

# 2020-21 OHSAA ICE HOCKEY

## REGULATIONS FOR DISTRICT & STATE ICE HOCKEY TOURNAMENTS

*The following regulations apply to all levels of tournament competition unless otherwise specified. These regulations have been adopted by the Ohio High School Athletic Association Board of Directors on January 14, 2021. The Executive Director is authorized to modify these regulations when it is deemed necessary, subject to ratification by the Board of Directors.*

### 1. MANAGEMENT

The Board of Directors of the OHSAA will administer the Ice Hockey Tournament through the Executive Director's office.

The OHSAA maintains the authority to change the site, date or time of any District or State Tournament assignment.

### 2. ICE HOCKEY TOURNAMENT PARTICIPANTS

Only recognized school teams sponsored by member schools are eligible to participate.

### 3. VIDEO REPLAY

Video replay, as approved by the NFHS Rules, will only be permitted at the State Semi-Finals and Finals held at Nationwide Arena. NFHS Rule 9-13: "By state association adoption, state association-authorized video replay may be used in game for reviewing goals and undetected goals, and for determining correct time on the clock. Procedures for video replay shall be determined by state association policy and procedures."

### 4. ELIGIBILITY

All participants must be eligible under the OHSAA Bylaws and Sports Regulations. A student who uses anabolic steroids or other performance-enhancing drugs is ineligible for interscholastic competition until such time as medical evidence can be presented that the student's system is free of anabolic steroids. Only one school team sponsored by a member school is eligible to participate.

### 5. RULES

2020-21 National Federation Ice Hockey Rules.

### 6. TIME OF GAMES AND TIME OUTS

There shall be three periods, each consisting of 15 minutes of actual play, with intermissions of 12 minutes each between periods.

At the discretion of the site manager, resurfacing of the ice may be forgone between periods one and two, resulting in a reduction of the first intermission to 10 minutes. **During the district semi-finals and finals, the ice must be resurfaced during each intermission.**

Each team will be permitted to take one time-out of one-minute during the game as outlined in NFHS Ice Hockey Rule 9-9, Section 12, art.4.

Games will be terminated after two periods, or during the third period, when a team leads another team by 10 or more goals.

### 7. VIEWING OF STATE RULES MEETING

The head coach, assistant coach or athletic administrator from each school, and contest officials must view the state sponsored rules presentation in order to be eligible to participate in the OHSAA sponsored Ice Hockey Tournament.

### 8. SCHOOL REPRESENTATIVE

No team or individual shall be allowed to compete in the State Qualifying or State Ice Hockey Tournaments unless accompanied by a coach or person authorized by the Board of Education. The school representative shall be present throughout the tournament contest. Teams unaccompanied by such school representative or coach will be disqualified.

## 9. DISTRICT TOURNAMENTS

All participating schools will be assigned to a district site by the OHSAA Office

## 10. SCHOOL ASSIGNMENTS

**Brooklyn Recreation Center: Ron Victor, Manager, 7519 Wefel Ave., Brooklyn, 44144; H: 216-749-4782, C: 216-789-8832; Email: [rvictor@wowway.com](mailto:rvictor@wowway.com)**

### *East*

Schools: Aurora, Brush, Canfield, Chagrin Falls, Cleveland Heights, Cuyahoga Valley Christian Academy, Gilmour Academy, Hudson, Kenston, Mayfield, Mentor, Nardon, Notre Dame-Cathedral Latin, Orange, Shaker Heights, Solon, Stow-Munroe Falls, Theodore Roosevelt, Twinsburg, University School, Walsh Jesuit (21)

State Qualifiers: One team to the State Tournament at Nationwide Arena, Columbus.

### *West*

Schools: Avon, Avon Lake, Bay, Benedictine, Brecksville-Broadview Hts., Brooklyn, Elyria Catholic, Garfield Heights, Holy Name, Lakewood, Normandy, North Olmsted, Olmsted Falls, Padua Franciscan, Parma, Rocky River, St Edward, St Ignatius, Steele, Strongsville, Westlake (21)

State Qualifiers: One team to the State Tournament at Nationwide Arena, Columbus.

**Sylvania Tam-O-Shanter: Tom Cline, 7060 Sylvania Ave, Sylvania, 43560; P: 419-885-1167; Email: [tom.cline485@gmail.com](mailto:tom.cline485@gmail.com)**

Schools: Anthony Wayne, Bowling Green, Clay, Findlay, Maumee, Perrysburg, St. Francis DeSales, St. John's Jesuit, Sylvania Northview, Sylvania Southview, Whitmer (11)

State Qualifiers: One team to the State Tournament at Nationwide Arena, Columbus.

