

COVID-19 Phase 4 Guidelines (1-22-21)

****All participants and coaches must wear a face covering that fully covers their nose and mouth and fits snugly against the sides of the face with no gaps, whether indoors or outdoors, when unable to maintain at least 6 feet social distance from another individual, unless a medical condition prohibits the participant from wearing a face covering.**

***Please follow the All Sports Policy recommendations for athletes/staff/coaches testing positive and close contact tracing.**

***Additional mitigation information is available on the home page of the SIJHSAA Website and in the Forms and Documents Section of the site. (www.sijhsaa.com)**

Lower Risk Sports (Bowling)

1. Full practices are permitted
2. Contests may be conducted with opponents within conference, their EMS Region or another EMS Region-at a mitigation level that allows contests to be played.
3. Tournaments and out of state play are permitted.

Medium Risk Sports (Volleyball)

1. Full Practices may be conducted.
2. Intra-squad scrimmages may be conducted with parental consent.
3. Intra-Conference or Intra-EMS region contests may be held. All contests must be conducted with opponents at a mitigation level that allows contests to be played.

High Risk Sports (Basketball)

1. Full practices may be conducted.
2. Intra-squad scrimmages may be conducted with parental consent
3. Intra-conference or Intra-EMS region contests may be held. All contests must be conducted with opponents at a mitigation level that allows contests to be played.

Gathering Limitations (From IDPH All Sports Policy)

The guidance requires sports organizers to set up their physical space to allow for at least 6 feet of social distance for all participants not engaged in the sports activity (e.g., on the bench or sidelines). (See Physical Workspace minimum guidelines #3). The guidelines also encourage organizers to configure the area of play to allow for at least 6 feet social distance between participants, whenever possible (See Physical Workspace encouraged best practices #1). Ultimately, the team should only bring the personnel who can fit in to the space while allowing appropriate distancing. The guidelines also encourage organizers to consider prioritizing attendance for some groups (e.g., athletes, coaches, officials, medical staff, event staff, security) compared to others (e.g., spectators, media, vendors).

Thus there is no specific crowd size limit on athletes, coaches, and staff, but obviously social distancing must be maintained at all times by all people on the sidelines and organizers should do everything possible to limit the number of people in a given space, especially spectators, in order to mitigate the risk of virus spread. Sports organizers or venues should configure space to ensure there is at least 30 feet social distance between spectators and participants. All must wear masks and social distance in this space. It is preferred that spectators sit in bleacher seating opposite the bench side of the gym. The 30 foot social distance is measured from the side out of bounds line of the basketball court or volleyball court. If the configuration of the gym prevents spectators from sitting on the side of the gym opposite the benches, they may be permitted to sit on the bench side as long as there is 30 foot social distance from the bench area . The maximum number of spectators is 50.