

NHS Fall 2020 Fall Sports Proposal

NHS Fall Sports COVID Proposal 2020

Purpose: The purpose of this document is to provide a comprehensive plan for the 2020-21 fall sports season. This plan has been developed following CDC Guidelines, KHSAA Guidelines, KDE Recommendations, as well as local health department recommendations. The plan involves specifics for football and volleyball.

NHS TRAVEL PLAN FALL 2020

- Only necessary athletes and personnel will travel to away games.

Pre-travel Protocol

- NHS will confirm game day protocols with visiting schools.
- Communication will be between head coaches and athletic directors.
- Travel itineraries will be shared at this time.
- We will share maps and diagrams that will layout the school's facilities.
- Specific ingress and egress information will be provided for every attendee of the contest.

Travel Protocol

- Bus passengers will wear masks and follow KDE transportation policies.
 - Option 1: Choose one from this option.

Decreasing social distancing to allow for one student per seat, every other seat, the following number of students will be able to ride the bus:

Rated Capacity	Number of Students
34	6
52	9
66	11
70-74	12
78	13
84	14

Decreasing social distancing to allow for one student per seat, not skipping any seats, the following number of students will be able to ride the bus:

Rated Capacity	Number of Students
34	12
52	18
66	22
70-72	24
78	26
84	28

- Option 2:
 - NHS allows for students to be transported to away competitions by parent(s)/Guardian(s)
- Wear game pants to games on the bus whenever possible.
- Each athlete carries other equipment in a travel bag.
- Athletes are responsible for their own equipment/water bottle.
- Set travel itinerary so there is minimal time before the game whenever possible.
- Busses disembark to assigned areas with coaches' supervision with social distancing protocols in effect.
- Coaches supervise restroom use for each bus.
- Predetermined seating charts.

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Post-Game Protocol

- Bus with the coach's supervision return to arrival location.
- Coaches supervise restroom break.
- Load busses with coaching attendance (athletes ride on same bus to and from game).
- Based on previous discussions between home and visiting teams, showers/locker room facilities may be used following CDC guidelines.

Return to Home School Protocol

- Players exit the bus keeping responsibility for their own equipment.
- Athletes turn in their dirty laundry when required.
- Athletes should depart the facility upon return to their school.

Entering Contest Site:

- All person(s) entering the facilities must answer COVID screening questions with a "NO".
**The following sign will be posted at each entrance of the facility.



- If all questions are answered with a "NO", the name and contact information will be recorded as well as the temperature of each person. They will be admitted to the contest if no fever is identified over 100.4 deg.

Football Specific Plan:

Pregame Considerations

- Participants must not exhibit signs or symptoms of COVID-19 within the past

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72 hours prior to competition

- Athletes and staff are required to have a game day temperature checks administered by staff and complete a game day COVID-19 symptom questionnaire.
- Game Day documents must be kept on file in the Athletic Director's Office until completion of season.
- Flyers and signs that are available at coronavirus.ky.gov to promote good hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette will be posted throughout the game site.
- Pregame meal will be prepackaged for individual distribution.

Locker Rooms

- Will open:
 - 1 hour 45 min. before kickoff for player requiring medical attention (taping)
 - 1 hour 30 min for player that do not require taping
 - Use of locker rooms before the game should be kept to a minimum.
Utilize outdoor areas around the field when possible.
- Hand Sanitizer and wipes should be placed in locker rooms.

Hydration:

- All student athletes will bring their own water bottles to the game.
- The water bottles will be filled by designated personnel. At the start of the game the water bottles should be placed at a designated area for the remainder of the game.
- Water will also be distributed in individual 8oz. bottles during timeouts by designated personnel that will dispose of the bottle after each use.

Equipment

- Each Player must have his/her own water bottle, the bottle can be filled from a central location. Trainer or designee will be responsible for water bottle refills.
- Pregame, during, and after the game, all team personnel shall refrain from sharing towels, water, apparel or equipment.
- Players should have 2 t-shirts – Plastic bags should be provided for the player to put shirt in when changed. One for pre-game and post-game.

