



NC DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Supplementary Guidance for Sporting Events Held in Outdoor Facilities June 10, 2020

Background

The NC Department of Health and Human Services has received questions from youth, amateur and collegiate teams and sports program administrators who are seeking guidance as to how to hold outdoor sports practice and outdoor sports competition with their full roster of athletes, coaches and other athletic support staff, while remaining in compliance with Executive Order No. 141.

This guidance applies to outdoor facilities holding sporting events in Phase 2 per [Executive Order Number 141](#).

Per Section 7(A) of Executive Order No. 141, the Mass Gathering limit of 25 individuals outdoors applies to groups of people who gather together in a park, which would include an outdoor baseball, outdoor soccer, or other outdoor sports field.

Accordingly, each youth, amateur, pickup or collegiate sports team may have up to 25 individuals participate in outdoor sports practice or competition, which includes athletes, coaches, trainers and other support staff.

Spectators or other attendees at outdoor sports practice or competitions, provided they are separated from the outdoor field by at least 6 feet, are subject to a separate 25-person cap. Each outdoor baseball, outdoor soccer, or other outdoor field, if part of a larger outdoor sports complex, may be counted separately. By way of example, if there are 5 adjoining outdoor soccer fields as part of an outdoor sports complex, each of the 5 fields may have up to 25 individuals on each sports team (counted as described above), with up to 25 spectators on each field.

Sports program administrators and athletes should follow North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services' [Interim Guidance for Administrators and Participants of Youth, Amateur and College Sports Programs](#).

Large outdoor sporting venues (as defined in Section 9 of Executive Order No. 141) may hold sporting events for the limited purposes described in Executive Order No. 141 (i.e., for broadcasting or recording events for the public). Large outdoor sporting venues must limit spectators to twenty-five (25) attendees and must comply with the requirements for large venue operators in Section 9(E) of Executive Order No. 141.