



NASSAU COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

January 28, 2021

Dear Superintendents:

As you are well aware, New York State Department of Health issued updated Sports and Recreation Guidelines during the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency effective February 2, 2021 pertaining to lower-risk, moderate-risk, and higher-risk sports. Nassau County Department of Health has adopted these guidelines which can be accessed via the link:

<https://www.governor.ny.gov/sites/governor.ny.gov/files/atoms/files/SportsAndRecreationMasterGuidance.pdf>

Nassau County Department of Health is requiring all school districts and private schools to complete a safety plan outlining how they intend to prevent the spread of COVID-19 during sports/recreation activities using the template, found at the link below. Retain the safety plan at your school premises and ensure that it is made readily available to Nassau County Department of Health during the sporting event and at the time of any inspection. Nassau County will conduct compliance visits throughout the sports seasons.

https://www.governor.ny.gov/sites/governor.ny.gov/files/atoms/files/NYS_BusinessReopeningSafetyPlanTemplate.pdf

Thank you for your partnership in this effort as we, as a county, try to return to responsible sports and recreation activities. Please bear in mind that schools may be more restrictive than the New York State guidance describes. For example, schools may choose to do surveillance testing, though it is not required by Nassau County Department of Health.

Resumption of high-risk sports is not without risk during this pandemic. Therefore, please remember the following key safety precautions:

- Schools must continue to follow requirements for assessing daily health checks for all students
- Recreational space should be limited to 50% of the maximum occupancy (limited to no more than two spectators per player) and social distancing maintained
- Masks should be worn when not engaged in play and whenever possible
- Schools must provide opportunities for personal hygiene and frequent equipment sanitization
- Schools must maintain attendance logs necessary for detailed contact tracing and quarantine

Please impress upon your schools and your community that social gatherings are responsible for much of the COVID-19 transmission. Coaches, teams, parents and friends have a responsibility to the greater community to refrain from the parties and get-togethers that have traditionally been a part of the team experience.

Sincerely,

Lawrence E Eisenstein, MD, MPH, FACP



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