Coin Toss

- Limit attendees to the referee, umpire and one designated representative from each team.
- Coin toss should take place in the center of the field with designated individuals maintaining social distancing of 6 feet.
- No handshakes prior to and following the coin toss.
- Maintain social distancing of 6 feet while performing all pregame responsibilities with all officiating crew members, game administration staff, line-to-gain crew, clock operators, individuals handling the balls during the game and team personnel.
- For the overtime procedure, please use the same procedure as used at the start of the contest for the coin toss.

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During Game

- Team box will be extended from ten-yard line to ten-yard line so social distancing can be maintained on sideline.
- Benches or chairs may be used on the sidelines that maintain the social distance guidelines.
- Only Team members can be in the team box. Everyone that is a team member and not in a uniform must have a team box pass. (Injured player with jersey only will count as uniform)
- Team personnel will be responsible for sanitizing footballs per sideline.
- Warm-ups should be reduced to minimum time needed.
- Footballs will be rotated and sanitized as often as possible during the game.

Timeouts

- Coaches will meet players at the bottom of numbers on the field, players will social distance during timeouts.
- Every 6 minutes of game clock time there will be a two-minute break.
- Timeout protocols will be utilized during these breaks (Rationale for the six-minute break is to eliminate continuous contact for 15 minutes).
- Players will sanitize their hands during timeouts.

Halftime

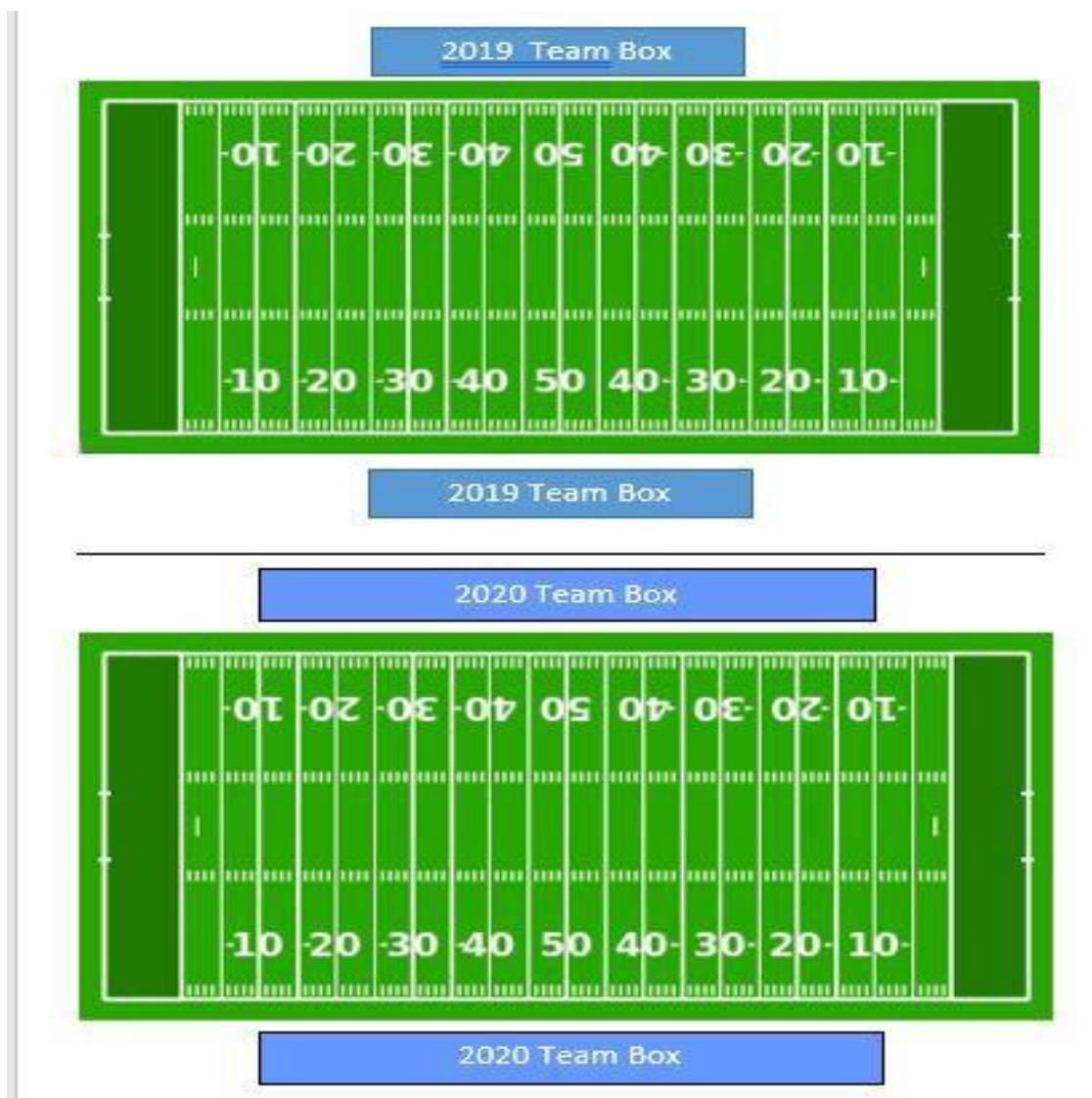
- Halftime will be a period of 12 minutes.
- Officials will contact teams at the nine-minute mark.
- Teams must be on the field at the 12-minute mark.
- A 3-minute warm up period will follow.
- Avoid the use of the locker room during halftime if possible.

