

## Wood River Middle School Fall Athletics Competition Protocol

Our plan is devised to give our teams a plan that will allow for competition when a safe and healthy environment is available to do so. It is not a “play at all costs” model but rather will allow for healthy competition within our parameters. Due to the nature of rapidly developing changes with COVID19 there will be situations where we may need to adjust this plan based on specific events and information currently unavailable to us. Any alteration to the plan will be communicated to the building administration and Superintendent Holmes.

Similar to our practice guidelines approved by BCSD the following are our primary driving ideals:

1. Health and Safety of Student Athletes, Coaches, Officials, Game Administration, Fans
2. Participation of Student Athletes

In addition, because of the nature of competition, the following were reviewed for our competition protocol:

1. Logistics of hosting an event including but not limited to restrooms, spectator limitations, supervision, distancing, and use of common areas.
2. Logistics of travelling to an event including but not limited to bussing, meals after games, bathroom stops, locker rooms and spectator attendance.

Schools will follow the Harvard Global Health Key Metrics for COVID Suppression in determining competition ability <https://globalhealth.harvard.edu/>.

Whether traveling or hosting, the head varsity coach and the athletic director will review their sport guidelines in Appendices II-VII in the [GUIDANCE FOR OPENING UP HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETICS AND ACTIVITIES](#) prior to their first away contest and their first home contest.

### **Hosting Events:**

Teams will be permitted to host a school if they are in green or yellow and we are in green or yellow per the Harvard Global Health Key Metrics for COVID Suppression for the sports of football, boys soccer and girls soccer. Cheer would be permitted to stunt in these categories.

Teams will be permitted to host a school if they are in green, yellow, or orange and we are in green, yellow, or orange per the Harvard Global Health Key Metrics for COVID Suppression for the sports of cross country.

An orange status would mean players, coaches and essential game personnel only, no spectators.

- Please note competition during the orange stage is contrary to page 5 of the COVID Fall Practice Guidelines.

### **Specific considerations for hosting:**

1. Fans and game personnel will be required to have a mask to enter the spectating area for any event.
2. Fans will be required to wear their mask whenever they are in a common area or unable to maintain appropriate physical distancing.
3. Signage at each venue for masks, COVID symptoms and physical distancing.
4. Frequent reminders from PA announcer on masks and distancing.
5. Number of spectators will be determined by each BCSD school based on the capacity for keeping physical distance in their given facility for each event.
6. Concessions will be permitted if the BCSD school follows the Sodexo guidelines for food service. This plan includes but not limited to:
  - Masks on all food service personnel, 6 feet spacing in lines, pre-packaged items, immediately wrapped items, and the completion of food service and prep video supplied by Sodexo.
7. Restrooms at each facility evaluated for the appropriate number of restrooms given spectator capacity and physical distancing.
8. Ticket plan for home spectators and visiting spectators developed by each school in accordance with their capacity and current health guidelines.
9. Locker rooms for visitors used only on a basis where opposing teams can keep appropriate physical distance; may mean not entirely permitted at once.
10. Coaches continue to administer pre-contest symptom checks as with our [COVID Fall Practice Guidelines](#)
11. Discourage the gathering of groups after the contest.

#### **Travel to events:**

Teams will be permitted to travel to a school if they are in **green** or **yellow** and we are in **green** or **yellow** per the Harvard Global Health Key Metrics for COVID Suppression for the sports of football, boys soccer and girls soccer. Cheer would be permitted to stunt in these categories.

- Opposing school COVID extracurricular plan to be reviewed by school AD before travel.

Teams will be permitted to travel to a school if they are in **green**, **yellow**, or **orange** and we are in **green**, **yellow**, or **orange** per the Harvard Global Health Key Metrics for COVID Suppression for the sports of cross country.

- Opposing school COVID extracurricular plan to be reviewed by school AD before travel.

An **orange** status would mean players, coaches and essential game personnel only, no spectators.

- Please note competition during the orange stage is contrary to page 5 of the [COVID Fall Practice Guidelines](#). After consultation with local medical professionals we have determined that adherence to the [GUIDANCE FOR OPENING UP HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETICS AND ACTIVITIES](#) will allow us to keep volleyball, swimming and cross country at the low and moderate risk levels (page 11).

#### **Specific considerations for travel:**

1. Athletes, coaches, fans and game personnel will be required to follow the opposing schools extracurricular plan. Plans vary by school but must include a plan for number of spectators, masks, and physical distancing.
2. Locker rooms to be used only on a basis where teams can keep appropriate physical distance. We will encourage, when available, to have teams arrive dressed and ready to compete.
3. Travel to events must follow BCSD re-entry transportation procedures. Masks are required on a bus and keep distance when possible.
4. No stops at restaurants, gas stations, or other establishments during travel to or from events unless prior approval granted from building admin.
5. Emergency stops permitted with only necessary students entering the establishment.
6. Parents permitted to use the [Athletic & Activity Release](#) to potentially limit numbers of athletes on a bus.
7. No overnight travel permitted
8. Keep windows open for maximum ventilation.
9. In the event of advancement in the district tournament this plan may be revisited to determine if competition is available in a way that will protect our student athletes and our community.
10. In the event of advancement in the state tournament this plan may be revisited to determine if competition is available in a way that will protect our student athletes and our community.
11. Coaches continue to administer pre-contest symptom checks as with our [COVID Fall Practice Guidelines](#).
12. Discourage the gathering of groups after the contest.

### **Special Notes on tri's, quads and tournaments**

Any home or away event that is a tri or quad must have all 3 teams meet our color requirements for competition. We will default to the lowest level of those teams involved in a scenario where one team falls below the others.

Any home or away tournament will be evaluated by the athletic director and their building admin. Competing with multiple teams from multiple schools and counties at the same event is highly discouraged.

### **Post game sportsmanship**

Appendix XII of [GUIDANCE FOR OPENING UP HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETICS AND ACTIVITIES](#)

### **Cancellation Policy**

There will be an ongoing evaluation of the opposing team's status up to the day before the contest. This status will include not only the opposing school's current Harvard level but also other mitigating factors, e.g. positive tests within a team or school.

Athletic directors will make every effort to make a decision on a game Every Monday. In situations where the opposing school's Harvard level is close to our threshold for holding competitions, day of contest decisions will occur. Contests in these situations will be based off of that day's reading.

In the sport of football we are being asked to make a decision sometimes as early as the previous Friday and as late as the Monday before the game. Still, the actual playing of the contest will be based on the reading on game day.

In order to ensure effective event management athletic directors will stay in communication with maintenance, transportation, opposing athletic directors, media and our athletic community in general.