**Nationwide Ice Haus: 200 W. Nationwide Blvd., Columbus, 43215; Jeremy Rogers, Manager, Chiller LCC, 7001 Dublin Park Dr., Dublin, 43016 P: 614-791-9999 Ext. 123; Email: [jrogers@thechiller.com](mailto:jrogers@thechiller.com)**

Schools: Archbishop Alter, Archbishop Moeller, Beavercreek, Bishop Watterson, Columbus Academy, Dublin Coffman, Dublin Jerome, Dublin Scioto, Gahanna Lincoln, Mason, New Albany, Olentangy, Olentangy Berlin, Olentangy Liberty, Olentangy Orange, Springboro, St. Charles, St. Francis De Sales, St. Xavier, Sycamore, Talawanda, Thomas Worthington, Troy, Upper Arlington, Worthington Kilbourne (25)

State Qualifiers: One team to the State Tournament at Nationwide Arena, Columbus.

## 11. DISTRICT TOURNAMENT AND STATE TOURNAMENT DATES

**District Competition** – Monday, February 15 to Saturday, March 6, 2021. District Finals **must** be completed by Saturday, March 6, 2021.

**State Semifinals and Finals** – March 13-14, 2021, Nationwide Arena, Columbus.

## 12. BRACKETS

The OHSAA constructs and publishes on its website ice hockey tournament brackets for the entire state.

- a. Please fax or e-mail a copy of your tournament bracket to Ronald Sayers **immediately after your seeding and draw meeting** (fax 614-267-1677 or [rsayers@ohsaa.org](mailto:rsayers@ohsaa.org)).
- b. **In order to maintain the accuracy of the brackets throughout the tournament, please be**

sure to follow the enclosed information regarding the reporting of results.

### 13. MANAGER INSTRUCTIONS: SEEDING AND DRAW PROCEDURES

Each coach will receive their customized instruction sheet listing username and password. Please keep your instructions available in case any of your coaches need assistance. **YOU WILL NEED TO NOTIFY ALL COACHES IN YOUR TOURNAMENT OF THE PLACE AND TIME FOR THE DRAW MEETING THAT IS SCHEDULED FOR WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2021.**

- a. You will receive a spreadsheet with all voting information prior to your draw meeting on February 10, 2021.
- b. The spreadsheet will list in rank order the total votes each of your teams. (1-11 in Sylvania, 1-25 in Columbus, 1-21 in Brooklyn - East and 1-21 in Brooklyn - West)
- c. The team with the greatest number of points will be seeded #1. The rest of the teams are ranked in order. In case of a tie, only the tied teams will be re-voted upon.
- d. If a tie should occur the second time, a flip of a coin shall determine the seeded team.
- e. Note: All teams shall be seeded.
- f. This procedure eliminates the need to draw for placement of unseeded teams. Teams shall place themselves on the bracket in the order they were seeded.

#### Placement of Teams on the Bracket

- a. The placement of teams on the brackets shall take place after you have distributed the results of the vote.
- b. Teams shall place themselves on the bracket in order of seed.
- c. There shall be no passing.
- d. This procedure shall be followed until all teams have been placed on the bracket.
- e. If a school fails to have a representative present at the drawing and seeding meeting, the manager shall place the school on the open bracket after all other teams have been placed on the bracket. If more than one school fails to have a representative at the drawing and seeding meeting, the manager shall place the schools on the bracket according to the alphabetical order of school names.

The tournament manager will distribute brackets to representatives of participating teams. All brackets should designate date and time of game.

### 14. RESULTS

- a. After each district game prior to the District Final, contact Ronald Sayers at the OHSAA via phone or email – [rsayers@ohsaa.org](mailto:rsayers@ohsaa.org) - to report the results. It is also necessary to report any games that have been postponed.
- b. IMMEDIATELY following the completion of the District Final Game, please notify Ronald Sayers at the OHSAA office no later than Saturday evening or Sunday evening, in the event of a postponement. Please send an email to [rsayers@ohsaa.org](mailto:rsayers@ohsaa.org) or call 614-549-6969. If calling, please identify your tournament site, the final score and the name of the winning school.

### 15. PLAYERS IN UNIFORM

Twenty minutes prior to game time the coach of each team shall submit a list of a maximum of 20 players, including goalkeepers, that may dress for and play in a game. It is recommended that a minimum of two goalkeepers be among the 20 players dressed.

### 16. TEAM BENCH

Only players in uniform, two coaches, one faculty representative, one doctor, one manager and one trainer shall be permitted on the player's bench.