Visiting Team

The above protocols will apply to visiting teams with the following additions:

- When possible, travel dressed and ready to play.
- Carry shoulder pads, helmets, and cleats.
- Avoid the use of the locker room when possible.
- Locker rooms should be used for the following:
 - Restroom breaks
 - Hazardous weather
 - When locker rooms are used for games, teams will dress in groups. The number of each group will be determined by the size of the locker room and number of players that can dress and maintain social distance.

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Post-Game Considerations

- No handshakes after the game.
- Post-game meeting on field with social distance protocols for instructions.
- Players are to exit the field immediately after post game meeting and prepare to ride home.
- DO NOT go to the sidelines and talk with family or friends.
- Dirty clothes will be placed in a bag for the ride home.
- All clothes will go home with players when they return to school unless school is laundering clothes.
- Locker room will be sanitized following the departure of team members.
- Schools that launder uniforms or pay to have them laundered must place uniforms in closed containers.

Officials

Guidelines will be addressed by the KHSAA and the local officials' associations.

- Shall wear mask when arriving and departing from the venue.
- Officials will be screened upon entering the facilities.

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Workers:

Press box allotments:

- Main Press box: announcer, clock worker, statistician from each school.
- Home Team: 3 in designated room of press box
- Visiting Team: 3 in designated room of press box
- Media: 3 in designated room of press box
- Film Crew: Stationed on top of the press box at a safe social distance.
- Chain crew, ticket sellers and takers, etc. will be the responsibility of the Home Team administration.
- Gate Workers: Social distanced following CDC guidelines
- Temperature Stations: 1 worker per station following CDC guidelines
- School administration and game supervisors will be placed at a designated location that allow them to maintain a safe social distance while supervising the game.

Crowd Management

Patterns for fan movement will be determined by the home team administration following CDC guidelines.

- Newport High School Stadium can accommodate **248** spectators at a safe social distance. We will have pre-determined list that is established by the home and visiting team prior to the game.

Admission:

- Home Game Protocol
 - General admission will be set \$5 a ticket
 - Ticket Allotment
 - 2 tickets per student athlete
 - 1 ticket per coach and KHSAA rostered personnel.
 - Tickets must be purchased during a designated presale time. All tickets must be purchased prior to 4:00 P.M. on Thursday the week of the competition.
 - For other athletic events tickets must be purchased during a designated presale time. All tickets must be purchased twenty-four hours prior to the day of the competition.
 - Any person who has not purchased a ticket prior to 4:00 P.M. on the day of the competition will not be permitted to enter.
 - A pregame list will be determined before the day of the game

Concession Stands

All food must be prepared and served using restaurant guidelines.

Prepackaged food should be used when possible.

CDC Guidance

An average play lasts 4 to 6 seconds. Based on this study, an offensive lineman whose contact ratio is 100% every play, will average a little over 5 minutes of continuous contact per game if they play every play on the offensive side of the ball.

Likewise, a defensive lineman, whose contact ratio is 100% per play, will also average a little over 5 minutes of continuous contact per game if they play every play on the defensive side of the ball. Based on these averages, no player on either football team will incur over 11 minutes of continuous contact which is under the CDC guidelines of no more than 15 minutes of continuous contact.

