



## PENNCREST SCHOOL DISTRICT

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TO: PENNCREST Fall Sports Teams and Families  
FROM: Dr. Timothy S. Glasspool, Superintendent  
DATE: September 8, 2020  
RE: *Attendance at PENNCREST hosted PIAA athletic events*

### Guidelines for Fall Sports

#### Indoor Competitions

##### Girls' Volleyball

##### Junior High Girls' Basketball

- Gym is limited to 2 teams
- Essential game workers, board approved coaches and athletes are permitted in the gym during competition
- No spectators

#### Outdoor Competitions

##### Varsity Football

- Essential game workers
- Board approved coaches
- Participants
  - Athletes
  - Cheerleaders
  - Band members
- Home team participants will receive 2 admission tickets
- No other spectators

Girls' and Boys' Soccer  
Girls' and Boys' Cross Country  
JV & Junior High Football

- Essential game workers
- Board approved coaches
- Athletes
- Total capacity not to exceed 250 persons, free admission

**\*\*Concessions, raffle tickets, or selling of merchandise is not permitted at any 2020 fall sporting event.**

### Pennsylvania Orders, Guidance & Recommendations

On July 15, 2020, Governor Tom Wolf and Secretary of Health Dr. Rachel Levine signed [new orders for targeted mitigation](#) efforts in response to the recent rise in COVID cases, primarily in southwest Pennsylvania, but also in other counties in the state, influencing the decision for statewide mitigation efforts for bars and restaurants, gatherings and telework. The new orders took effect at 12:01 a.m., Thursday, July 16, 2020. Information related to spectators at school athletic events was updated on [September 2, 2020](#).

Pre-K to 12 (PK-12) school sports under the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association (PIAA) and the Pennsylvania Independent Schools Athletic Association (PISAA) must follow the [PDE Preliminary Guidance for Phased Reopening of Pre-K to 12 Schools](#) and the [CDC Considerations for Youth Sports](#).

Commonwealth administration is concerned that holding school sports before January 2021 presents significant health risks to participants and the public, and strongly recommends against holding such events. Commonwealth administration strongly recommends that Pre-K to 12 school sports be postponed until at least Jan. 1, 2021. The administration is providing this strong recommendation and not an order or mandate. As with deciding whether students should return to in-person classes, remote learning or a blend of the two this fall, school administrators and locally elected school boards should make decisions on sports. The Commonwealth recommendation:

- Applies to youth team and individual school sports, including cheerleading;
- Allows conditioning, drills and other training activities on an individual basis to continue; and
- Includes competitions, intramural play and scrimmages.

Each school entity must develop and adopt an Athletics Health and Safety Plan aligning to the [PDE Preliminary Guidance for Phased Reopening of Pre-K to 12 Schools](#) and the [Public Health](#)

[Guidance Regarding COVID-19 for Phased Reopening of Pre-K to 12 Schools](#) prior to conducting sports-related activities with students. The plan must include the provisions of this guidance, be approved by the local governing body of the school entity and be posted on the school entity's publicly available website. The Athletics Health and Safety Plan must be included in the school entity's School Health and Safety Plan submitted to PDE.

All sports-related activities must adhere to the gathering limitations set forth by the Governor's Plan for Phased Reopening (25 or fewer people for indoor activity, 250 or fewer people for outdoor activity) and the facility as a whole may not exceed 50 percent of total occupancy otherwise permitted by law. All individuals present at the facility at which such activities are held count towards gathering limitations and must comply with face covering order and social distancing guidelines.

As more public health information is available, the administration may work with impacted entities to release further guidance which could impact future sports seasons.

#### Events and gatherings must adhere to these gathering limitations

- Indoor events and gatherings of more than 25 persons are prohibited.
- Outdoor events and gatherings of more than 250 persons are prohibited.
- The maximum occupancy limit includes staff.

#### Guidance for Caregivers and Spectators

- Seating areas, including bleachers, must adhere to social distancing requirements of at least 6 feet of spacing for anyone not in the same household. To assist with proper social distancing, areas should be clearly marked.
- Everyone age 2 or older must wear face coverings (masks or face shields) at all times, unless they are outdoors and can consistently maintain social distancing of at least 6 feet, or fall under an exception listed in [Section 3 of the Secretary of Health's Order on Universal Face Coverings](#).
- Caregivers or spectators should not enter the field of play or bench areas.
- Non-essential visitors, spectators, and volunteers should be limited when possible, including activities with external groups or organizations. Parents should refrain from attending practices, or volunteering to assist with coaching.
- Caregivers and coaches should assess levels of risk based on individual athletes on the team who may be at a higher risk for severe illness.
- Caregivers should monitor their children for symptoms prior to any sporting event. Children and athletes who are sick or showing symptoms must stay home.