## 17. LOCKER ROOM

Each team shall be assigned a locker room and bench by the site manager.

## 18. UNIFORM

The higher seeded team will be the home team and wear the light color uniform.

## 19. EXTRA EQUIPMENT

Schools shall be responsible for bringing extra equipment

## 20. TEAM ADMITTANCE AND PASSES

Twenty players, two coaches, one faculty representative, one doctor, one manager and one trainer will be admitted at the pass gate by a typewritten list certified by the principal of the school.

## 21. AWARDS

No awards will be presented at the site of the District Tournament except those furnished by the OHSAA. Team trophies will be presented to the championship and runner-up teams. Individual members of championship and runner-up teams and the coach will be presented with medals by the OHSAA.

## 22. ADMISSION PRICES

- \$15.00 per person.
  - All tickets for the 2020-21 school year will be sold online through HomeTown Ticketing.

## 23. PASS-OUTS

No pass-outs shall be given out at any game site.

## 24. OVERTIME

If a contest is tied after regulation play, the following shall apply: There shall be a maximum of five 8-minute overtimes, with any goal resulting in sudden victory for the team that scores. The first overtime shall consist of all five skaters per team, while overtimes two through five shall consist of four skaters per team. Should the contest remain tied after the fifth overtime, a shootout will take place to determine a winning team.

Accordingly, the OHSAA adopts the following overtime rules that shall govern play if the game is tied at the conclusion of regulation. Unless otherwise noted in these Overtime Rules, NFHS playing rules for the sport of hockey shall be in effect during all overtime periods.

### **Overtimes/Shootout Ice Cuts and Changing Ends**

The ice shall only be cut, after the 1st, and 3rd Overtimes. Officials may order additional ice cuts in the event the ice is unplayable per NFHS Rule 6-39, Article 2. Teams will change ends after each period, during regulation and after all Overtimes.

### **Length of Periods and First Goal (Sudden Victory)**

In all overtimes, the scoring of a goal concludes the contest and the scoring team is the winner. 2

### **Number of Players**

Play during the 2nd and following overtimes shall consist of 4 skaters per team, with penalties assessed in normal fashion. When a penalty is assessed, the teams shall play 4-on-3. When a team already playing with 3 skaters is assessed an additional penalty/penalties, the non-offending team shall be permitted to add an additional skater (maximum of 5 skaters per team) per each penalty until such time as each penalty expires, at which point the additional skater shall leave the ice at the next stoppage of play. No team shall ever have less than 3 or more than 5 skaters on the ice (unless removing its goalie).

**1st OT** – 8:00 Minutes of play. 3:00 Minute Intermission prior to start of OT. Teams Change Ends of ice. 5

skaters per team. If still tied, 15:00 Minute Ice Cut prior to start of 2nd OT.

**2nd OT**– 8:00 Minutes of play. Teams Change Ends of ice. 4 skaters per team (4 on 4, subject to remaining penalty minutes from previous period and the Number of Players rules set forth above). If still tied, 3:00 Minute Intermission before start of 3rd overtime.

**3rd OT**– 8:00 Minutes of play. Teams Change Ends of ice. 4 skaters per team (4 on 4, subject to remaining penalty minutes from previous period and the Number of Players rules set forth above). If still tied, 15:00 Minute Ice Cut before start of 4th OT.

**4th OT** – 8:00 Minutes of play. Teams Change Ends of ice. 4 skaters per team (4 on 4, subject to remaining penalty minutes from previous period and the Number of Players rules set forth above). If still tied 3:00 Minute Intermission prior to start of 5th OT.

**5th OT** – 8:00 Minutes of play. Teams Change Ends of ice. 4 skaters per team (4 on 4, subject to remaining penalty minutes from previous period and the Number of Players rules set forth above).

**If still tied, SHOOTOUT.** 3:00 Minute Intermission prior to start of Shootout.

### **PLAYER SHOOTOUT PROCEDURES**

- The teams will not change ends for the shootout.
- The visiting team will shoot first. The teams shall alternate shots. Three (3) players from each team shall participate in the shootout.
- All players are eligible to participate in the shootout unless they are serving a minor penalty, a major penalty, a ten- minute misconduct or have been assessed a game disqualification penalty.
- Each team will be given three shots, unless the outcome is determined earlier in the shootout. After each team has taken three shots, if the score remains tied, the shootout will proceed to a "Sudden Victory" format until one team scores, and the other team fails to score.
- Regardless of the number of goals scored during the shootout portion of overtime, the final score recorded for the game will give the winning team one more goal than its opponent, based on the score at the end of overtime.
- If a team declines to participate in the shootout procedure, the game will be declared as a shootout loss for that Team.

