

Athletics Plan for Governor's Guidelines on Gatherings and Spectators

Updated February 4, 2021

Winter Sports

For Idaho schools to conduct activities for the remainder of the 2020-2021 winter sport school year, consistent with the Idaho Stage 3 Stay Healthy Guidelines, this plan outlines the management of high school and middle school athletics.

School Requirements

Schools are responsible for following the Stay Healthy Guidelines or other measures issued by the Governor or local jurisdictions. These protocols will need to be posted on entry doors and be visible for all participants and spectators.

Schools that host events are required to follow this plan in order to host home competitions in their school. Schools are required to have a protocol in place for all areas of the facility, including parking lots, sidewalks, lobbies, bathrooms, hallways, and the gym. Entry and exit will need to be clearly marked and if possible, separate entry and exits for each group of participants and spectators.

Limitations on Gatherings:

- Local Education Agencies (LEAs) may allow up to 40-percent of their local school gym's capacity or up to four spectators per student participant, whichever is larger, if physical distancing requirements can be maintained or if masks are worn.
- LEAs may have more stringent requirements for spectators at their athletic events.
- The LEA Athletic Director will confirm the capacity of the gym (where applicable using fire marshal and/or Division of Building Safety information) and then calculate the 40-percent capacity number, allowing a number of spectators for both home and away teams into the gym.
 - It is the responsibility of the Home team Athletic Director to notify away teams of the gym capacity number.
- All non-participating athletes, essential personnel, administrators, and table help are REQUIRED to properly wear masks.

- Participating student athletes are excluded from determining gym capacity during their event and include the following events:
 - Basketball
 - Freshmen Teams
 - JV Team
 - Varsity Team
 - Cheerleaders
 - JV Cheer
 - Varsity Cheer
 - Wrestling (duals, tri-meets, and quads, tournaments)
 - JV Wrestling
 - Varsity wrestling
 - While in Stage 3 of the state order, tournaments will apply the same protocols and capacity limits.

- Participating students in the following events are excluded from gym capacity:
 - Band
 - School bands will be allowed to attend and participate.
 - Dance
 - Dance team

- Non-participating student athletes can remain in the gym but will count against the 40-percent capacity limit.

- Student Body
 - Student body will be permitted into “HOME” games only.
 - Students will count against the 40-percent of capacity.
 - Students who choose to be seated in student sections and are closer than 6ft, are required to wear a mask.

- Essential personnel
 - Coaches
 - District Approved Coaches ONLY
 - Stats
 - This will not exceed 1 participant
 - Table workers for home teams
 - This will not exceed 4 participants
 - Administration
 - This group will not exceed 3 participants.
 - Trainer
 - This will not exceed 1 participant
 - Maintenance and janitorial
 - This will not exceed 3 participants

- Audio/Visual not to exceed 4 participants
- Broadcast/Print Media not to exceed 4 participants
- Gate person not to exceed 2 participants

Health and Safety Measures

- Spectators
 - Masks and facial coverings are required for all spectators when not seated or physically distanced. For districts and charter school boards that have a mask requirement, this requirement will be in force for spectators.
 - Masks are highly recommended for spectators.
 - For purposes of this plan, physical distancing is 6-feet from non-household members.
- Direction and flow of spectators
 - The entry and exit and flow of directions as spectators enter the gym and exit the gym will be clearly marked.
 - Home spectators and away spectators will enter through separate entrances and leave through those same entrances.
 - Physical distancing will be maintained in all areas of the facility including entry ways, exits, lobbies, bathrooms, and congregation of people is prohibited within the schools.
 - Event area entrances, exits and bathrooms will be cleaned and checked multiple times throughout an event. Physical distancing signage will be in place in all areas.
- Hand sanitizer should be plentiful and available to spectators and participants.

Adherence to this athletic plan

- Schools will follow to these recommendations, which align with the Governor's Stay Healthy Guidelines and its exemption for spectators at athletic events that follow a plan administered by the State Board of Education.
- These recommendations also follow the State Board of Education's Resolution directing school districts and charter schools to comply with the Governor's public health actions.
 - This Resolution was voted on and passed by the Idaho State Board of Education on December 10, 2020.
- It is important that participants and spectators at athletics follow these good practices of physical distancing and mask wearing in order for athletic events to continue through the winter.