Athletics- COVID-19 Plan – Winter Sports

Marcia A. Smiley, Superintendent

NOVEMBER 23, 2020
PERRY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
200 West Monroe Street Marion, AL 36756
Perry County Schools, in coordination with guidance from the Alabama Department of Education, the Alabama Department of Public Health, the Center for Disease Control (CDC), and the Alabama High School Athletic Association (AHSAA) have developed the following plan for winter sports for the 2020-2021 school year.

Questions regarding athletics should be directed to each school’s principal, head coach, or athletic director.

Local schools may exceed the following guidance but may not divert from any decisions made by the Superintendent.
ATHLETIC/CO CURRICULAR PRACTICE

- Each school must submit a plan for athletic practice to proceed.
- The plan will be reviewed by the lead nurse and the athletic director.
- Once approved by the superintendent, a team composed of the principal, lead nurse, and athletic director will ensure that all AHSAA recommendations and requirements for practices are in place to include protocol for daily screening and temperature checks, masks for student athletes, social distancing guidelines and protocols, cleaning and disinfecting protocols and supplies, and protocols for exposures and/or cases.
- All participating athletes/co-curricular students must have a PCBOE Pandemic Waiver signed by their parents before practicing.

ATHLETIC COMPETITION

- No athletic competitions may occur when the school district is at the RED Color Level of Alert.
- At the Orange Level of Alert:
  - Fans are not permitted.
  - Individuals admitted must adhere to social distancing guidelines and face covering requirements.
  - Regular concessions will not be sold.
  - Bottled water and chips may be available for purchase to help cover the cost of referees.
  - Support groups such as cheerleaders may participate in supervised practices.
  - Each group’s role will be examined and ruled on individually
  - All groups are subject to the rules of facial coverings and social distancing.
  - Meals for student athletics may be provided to students in a socially distanced setting at school.

Disclaimer: The information provided in this document does not and is not intended to constitute legal advice. Instead, all information and content available in this document are for general informational purposes only. Information in this document may not constitute the most up-to-date legal or other information.
• When traveling, players may not dine inside an establishment and may not eat on the bus.

  • At the Yellow and Green Color Level of Alert
    o A limited number of parents and necessary staff may be permitted.
    o Those admitted must adhere to social distancing guidelines and face covering requirements.
    o Regular concessions will not be sold.
    o Bottled water and chips may be available for purchase to help cover the cost of referees.
    o Support groups such as cheerleaders may participate in supervised practices.
    o Each group’s role will be examined and ruled on individually.
    o All groups are subject to the rules of facial coverings and social distancing.
    o Meals for student athletics may be provided to students in a socially distanced setting at school.
    o When traveling, players may not dine inside an establishment and may not eat on the bus.
    o Bus transportation that is provided will follow social distancing guidelines with only one player per seat and skipping the seat behind the driver.
    o Bus will be disinfected prior to travel and immediately upon return.

GENERAL GUIDANCE

• Before beginning any athletics activities, Perry County Schools will review the most recent guidelines provided by the CDC, ADPH, ALSDE, and local county/city health agencies and decide how best to implement those guidelines.

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• PCBOE principals and administrators will communicate to coaches, student-athletes, and parents CDC, ADPH, ALSDE, and AHSAA guidelines and best practices regarding COVID-19 and discuss all safety and cleanliness expectations.

• ADPH Effective Strategies to Mitigate COVID-19 Spread (www.adph.gov)
  o It is suggested that students avoid close contact with others and maintain a physical distance of six feet or greater.
  o Daily self-health evaluations should be performed.
  o Encourage individual hygiene such as hand washing, coughing/sneezing etiquette, avoid touching face, etc.
  o Athletes and coaches should be closely monitored for any symptoms.
  o Those who have been exposed to COVID-19 (regardless of where the exposure occurred) should follow protocols set forth by the CDC, ADPH, and the local health department.
  o Any student with a prior confirmed COVID-19 diagnosis should undergo an evaluation by their medical provider. Written medical clearance is required prior to participation.
  o Any student who was isolated or quarantined must complete a minimum five-day acclimation period once released before returning to sports. A gradual return to activity is advised, and any athlete showing abnormal health issues should be evaluated and cleared by a physician prior to a return to sport activities.
  o As much as possible, practices, training, workouts, meetings, etc. should be held outdoors.
  o In accordance with the ALSDE “Roadmap to Reopening Schools” contact tracing is an ADPH function and not the responsibility of local schools.
  o All individual mitigation practices should be observed at ALL times including non-athletic related activities.
o In accordance with the state health order: “Players, coaches, and officials shall not share water coolers, drinking stations, and water bottles, cups or other drinking devices.”

o All decisions concerning spectators, student sections, seating in indoor facilities, etc., are under the guidance of home or venue management and should be in accordance with the minimum requirements of the state health order (paragraph 11), including the order’s social distancing requirements, as well as, CDC, ADPH, and local health guidelines.

o Host schools should communicate all guidelines, including local restrictions, to visiting schools and officials prior to an event.

o If attendance restrictions are in place, equal access for visiting fans must be provided.
# CONTACT INFORMATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Office</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Marcia A. Smiley, Superintendent</td>
<td>Central Office</td>
<td>(334)683-6528</td>
<td><a href="mailto:msmiley@perrycountyal.org">msmiley@perrycountyal.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leslie Essex, Athletic Director</td>
<td>Francis Marion School</td>
<td>(334)683-6741</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lessex@perrycountyal.org">lessex@perrycountyal.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Melissa Jones, Athletic Director</td>
<td>Robert C. Hatch High School</td>
<td>(334) 628-4061</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mjones@perrycountyal.org">mjones@perrycountyal.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cathy Trimble, Principal</td>
<td>Francis Marion School</td>
<td>(334) 683-6741</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ctrimble@perrycountyal.org">ctrimble@perrycountyal.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leslie Ford, Principal</td>
<td>Robert C. Hatch High School</td>
<td>(334 )628-6464</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lford@perrycountyal.org">lford@perrycountyal.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ruby Richard, Lead Nurse (COVID Point of Contact)</td>
<td>Robert C. Hatch High School</td>
<td>(334)628-6464</td>
<td><a href="mailto:rrichardson@perrycountyal.org">rrichardson@perrycountyal.org</a></td>
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