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Volleyball Specific Plan:

Pregame Considerations

- Participants must not exhibit signs or symptoms of COVID-19 within the past 72 hours prior to competition
- Athletes and staff are required to have a game day temperature checks administered by staff and complete a game day COVID-19 symptom questionnaire. Game Day documents must be kept on File in the Athletic Director's Office till completion of season.
- Flyers and signs that are available at coronavirus.ky.gov to promote good hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette will be posted throughout the game site.

Locker Rooms

- Will open:
 - 1 hour before kickoff for player requiring medical attention (taping)
 - 30 min for player that do not require taping
 - Use of locker rooms before the game should be kept to a minimum. Utilize outer areas around the court when possible.
- Hand Sanitizer and wipes should be placed in locker rooms.

Hydration:

- All student athletes will bring their own water bottles to the game.
- The water bottles will be filled by designated personnel. At the start of the game the water bottles should be placed at a designated area for the remainder of the game.
- Water will also be distributed in individual cups during timeouts by designated personnel that will dispose of the cup after each use.

Equipment

- Each Player must have their own water bottle, the bottle can be filled from a central location. Trainer or designee will be responsible for water bottle refills.
- Pregame, during, and after the game, all team personnel shall refrain from sharing towels, water, apparel or equipment.
- Players should have different clothes to change into after the game. All game worn apparel should be placed in it designated bin to be washed by the designated coach.

During Game

- Team box will be extended horizontally and vertically to allow for safe social distancing for athletes and coaching personnel.
- Chairs will be used on the sidelines that maintain the social distance guidelines.
- Only Team members and coaching personnel can be in the team box. Everyone that is a team member and not in a uniform must have a team box pass. (Injured player with jersey only will count as uniform)
- Team personnel will be responsible for sanitizing volleyballs.
- Warm-ups should be reduced to minimum time needed.
- Volleyballs will be rotated and sanitized as often as possible during the Match.

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Timeouts

- Coaches will meet players in a way that maintains a safe social distance at all times.
- At the end of every set there will be a three-minute break.
- Every 6 minutes of game time there will be a two-minute break.
- Timeout protocols will be utilized during these breaks (Rationale for the 6-minute break is to eliminate continuous contact for 15 minutes).
- Players will sanitize their hands and arms during timeouts.

Visiting Team

The above protocols will apply to visiting teams with the following additions:

- When possible, travel dressed and ready to play.
- Avoid the use of the locker room when possible.
- Locker rooms should be used for things like:
 - Restroom breaks
 - Hazardous weather
 - When locker rooms are used for games, teams will dress in groups. The number of each group will be determined by the size of the locker room and number of players that can dress and maintain social distance.

Post-Game Considerations

- No handshakes after the game.
- Post-game meeting on court with social distance protocols for instructions.
- Players are to exit the gym immediately after post game meeting and prepare to ride home.
- DO NOT go to the stands and talk with family or friends.
- Dirty clothes will be placed in a bag for the ride home.
- All clothes will go home with players when they return to school unless school is laundering clothes.
- Locker room will be sanitized following the departure of team members.
- Schools that launder uniforms or pay to have them laundered must place uniforms in closed containers.

Officials

Guidelines will be addressed by the KHSAA and the local officials' associations.

- Shall wear mask when arriving and departing from the venue.
- Officials will be screened upon entering the facilities.

Workers:

Press box allotments:

- Game Clock Table: announcer, clock worker, statistician from each school.
- Media: Will have a designated area and must notify the school before attending to ensure safe social distancing is adhered to.
- Film Crew: Stationed in a designated area to maintain a safe social distance.
- Ticket sellers and takers, etc. will be the responsibility of the Home Team administration.
- Gate Workers: Social distanced following CDC guidelines
- Temperature Stations: 1 worker per station following CDC guidelines
- School administration and game supervisors will be placed at a designated location that allow them to maintain a safe social distance while supervising the game.

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Crowd Management

Patterns for fan movement will be determined by the home team administration following CDC guidelines.

- Newport High School Gymnasium can accommodate **105** spectators at a safe social distance. We will have pre-determined list that is established by the home and visiting team prior to the game.

