



To: Clayton High School Opponents

From: Daniel Antonelli, Athletic Director

Date: September 23, 2020

Subject: Temporary Protocol and Game Procedure Changes Due to COVID-19

In an effort to follow the regulations and protocols set forth by the NJSIAA and TCC and to maintain the health and safety of our athletes, staff members, and spectators, the following changes will be put into effect regarding athletic competition. All changes are temporary and specific to the current extenuating circumstances. Updates may be made as necessary.

ALL SPORTS:

❖ **Water**

- Shared team water bottles will no longer be used.
- Student athletes will be responsible for providing their own water bottles. 32oz of water is recommended for each athlete.
- Coolers and cups will no longer be provided to each team for practices. Should an athlete run out of water, the coach will call the athletic trainer and more water will be brought to practice for refills when possible
- During football games, a plan is in place for getting water bottles on the field during timeouts.

❖ **Masks and Social Distancing**

- Any athlete on the sidelines or not currently competing must practice social distancing and wear a mask. No exceptions will be made.
- Coaches and event staff must always practice social distancing and wear a mask.
- The scorers' table must maintain social distancing. The home team gets priority and the visiting team scorers may need to sit with their team to maintain social distancing. There are two tables set up at varsity field hockey and soccer.
- Hand sanitizer is located on the scorers' tables and at field entrances on fences.
- A new mask can be provided to athletes, coaches, or staff if need be.

❖ **Game day protocols:**

- Team handshakes before or after games are suspended.
- Pregame conferences will include one official, and one head coach and one captain from each team.

- Pregame conferences will be conducted at midfield if applicable.
- **All spectators will be expected to wear a mask and maintain a social distance. There will be signage posted as they enter the athletic facilities.**
- Failure to abide by the protocols will result in immediate removal from the venue.

❖ **Transportation**

- The maximum capacity of each bus is 22 people in addition to the bus driver.
- This includes:
 - A minimum of 1 coach
 - Playing team members
 - Non-playing team members and managers
 - Only if seats are available
 - The head coach is responsible for ensuring that all team members traveling have been screened and approved before the bus leaves.
 - Anyone that has not been screened and approved is not allowed to play, coach, or be on the sidelines.
 - In the rare occurrence that a student athlete must use another form of transportation, other than the school provided bus, it is the head coach's responsibility to ensure that the athlete is screened upon arrival.

❖ **Temperature Screenings and Clearance**

- Clayton staff is responsible for screening Clayton athletes before home and away competitions.
- Clayton staff may choose to screen the visiting team if needed, but prefer the team to be screened prior to arrival.
- If an athlete is traveling with their parents to an away game, they must still have their temperature screened and be cleared.
- The home team is responsible for screening all officials and event staff.
- The visiting team is responsible for screening any individual associated with their program.

❖ **If there is inclement weather:**

- The visiting team will return to their bus.
 - If the bus is not available, the home team must provide them shelter.
 - The visiting team must alert the home team upon arrival that their bus will not be staying for the game so that the home team can prepare a location.
 - The Clayton indoor athletic facilities may be utilized on an "as needed basis" and specific locations will be determined by the athletic director.

FOOTBALL:

❖ Managing Players and Coaches

■ Home games

- Players box:
 - ◆ The sideline players box will span the 10-yard lines (80 yards total). Athletes will be expected to maintain social distancing and wear a mask while on the sidelines.
 - ◆ The visiting team side will be required to maintain the same expectations.
- A “locker room” area will be designated outside so that no athletes, coaches, officials, or visiting teams will be utilizing our indoor facilities. Tents will be provided for both home and away teams.
- Both teams will be assigned a designated area for before the game and at halftime.
- Additional Porta Potties will be set up in these designated areas for both teams.
- The home team will enter the stadium from the front gate entrance by the field house. The visiting team will enter the stadium from the back gate off Vine Street and report directly to sidelines. A tent will be available in corner for the visiting team also.
- Referees will utilize a designated area under a pop up tent for before the game and halftime.

■ Away Games:

- A list of all traveling members of Clayton will be provided to the hosting team’s athletic director.
- Clayton athletes will maintain a social distance and wear masks while standing on the sideline. If the hosting team has set any distancing guidelines, the athletes and coaches will utilize what is available.
- Players will utilize their personal water bottles during the game.

❖ Managing Spectators

➤ Ticketing

- At the start of the season, up to 275 season passes will be utilized for the home side.
 - Passes will be distributed at the beginning of the season to all Clayton stakeholders for all games.
 - No additional tickets will be provided or purchased at any time. Lost tickets will not be replaced.
 - There will be no exchange of money at the ticket gate.
 - If a spectator shows up without a ticket, they will not be allowed to enter the stadium.
 - There will be no re-admittance to the stadium. (i.e. a spectator cannot leave the stadium and come back once their ticket has

been punched)

- The visiting team will be provided with up to 175 tickets for the away bleachers only.
 - Tickets will be given to the athletic director of the visiting school ahead of time. They will be responsible for distributing tickets to their team and making parents aware that no one will be admitted into our stadium without a ticket.
 - The visiting team will provide the hosting team with a list of all traveling field personnel (athletes, coaches, managers, administration, medical staff, and cheerleaders).
 - ◆ Anyone not named on this list will not be granted field access.
- Entrance and exit
 - One gate will be used for entering the stadium for visitors and visiting team. The visitor team and gate entrance is located off Vine street on the scoreboard side. The home team will enter the front entrance and home spectators will enter the side gate off New street adjacent to the home bleachers.
 - Football game security staff will monitor the bleachers and fence to ensure social distancing and wearing of masks.
- Concession Stand and Bathrooms
 - Concession stands will be closed during all football games
 - There are two main indoor bathrooms available at front entrance and also additional porta-potties will be provided.

CHEERLEADING

- ❖ The cheerleading team may be attending away football events per the approval of the home team athletic director.
- ❖ Stunting or any maneuvers that break social distancing rules will not be allowed. Athletes must wear a mask at all times.

FIELD HOCKEY AND SOCCER

- ❖ Spectator bleachers have been turned around and cautioned off to stop spectators from congregating. Spectators will be required to socially distance and must wear a **mask** at all times. Security guards will be in charge of monitoring spectator compliance.
- ❖ See the NJSIAA website for more information on post season and COVID-19 regulations.
- ❖ Home and Away sides will be divided by field signs.

CROSS COUNTRY

- ❖ Finish line sticks or paper will need to be provided separately for both boys and girls finishers.
- ❖ These should not be shared and should be disposed of after each finish.
- ❖ A maximum of 7 runners from each school may compete in each race.
- ❖ It is recommended that starters be lined up on spots spaced out 6ft apart in lines of 7

for home events.

- It is recommended that home courses should be at least 6ft wide at its narrowest point.
- ❖ See the NJSIAA website for more information on tournament, championship, and COVID-19 regulations.