manage the range of risks associated with school sports and activities, while acknowledging that there will likely be cases of COVID-19 associated with these activities. Some schools may have policies that are more restrictive than these guidelines.

Covid-19 Practices for Transportation

Bus staff will have masks, portable protective barriers (sneeze guards), disinfectant wipes, sanitizers, safety face shields, etc.

- All riders will be pre-screened prior to loading
- Assign seats, a seating chart will be kept for all trips.
- Reducing bus loads and alternate seating assignments when feasible.
- Busses will load from the rear of the bus forward and exit from the front of the bus to the back.
- Buses are sanitized after every trip with students, AM, PM and event trips.
- Students will exit the bus and enter the school/event site immediately.
- Students will exit the school/event site and enter the bus immediately.
- Students will wear face coverings per school district protocols.
- Review and monitor parent pick-up areas outside of schools to encourage social distancing.
- Parents will be encouraged to remain in their vehicle during drop-off and pick-up--reducing the congregation of groups outside of school buildings.

Covid-19 Practices for Hotels and Overnight Trips

- Flathead County schools have suspended all overnight trips until further notice with the exception of post-season play.

Covid-19 Practices for Concessions

- No concessions will be offered until further notice.

- If/when concessions are offered the these practices will be followed:
  - Assign concession workers and times.
  - Concession workers must be masked and gloved at all times.

- ○ Concession workers will be limited to only handling money or only handling concession goods.
- ○ Limited prepacked concession stand goods will only be available.
- ○ A list of all individuals working each shift will be kept for contact tracing purposes.

Covid-19 Practices for Ticket Takers/Event Workers
- All Ticket Takers/Event Workers will be masked per Governor's Order.
- All Ticket Takers/Event Workers will maintain a 6ft distance.
- Hand sanitizer will be provided for Ticket/Takers

Covid-19 Practices for Spectators/Fans
- All fans must wear a mask.
- All fans must maintain a 6ft social distance (family units/households exempt).
- Only **two** home team spectators per participant in uniform will be allowed at an event for football, volleyball and soccer.
  - ○ Two tickets will be given to each home team athlete and coach to provide to parents/guardians prior to the event. Some schools may utilize a pass list.
- Visiting fans will not be allowed at events except if the home team is hosting a Flathead County school. The visiting Flathead County school would also be allowed two tickets per athlete.

Covid-19 Practices for Facilities and Equipment
- Everyone in attendance must be masked unless physically participating in activity.
- All facilities and equipment will be sanitized following use.
- Coaches are responsible for sanitizing all equipment with disinfectant before, during and after each practice and competition. Ball and Equipment Cleaning Guidelines

Covid-19 Practices for Locker Rooms
- Athletes and Coaches must be masked at all times.
- Lockers will be spread out as much as possible.
- Athletes will be encouraged to shower at home.
- Athletes will be encouraged to leave the locker room as soon as possible.
- Showers, if absolutely necessary (i.e. an athlete going straight to work from practice) will be limited to one athlete per shower tree or individualized shower stall.

Covid-19 Practices for Training Room and Medical Supplies
- Only coaches will handle and utilize medkits and their contents.
- Medkits will be disinfected after every practice and competition by a coach.
  - Coaches will sanitize their hands before using any medkit.
- Anyone who utilizes the athletic training room must wash hands or use hand sanitizer upon entry and exit.
- Mask must be worn at all times while in the athletic training room.
- Social distancing will be utilized in the athletic training room at all times.
- If whirlpool is used (school approved), only 1 athlete at a time will be allowed.

- Only 5 athletes will be allowed in the athletic training room at a time. Others must wait in the hallway, while practicing social distancing.
- Only 1 athlete per treatment table
  - Athlete must disinfect their table upon arrival and before leaving treatments
  - Athlete is responsible for wiping down all rehab equipment used

Covid-19 Practices for Water and Hydration Stations
- All athletes and coaches must have their own water bottle for all practices and events.
  - Water bottles will not be shared
  - Water stations will only be used to fill each athlete's own water bottle.

Covid-19 Practices for games, contests, or performances
- Sideline and/bench area limits
  - Football limited to 60 participants per sideline
  - All other activities limited to team and essential personnel only
  - Cheerleaders will be allowed as long as social distanced from participants
  - No Marching band during contests
- All participants will be screened prior to participation in games, contests or performances. In an effort to reduce the number of athletes subject to quarantine should one member become positive for COVID-19, coaches should make reasonable efforts to reduce intermixing of groups by having small groups do practice drills together, use weight rooms, and social distance on the sidelines during games.
- A line list should be created each game consisting of players, coaches, trainers, referees, etc. in attendance for contact tracing purposes. Teams should not rely on just the roster alone due to potential absences of players or staff.

Covid-19 Contact Tracing

- Flathead County Health will conduct all case investigations of lab confirmed COVID-19 and identify close contacts to be quarantined.

- Schools will work with the health department to ensure close contacts are contacted in a timely fashion.

- Close contacts which is defined by any individual who was within 6 feet of an infected person for at least 15 minutes starting 2 days before illness onset (or, for asymptomatic patients, 2 days prior to positive specimen collection).

Flathead County Schools Covid-19 Plan is a collaborative effort between the Flathead City-County Health Department and Flathead County Athletic Directors and will be reviewed monthly and revised as needed.

Appendix of additional Covid-19 Guidelines and Procedures

[WSD Covid 19 Guidelines and Procedures](#)
[Columbia Falls Pandemic Operation Guide](#)
[KPS Covid 19 Pandemic Operational Guide](#)
[MHSA Cross Country Guidelines for Covid-19](#)
[MHSA Volleyball Guidelines for Covid-19](#)
[MHSA Soccer Guidelines for Covid-19](#)
[MHSA Football Guidelines for Covid-19](#)
[MHSA Spirit Guidelines for Covid-19](#)
[MHSA Golf Guidelines for Covid-19](#)
[MHSA Mask Mandate Memo](#)
[MHSA Covid Revisions for August 2020](#)
[MHSA Covid-19 Rules Revisions](#)
[MHSA Return to Fall Activities](#)