### **Player Shootout Eligibility**

Rules governing the shootout shall be the same as listed under NFHS Rule 4-5 Section 7 - Penalty Shot.

### **Player Shootout Eligibility:**

- At the beginning of the shootout, the head official shall count the number of eligible shooters (non- goalies) on each bench (excluding injured players or players serving penalties).
- The head official and the official scorekeeper shall be responsible for recording, using player's uniform numbers, and which players participate in the shootout.
- When the teams have the same number of shooters, no player may shoot a second time until all other players on that team have shot once. The same rule shall apply throughout all subsequent rounds of any shootout.
- When the teams have a different number of shooters, no player may shoot twice until the team with the lesser number of players has used all of its players in the shootout. At that point, both teams may use players who have already shot, or the team with the larger roster may use players who have not yet shot. This process shall continue until the team with the lesser number of players has had all players shoot a second (2nd) time, at which point the process shall repeat.

*(For example: Team A has 15 eligible shooters. Team B has 20 eligible shooters. When Team A has used all 15 of its shooters, Team A may start over and select any of its 15 shooters to shoot. Team B may likewise use a player who has already shot, or may use any of the 5 players who did not shoot in the first round.)*

- The goal of this rule is that no player may shoot a subsequent time until all other players on that team have also shot, and the team with larger roster shall be permitted to use “repeat shooters” at the same time as the team with the smaller roster.

**25. RADIO, PRESS AND PHOTOGRAPHERS**

All requests for space shall be directed to the game manager. Proper credentials must be presented for admission at pass gate.

**26. TV**

All requests for TV shall be directed to Tim Stried, OHSAA Director of Communications.

**27. INTRODUCTION OF PLAYERS**

Players listed in starting line-up shall be introduced.

**28. NOISEMAKERS AND BANDS**

Shakers, mechanical noisemakers such as horns, bells sirens, drums, etc., are **NOT PERMITTED!**

SCHOOL OFFICIALS ARE REMINDED TO EMPHASIZE THIS AT SCHOOL PEP RALLIES, ASSEMBLIES, BULLETINS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS.

District Tournament managers will determine if there is adequate space for bands. Each band member must present a ticket for admission.

**29. SPECTATOR ATTIRE**

Shirts/appropriate attire must be worn by all spectators at all OHSAA indoor tournaments.

**30. TEAM EXPENSES**

District: None.

**31. OFFICIALS**

Officials will be assigned by the OHSAA office.

**32. VIDEOTAPING OR FILMING**

**a) Videotaping or filming by participating schools.**

Videotaping or filming of tournament contests by one or both of the schools playing the game is permitted provided the permission of the tournament manager is secured, it is done at the expense of the school involved, and a maximum of one individual per school is permitted. **Videotaping or filming of**

**a potential opponent’s tournament game is prohibited.**

**b) Videotaping or filming by spectators.**

1. Shall be for personal use.
2. Shall not be used for the purpose of scouting or coaching.
3. Shall not interfere with the view of the athletic contest by other spectators.
4. The tournament site shall not permit the use of more than the seating space for which the spectator has paid when seating is needed for paid fans.
5. The tournament site accepts no liability for damage or theft of spectator’s equipment or injury as a result of privately owned equipment
6. Equipment will not be permitted in any playing area – only in the spectator seating area.

7. The tournament site will not provide sources of power for video equipment.
8. Violation of this regulation may result in the removal of offender from the premises.

**33. UNSPORTING CONDUCT PENALTY**

During participation in OHSAA tournaments, any student or coach ejected for unsporting conduct shall be ineligible for all contests for the remainder of that day. In addition, the player or coach shall be ineligible for all contests at all levels in ice hockey until two regular season/tournament contests are competed at the same level as the ejection. Individuals ejected for unsporting conduct shall be reported to the OHSAA Office by the tournament manager. The OHSAA Office will investigate the situation and may impose additional penalties in accordance with Bylaw 12 if the situation warrants it.

Participation in an athletic contest is a privilege. Each individual is expected to conduct himself or herself in an exemplary manner while participating.

**34. PROPERTY DAMAGE**

There is no insurance covering property damage. If property is damaged at a tournament site by competing school teams, student body or spectators, the school from which the students and/or spectators come shall be liable and pay the cost of repair or replacement. The tournament manager is authorized to deduct from the school's share the cost of any damages caused by competing schools. Other damages to facilities not attributed to a competing school could be a legitimate tournament expense and may be deducted from tournament receipts. If damage is extensive, the Board of Directors will become involved. Student crowd control at state sponsored tournaments is the responsibility of the administrative heads of the competing schools.