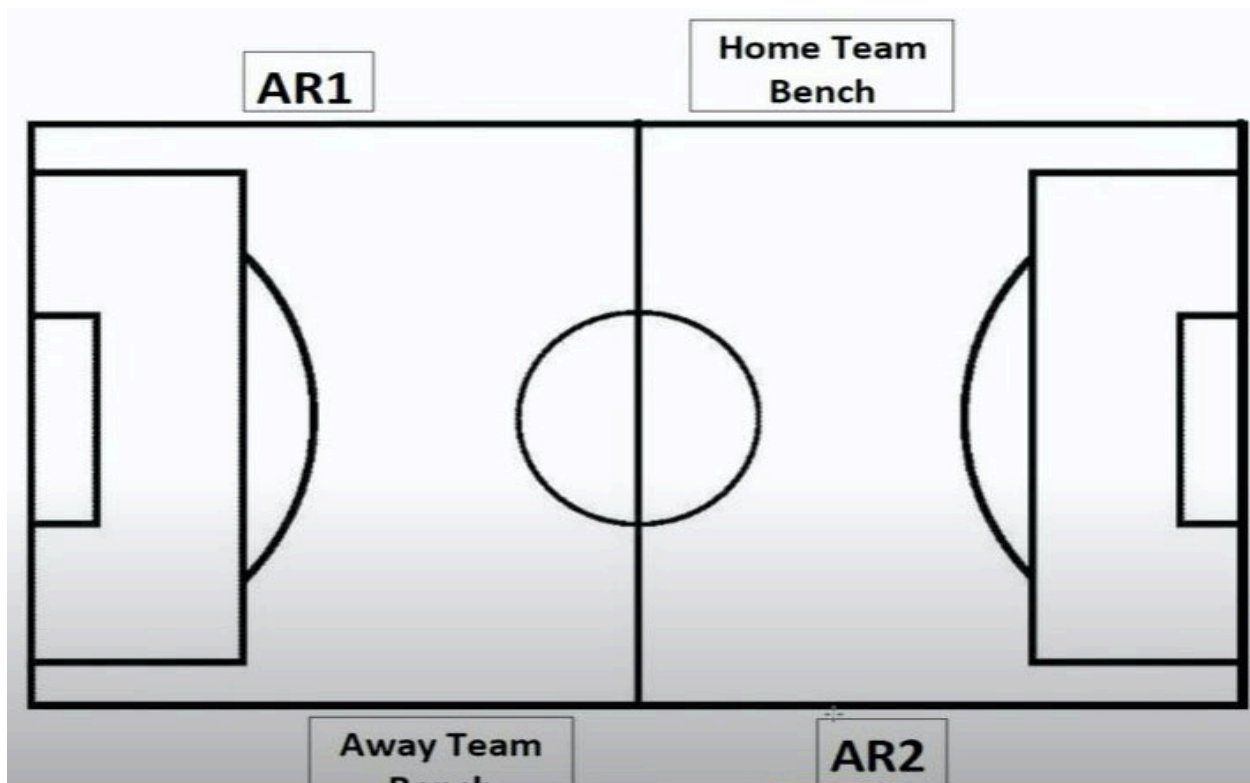
Admission:

- Home Game Protocol
- General admission will be set \$5 a ticket
- Ticket Allotment
 - 2 tickets per student athlete
 - 1 ticket per coach and KHSAA rostered personnel.
- Tickets must be purchased during a designated presale time.
- Tickets must be purchased during a designated presale time. All tickets must be purchased twenty-four hours prior to the day of the competition.
- Any person who has not purchased a ticket twenty-four hours prior the day of the competition will not be permitted to enter.
- A pregame list will be determined before the day of the game
- No one will be permitted to reenter after being admitted to the game.

Concession Stands

All food must be prepared and served using restaurant guidelines.

Prepackaged food should be used when possible.



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COURSE OF ACTION

As we move forward in the direction of a responsible restart, we ask that the Newport Board of Education review the information we have provided as a guide to outline protocols for the 2020 fall football season. It is the goal of Newport High School to protect the long-standing tradition of high school football in Northern Kentucky. While this proposal provides vital ways to protect all of those involved in our sport, it also demonstrates the innovation and flexibility that reflects the traits that ARE Newport High School Athletics. We understand the important work being done to protect all students, staff, athletes, and families, and we present this as a working document that may require additional action to ensure a high school football season this fall in our great community.