



## RETURN TO PLAY GUIDELINES FOR GAMES, PRACTICES OR OTHER EVENTS *Updated 3/2021*

In conjunction with Governor Hogan's *Maryland Strong Roadmap to Recovery*, and in consultation with the Anne Arundel County Health Officer, the Department of Recreation and Parks has developed a plan for recreational opportunities and public facilities. The following are **GUIDELINES** for Recreation and Parks Facilities and/or programs operating under a permit issued by Anne Arundel County Recreation & Parks Department.

**It is the responsibility of all facility users to follow recommendations below. Failure to adhere to these guidelines may result in cancellation of game/practice/permit and/or removal from County property.**

### **GENERAL PROTOCOLS:**

Participation in Recreation & Parks programs is only allowed if you have had **no** signs or symptoms of COVID-19, and you have not been exposed to someone who has had signs or symptoms of COVID-19 for a minimum period of 14 days before participation. If you have had a positive test for COVID-19, you must be cleared from isolation by the Health Department to resume participation.

- Participation in athletic programs requires a signed Anne Arundel County COVID Waiver Form. The form can be found on our website at <https://www.aacounty.org/departments/recreation-parks/forms-and-publications/index.html>
- If you are sick or feel sick, you should remain home;
- Masks **are required in all areas except** when on the field of play;
  - Masks are not required for players and officials while on the field of play, but are recommended;
- Masks **are required** by all volunteers and spectators not on the playing field. A representative from each team will be asked to ensure Social Distancing and Return to Play Guidelines are followed;
- **A list of players, coaches and volunteers who attend each practice and game should be kept. This list will be requested by the Health Department if someone tests positive for COVID-19. If a team member does test positive the organization must contact the Health Department at 410-222-7095 or 443-481-3140;**
- Hand sanitizer should be available at all activities;
- Assign an area for each player to place their equipment;
- No sharing of drink bottles or any personal equipment;
- No centralized hydration or refreshment areas;
- Participants should refrain from handshakes, huddles and high fives;
- Tents are **not** permitted with the exception of **medical** tents;
- At the conclusion of your team's game we are asking all players, coaches and spectators to quickly exit the field to create space for the next teams scheduled to play;

- Restrooms should be made available at most sites. Port-a-pots may also be available at sites.

**DISCIPLINE:** The following will be the disciplinary action taken by Recreation & Parks for violations of the above guidelines. These actions could be taken against an Organization or team depending on the nature of the violation.

**1st Issue/Violation:**

- Team and/or Organization is issued a formal warning.
- Team and/or Organization must submit written confirmation that rules will be followed and an action plan to ensure compliance going forward.

**2nd Issue/Violation:**

- Team and/or Organization is suspended for one week from games and practices.

**3rd Issue/Violation:**

- Team and/or Organization season is over.

Please note that Recreation & Parks has the authority to cancel, suspend or deny all permitted use of Anne Arundel County property if an organization/team fails to comply with the guidelines.

**SPORT SPECIFIC GUIDELINES:** *Please observe all of the General Protocols along with the following for each particular sport.*

*We ask that ALL organizations assist us with enforcement of these new requirements for a successful season.*

**Soccer:**

- Game play begins on or about April 10, 2021. Practice/skills sessions will be permitted to begin March 1, 2021.
- Number of games/practices will be limited per site;
- Additional time will be scheduled between games/practice to discourage athletes and spectators from lingering after games;
- Teams and spectators must exit fields/facility immediately after games;
- Mask wearing and social distancing measures will be enforced for everyone not in the field of play or on sidelines;
- Organization should set up hand sanitizer stations as well as clean the restrooms and concession as needed.

**Lacrosse**

- Game play begins on or about April 10, 2021. Practice/skills sessions will be permitted to begin March 1, 2021.
- Number of games/practices will be limited per site;

- Additional time will be scheduled between games/practices to discourage athletes and spectators from lingering after games;
- Teams and spectators must exit fields/facility immediately after games;
- Mask wearing and social distancing measures will be enforced for everyone not in the field of play or on sidelines;
- Organization should set up hand sanitizer stations as well as clean the restrooms and concession as needed.

### **Baseball/Softball**

- Number of games/practices will be limited per site;
- Additional time will be scheduled between games/practice to discourage athletes and spectators from lingering after games;
- Teams and spectators must exit fields/facility immediately after games;
- Mask wearing and social distancing measures will be enforced for everyone not in the field of play or on sidelines;
- Organization should set up hand sanitizer stations as well as clean the restrooms and concession as needed.

### **Basketball (Outdoors):**

- Anticipated season start on or about April 10, 2021
- Practices, drills and conditioning are authorized;
- Additional time will be scheduled between games/practices to discourage athletes and spectators from lingering after games;
- Teams and spectators must exit area immediately after games/events;
- Mask wearing and social distancing measures will be enforced for everyone not in the field of play or on sidelines;
- Organization should set up hand sanitizer stations as well as clean the restrooms and concession as needed.

### **Basketball (indoors when allowed by BOE)**

- Games/practices should be limited per site;
- Additional time will be scheduled between games to discourage athletes and spectators from lingering after games. Number of games per site will be limited;
- Teams and spectators must exit the gym area immediately after each game and before next teams can enter. No chalk talks etc. will be allowed. No gathering in the hallway outside of the gym;
- Game ball and scorer's table should be sanitized between all games;
- Inactive players and coaches should wear masks and be spaced accordingly on the sidelines;
- No shared towels, water bottles, etc. All must be cleared from the bench area after the game;
- Spectator attendance will be determined at a time when indoor basketball is permitted
- **ALL** spectators must wear masks and practice social distancing. These measures will be enforced for everyone not in the field of play or on sidelines;
- Organization should set up hand sanitizer stations as well as clean the restrooms and concession as needed.