**35. SPONSORSHIP AND RIGHTS**

The Ohio High School Athletic Association is the sponsoring organization for the Boys State Ice Hockey and District Tournaments. The OHSAA reserves all rights in regard to the management of this tournament and the sale of any items at the tournament sites. Any sale of food, clothing, souvenirs or other items is strictly prohibited without permission of the OHSAA Executive Director. The videotaping of any or all portions of the tournament for resale purposes is prohibited without permission.

**36. PROHIBITED ADVERTISING**

There shall be no advertising through printed media, billboards, radio or television that includes beer, wine, liquor, tobacco, political parties or candidates or any other advertising contrary to the philosophy of the high school athletic program.

**37. RAFFLES PROHIBITED**

There shall be no raffles or any type of games of chance permitted at the site of tournament contests during the period beginning one hour prior to the tournaments and ending one hour after the tournaments have ended.

**38. PROHIBITED SALES**

The sale of, the distribution of, or the consumption of alcoholic beverages or illegal drugs is not permitted at the site of any contest involving OHSAA member schools.

**43rd ANNUAL BOYS STATE ICE HOCKEY**  
**TOURNAMENTS MARCH 13<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021**  
**NATIONWIDE ARENA, COLUMBUS, OHIO**

**1. TOURNAMENT MANAGER**

The State Ice Hockey Tournament is under the supervision and sponsorship of the OHSAA with Nationwide Arena and the Columbus Blue Jackets. The State Tournament manager will be **Jason Zumpano, Nationwide Ice Arena, 200 W Nationwide Arena Columbus, OH 43215. P: 614-246-4152**

**2. REGULATIONS**

The same regulations and administration for District Ice Hockey Games shall apply to the State Ice Hockey Tournament in addition to those listed below.

**3. MEETING OF STATE FINALISTS**

A meeting at Nationwide Arena, or conference call depending on weather, with representatives from schools that qualified for the State Tournament will be held Sun., **March 7, 2021 at 11:00 AM** to receive final instructions, ticket allotments, method of ticket delivery, etc.

**4. TOURNAMENT ROTATIONAL SCHEDULE**

District winners from: **Brooklyn- East, Brooklyn-West, Columbus and Sylvania**

**2021 – March 13<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup>**

1. **Brooklyn - East** vs. 2. **Sylvania**  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. **Columbus** vs. 4. **Brooklyn - West**  
\_\_\_\_\_

**2022 - Dates TBA**

1. **Brooklyn - West** vs. 2. **Brooklyn - East**  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. **Sylvania** vs. 4. **Columbus**  
\_\_\_\_\_

**5. ADMISSION**

The admission fee for State Tournaments will be **\$20 per person per game**.

**6. PRACTICE SESSIONS**

There shall be no practice sessions permitted at the tournament site other than pre-game practice.

**7. AWARDS**

Team trophies will be presented to the State Champion and Runner-up. Individual members of both teams will be presented with gold or silver medals. Medals will be presented to the coach of the State Championship and State Runner-Up teams.

**8. TEAM EXPENSES**

**No team expenses will be reimbursed for the 2020-21 school year.**

**9. MEDIA CREDENTIALS**

Media credential request forms can be found under "Media Information" on the OHSAA web site ([www.ohsaa.org](http://www.ohsaa.org)). Submit the request form to Tim Stried at the OHSAA office (fax: 614-267-1677) no later than **Tuesday, March 9, 2021**. Proper credentials must be presented for admission at the media pass gate.



**10. TELEVISION**

Requests to televise any State Tournament games should be submitted, in writing, to the OHSAA, 4080 Roselea Place, Columbus, Ohio 43214. The fax number is 614.267.1677. Requests should be sent to the attention of Tim Stried, Director of Communication. The deadline for submitting requests is **Tuesday, March 9, 2021**.

**11. OFFICIALS**

Officials will be assigned by the OHSAA Office. Representation number assigned:

Central	2
Southwest/Southeast	1
Northeast	4
Northwest	2

**12. PHYSICIAN**

A physician will be present during the tournament.



## 2020-21 Ice Hockey Requirements and Recommendations

With the support from the NFHS Ice Hockey Rules Committee and the Ohio High School Athletic Association, the considerations outlined in this document are meant to decrease potential exposure to respiratory droplets by encouraging social distancing, limiting participation in administrative tasks to essential personnel and allowing for appropriate protective equipment.

*Note:* This is not an exhaustive list and there might be additional steps in each school, city and state to help prevent the spread of virus. Even when taking all precautions, there will still be risk of transmitting illnesses. Everyone should stay vigilant about the health of members of their teams. Lastly, the situation with COVID-19 is rapidly changing. These considerations may quickly become outdated. Please keep up with the latest from the CDC and other health officials in your area.

Visit the [COVID-19 Return to Play Recommendations Document](#) and the [Responsible Restart Ohio Guide for Youth, Collegiate, Amateur, Club and Professional Sports](#) for further requirements and recommendations that apply to all sports, including ice hockey. Please know that some of the requirements and recommendations in this sport-specific document duplicate state guidance.

A **requirement** must be adhered to and followed. A **recommendation** is a consideration to the sport and allows for optional guidelines. Recommendations are not required but are permitted and strongly encouraged.

\*Ice arenas are most commonly privately-owned facilities. Be sure to know and follow the policies and procedures of the facility prior to practice or a contest.

### REQUIREMENTS

#### Winter 2020-21: Return to Competition

**People (players, coaches, officials, spectators, etc.) feeling sick or that have been exposed to someone sick, should not attend or participate in competitions or practices.** The OHSAA requires all participants and spectators to practice social distancing and wear face coverings whenever possible. Host facilities shall communicate with spectators “know before you go” before each event.

#### **General Requirements:**

- Anyone attending a practice or game – players, coaches, officials, trainers, cheerleaders, volunteers, staff, spectators, etc.: Must conduct a symptom assessment before each practice or contest, and anyone experiencing symptoms must stay home (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>).
  - Individuals with COVID-19 symptoms should isolate themselves per CDC’s guidance and contact their healthcare provider (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/isolation.html>).
  - Individuals with confirmed COVID-19 or who have symptoms should follow CDC’s guidance for when they can be around others again (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/end-home-isolation.html>).
  - An athlete who tests positive for COVID-19, whether symptomatic or asymptomatic, must not return to sport activities until a documented medical exam is performed clearing the individual to return to play. The documented medical exam must specifically include an assessment of

the cardiac/heart risk of high-intensity exercise due to the potential of myocarditis occurring in COVID-19 patients.

- Consistent with state guidance, schools/teams regarding “Confirmed or Suspected COVID-19 Cases”:
  - Immediately isolate, and seek medical care for, any individual who becomes ill or develops symptoms.
  - Contact the local health department about suspected COVID-19 cases or exposure.
  - The affected person should seek COVID-19 testing as soon as possible. Teams, schools, and clubs should work with parents to ensure they have access to testing through their healthcare providers or direct them to testing options.
  - Coaches/administrators must work with the local health department to identify individuals who were potentially exposed to help facilitate contact tracing. This includes, but is not limited to, athletes, coaches, officials, volunteers, parents and other support personnel.
  - A team, school, or club must notify all athletes and parents/ guardians associated with the affected team regarding a positive test. Athletes and families must be reminded of proper daily health screening protocols.
  - If the affected individual participated in competitive play, the team is responsible for notifying any opponents played between the date of the positive test and 2 days prior to the onset of symptoms. If the teams, schools, or clubs reside in different counties, the health departments in each county should be notified to help facilitate effective contact tracing.
  - An individual who tests positive for COVID-19, whether symptomatic or asymptomatic, must not return to sport activities until a documented medical exam is performed clearing the individual to return to play. The documented medical exam must specifically include an assessment of the cardiac/heart risk of high-intensity exercise due to the potential of myocarditis occurring in COVID-19 patients. More information on this issue can be found at <https://www.acc.org/latest-in-cardiology/articles/2020/07/13/13/37/returning-to-play-after-coronavirus-infection>.
  - Follow protocol for cleaning and disinfecting if a COVID-19 case is identified at the venue.
  - Players, coaches, officials or other individuals who had close contact (within six feet of an infected individual for at least 15 minutes), or who had direct physical contact with the person (e.g., who were coughed on or sneezed on by the infected person), must self-quarantine for 14 days following exposure based on CDC guidance (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/quarantine.html>). Individuals may return to play afterward if they have not had any COVID-19 symptoms.
- Facial coverings are required under the Sports Order: At minimum facial coverings should be cloth/fabric and cover an individual’s nose, mouth, and chin.
  - CDC does not recommend the use of gaiters or face shields. Evaluation of these face covers is on-going but effectiveness is unknown at this time.

#### **Requirements for Coaches:**

- For out-of-state travel, follow the COVID-19 guidance of the state and local public health jurisdiction to which the team is traveling. Also be aware of Ohio’s Travel Advisories (<https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/families-and-individuals/COVID-19-Travel-Advisory/COVID-19-Travel-Advisory>).
- Coaches and other personnel must wear face masks at all times, including when arriving and departing the facility and during active play.
  - CDC does not recommend the use of gaiters or face shields; evaluation of these face covers is on-going but effectiveness is unknown at this time.
  - Under the state’s Sports Order, at minimum facial coverings (masks) should be cloth/fabric and cover an individual’s nose, mouth, and chin.
- Limit day-of roster to 20 dressed players.
- Sanitize equipment as often as time permits.

**Requirements for Players:**

- Conduct daily symptom assessments before each practice or contest.
- No congregating before or after practices or games is permitted.
- Do not share equipment, towels, facial coverings, water bottles, other drinks or food. If equipment must be shared, proper sanitation must be performed between users.
- All players must sanitize their hands should their gloves be removed before and after warm-ups and at period breaks.
- All those on the bench shall observe social distancing of six feet.
- Players who are not one of the six (6) players on the ice and all bench personnel shall wear facial coverings.

**Requirements for Facility Hosts:**

- Review the requirements within the [Responsible Restart Ohio Guide for Youth, Collegiate, Amateur, Club and Professional Sports](#).
- Inform the local health district when events are scheduled and establish a plan to handle those persons who fail a symptom assessment or temperature check or exhibit signs and symptoms of COVID-19.
- Limit sideline personnel to participants, coaches, medical staff and game-day staff.
- If possible, provide designated space (locker room, classroom, etc.) for officials' pregame and post-game activities. If the designated space cannot accommodate six-foot social distancing of all officials, then a separate space should be provided where officials can observe six-foot social distancing and be removed from spectator/team interaction.
- Clearly review prior to the contest mandates, best practices and school/host facility policies with visiting team administrators and/or coaches and officials as they relate to, but are not limited to, parking; entrances and exits; medical care; spectators; ticketing; locker rooms/showers; athletic training rooms and restrooms; water; towels; equipment, and shelters in the event there is inclement weather.
- Designate a Compliance Officer who is responsible for compliance with the Ohio Health Director's Sports Order.
- Follow Responsible RestartOhio Guidance for Restaurants for concession stands (<https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/static/responsible/Restaurants-and-Bars.pdf>).

**Requirements for Spectators:**

- Conduct daily symptom assessments before each contest.
- No congregating before or after practices or games is permitted.
- Six-foot social distancing must be maintained between individuals/family groups.
- Facial coverings are required unless exceptions can be met as listed in Ohio Health Director's Sports Order.

**Requirements for Officials:**

- Facial coverings must be worn at all times with the exception of active officiating or warm up.
- Take your temperature prior to attending your competition. If temperature is above 100.4 or you do not feel well, notify your contracted school immediately.
- No congregating before or after games is permitted.
- Six-foot social distancing required during pre- and post-game conferences and during stoppage of play during contests.
- Facial coverings must be worn at all times with the exception of active officiating, and warm-up.
- Do not shake hands or fist bump other officials, players or coaches.

## **2020 NFHS RULES RECOMMENDATIONS (No Required Modifications)**

### ***Players' Benches (1-9-1)***

- Maintain social distancing as much as possible when on the bench.
- Limit bench personnel to observe social distancing of six feet or greater.

### ***Penalty Benches (1-10-1)***

- Limit essential personnel to maintain social distancing between personnel and participating players.

### ***Team Captains (2-2-1, 2-2-4 and 2-2-5)***

- Captains must maintain social distancing when talking or conferring with an official.
- Social distancing must be maintained during pre-game meeting between captains and head coaches.

### ***Protective Equipment (3-4-2 and 3-4-4)***

- Cloth face coverings are permissible.
  - Under the state's Sports Order, at minimum facial coverings (masks) should be cloth/fabric and cover an individual's nose, mouth, and chin.
- Plastic shields covering the entire face, unless it is integrated into the face mask/attached on the inside of the mask and clear, are not permissible.
  - Plastic shields are not an acceptable alternative to a cloth mask. CDC does not recommend the use of face shields as evaluation of them is on-going, but effectiveness is unknown at this time.
- Athletes should refrain from removing mouthguards while on the ice.
  - If mouthguards are removed on the sideline or in the bench area, the athlete should use hand sanitizer after replacing the mouthguard.

## **GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS**

### ***Recommendations for Coaches:***

- Communicate your guidelines in a clear manner to students and parents prior to events with reminders at intervals.
- Consider conducting workouts in "pods" of same students always training and rotating together in practice to ensure more limited exposure if someone develops an infection.
- Keep accurate records of those athletes and staff who attend each practice and contests in case contact tracing is needed.
- At a minimum, before and after every practice or contest, sanitize equipment as often as time permits with an EPA approved sanitizer for emerging pathogens.
- Consider limiting contests against only teams in your local area or, if out-of-state, against teams located in counties that are contiguous to Ohio.
- Should not share clipboards, whiteboards, dry erase boards or any other equipment used for coaching purposes.

### ***Recommendations for Players:***

- Arrive at the facility dressed in partial or full uniform and plan to leave the facility in partial or full uniform.
- Consider making each student responsible for their own supplies and ensure distancing of equipment to avoid cross contamination.
- Students should wear their own appropriate workout clothing (do not share clothing), and individual clothing/towels should be washed and cleaned after every workout.
- Hand sanitizer should be plentiful, in plain sight and easily accessible at all contests and practices.

- Athletes should tell coaches immediately when they are not feeling well.
- Cloth face coverings/masks are permitted, if an individual prefers to wear one. Cloth face coverings/masks are not required (*NFHS Rule 4-1-4*) while engaged in active play. State and local requirements for face coverings are to be followed when not actively engaged in play.
- Bring your own water bottle.

***Recommendations for Officials:***

- Arrive at the facility dressed in partial or full uniform and plan to leave the facility in partial or full uniform.
- Bring personal hand sanitizer. Wash hands frequently.
- Do not share equipment.
- Follow social distancing guidelines. Consider six feet minimum distance when talking to others (players, coaches, other officials).
- Electronic whistles are permitted, if an official prefers to use one, but are not required.
- Cloth face coverings/masks/shields are permitted, if an individual prefers to wear one.
  - Under state guidance, officials must wear face masks at all times except when on the field/court of play during games and practices to allow the use of whistles, and except for other allowable exceptions under the state’s Sports Order.
- Gloves are permissible.

***Recommendations for Parents:***

(A family’s role in maintaining safety guidelines for themselves and others):

- Make sure your child and immediate household members are free from illness before participating in practice and competition (if there is doubt stay home).
- Provide personal items for your child and clearly label them.
- Disinfect your student’s personal equipment after each game or practice.
- Educate yourself on the risks and benefits of athletic participation in the time of COVID and ensure you and your athlete are aware of the guidance surrounding athletic events.

***Recommendations for Facility Hosts:***

- If applicable, stagger the entry of all participants, coaches, officials, student game-day auxiliary groups and spectators to adhere to six-foot social distancing.
- Consider multiple points of entry to help ensure there is six-foot social distancing.
- Use contact-less payments where possible.
- Bench water may be provided by the facility host, but the visiting team/participants should supply their own coolers unless agreed upon by the facility host. If used, water coolers shall be sanitized prior to use and frequently during the contest and disposable one-time-use cups shall be utilized.
- Limit official’s table to essential personnel only and demonstrate social distancing as much as possible.
- Appoint an individual(s) who is responsible for assisting the host facility manager(s) in logging all incidents and action plans when mandates have not been followed and/or incidents occur; logging recommendations for improving the host facilities’ game-day strategies, and creating reports on said items that were logged.

**OHSAA Postseason Note**

Potential options may be considered regarding the District and State Tournament games/format depending upon the status of COVID-19.

**A Note on Public Health Issues**

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Ohio Governor, Ohio General Assembly, Ohio Department of Health and/or the local health district will offer guidance as to whether to close a school or university due to a public health issue. Local decisions can also be made by the local health authority or each board of education/governing board.

**Helpful Links** *These resources are provided to guide operations during this Covid-19 pandemic.*

- Ohio Department of Health – Coronavirus (COVID-19): <https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/responsible-restart-ohio/>
- Centers for Disease Control – Coronavirus (COVID-19): <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>
- National Athletic Trainers Association – Coronavirus (COVID-19): <https://www.nata.org/practice-patient-care/health-issues/covid-19-coronavirus>
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Emergency Preparedness and Response: <http://emergency.cdc.gov/planning/>
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Preparedness for All Hazards: [https://www.cdc.gov/phpr/documents/ahpg\\_fi-nal\\_march\\_2013.pdf](https://www.cdc.gov/phpr/documents/ahpg_fi-nal_march_2013.pdf)
- Ohio Department of Health Guidelines and Publications: <https://odh.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/odh/home/>