**Surrey High School**

**Covid-19 Return to Play Protocols**

**(In accordance with area schools and NDHSAA)**

**Acknowledgement of Infection Risks:** **The risk of COVID-19 transmission will still be present as school activities begin in August and likely through the 2020-2021 school year.** Students and their families, along with school personnel must recognize these risks and implement best practices to reasonably mitigate these risks. Participation in school activities is voluntary and every individual will need to evaluate the risk versus the benefits of activity participation. Those immunocompromised students and staff, or those who live with family members with elevated health concerns, should evaluate associated risks of participation and may choose not to participate. The primary means of COVID-19 transmission is through respiratory droplets and potentially through aerosolization. Risk mitigation strategies should be aimed at reducing the likelihood of a person’s respiratory droplets coming into contact with another person. Every school is different, and every activity is different, so understand that certain mitigation strategies may be feasible in one school or for one activity, but not another.

**Benefit of Sports/Activities:** The physical and psychosocial benefits of education-based activity participation are numerous. Students who participate in school activities learn life lessons in an environment that cannot be duplicated. The academic achievements, social and leadership skills, as well as overall mental health are known to be greatly enhanced in students who participate in a school activity compared to those who do not. The COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in thousands of North Dakota students missing out on these life-shaping educational experiences over the past several months.

**Fall Sports/Startup:**

It is imperative that we start this fall off by enforcing and following all of the items discussed here today. We all need to be on the same page when we leave here on what our expectations are going to be, and we all have to stick to it.

**Schedules**

Our schedules will look different this year. Everything is on as planned right now, but please be ready to adjust as potential roadblocks arise.

* Potential for only region games?
* XC meets may end up being just regional and all Class B meets.
* No scrimmages unless it is with just one other team, sub-varsity scrimmages should be held in a different venue/gymnasium to help limit the numbers of participants in one space.

Member schools should consider limiting the number of participating schools at regular season events. All events in moderate or higher risk sports as defined by the NFHS (lower risk sports in the Fall include cross country, golf, swimming & diving, and tennis) involving more than two member schools should receive prior approval from the host school’s local health unit.

**Practices**

* Daily Attendance Logs – REQUIRED BY NDHSAA
  + Communicate to athletes they are to go home if they are sick. Monitor each athlete for symptoms daily.
  + Daily attendance logs at practice/contests/other gatherings for each team (varsity, junior varsity, junior high, etc.) are required. This requirement is an effort to prevent spread of COVID-19 and to aid in contact tracing in the event of any positive tests within the team.
  + Daily logs should indicate groups that were in close contact (within six feet of each other for a period of 15 minutes or longer) and if individuals were masked.
* Stagger practices between levels to help with the possibility of using those athletes in place of others in case of a quarantine.
* Stagger start times of practice to ease with the congestion in locker rooms.

**Mandatory Quarantine**

This will be dictated by the Department of Health and to this point, they have not established the protocols or criteria for quarantine.

General Consensus

* A single case of COVID-19 would follow the Department of Health Guidelines along with contact tracing inside that team.
  + Depending on practice protocol and situations it is not necessarily the entire team, although very well could be. This will be a fluid and case by case situation
* No practice or competitions during this time period
* Teams that practice separate (JH vs Varsity) would be able to continue to practice and play games.
* Would try to reschedule competition after quarantine period.
* Unsure of status of teams played prior to positive test. ND Dept. of Health will need to give guidance on this.
* Games would be rescheduled, if possible, after quarantine. This would not be a forfeit and officials would not need to be paid.
* Absolutely no access to the building, coaches, or other teammates during this time.

**Transportation/Road Trips**

* Potential travel rosters.
* No pregame or postgame meals. Each player is responsible for their own food.
* We will still provide bus transportation with restrictions.
* We will be requiring all riders to wear masks both going to the event and coming home.
* Parents are able to bring their children home from the event by filling out the transportation consent form. We will still transport them to the event, exceptions will be dealt with on an individual basis.
* Parents may choose to drive their children to away events. With ok from the coach.
* Assigned seats will be mandatory (for tracing if necessary), coaches are responsible for making a seating chart and keeping kids in it.
* Busses will be sanitized before and after each trip, plan for extra time to sanitize before you leave if you choose to.

**Masks**

* Student/athletes entering an indoor facility must wear a mask. When leaving the locker room to go to the competition area, masks can be left with belongings. When returning to dress and leave the facility, masks must be worn. This is both home and away.
* Coaches must wear a mask entering and leaving an indoor facility but may coach without a mask.
* Masks do not need to be worn outside, but they must be worn indoors when not competing or sitting/standing in the bench area.

**Locker Rooms**

* Coaches will be responsible for daily checks to make sure that all practice gear is brought home and cleaned each night.
* Equipment will not be left in the locker room with the exception of helmets and shoulder pads.
* Nightly fogging will take place to help sanitize lockers.
* Recommendations from the NDDoH include:
  + - Stagger schedules for locker rooms to avoid crowding.
    - Athletes should plan to shower at home immediately after practices and games, or at the school before leaving.

**Uniforms and Practice Gear**

* Uniforms shall be washed at home after each use. They are not to be stored in the locker room.
* Practice gear is required to be taken home daily and cleaned. Clean gear should be brought each day by your athletes.

**Water**

* All athletes, managers, and coaches must have their own water bottles
* Water bottles must not be shared between athletes, managers, and coaches
* No hydration stations will be used, unless using the station to fill individual water bottles. In this case team managers equipped with gloves should be the only one filling the bottles.

**Game Workers**

Table/Sideline and Press Box Workers will wear masks at all times.

Hand Sanitizer will be available at the scorer’s table for workers, officials, and team personnel.

**Physicals**

Athletes can use a form B if they had a physical for 19-20 and said physical is on file in the District Office.

**Spectators**

* NDHSAA is recommending while in “GREEN” attendance is 500 or 75% of the venue capacity, whichever is lower. When in “YELLOW” attendance is 250 or 50% of the venue capacity, whichever is lower. Both of these numbers are to include the teams and all other personnel that you have on hand for the game.
* Working with Region 6 Administration to come to a consensus on what we will do region wide when it comes to fan admittance. ( This is a work in progress)
* Masks will be recommended when in “Green” and required when in “YELLOW” for indoor activities.
* Outdoor events may be treated differently than indoor events.

**This is what was recommended from Region 6 Administrators**

We are asking that all schools in our area adopt similar procedures, as it will keep all of our patrons on the same page for expectations.

1. \*INDOOR ONLY\* When the Governor declares we are in Green fan attendance for games is at 75% or 500 people (whichever is less) be allowed to attend.
   1. Was not seen as a problem for most with Volleyball not having crowds at that rate normally.
      1. Part of the 500 is participants, coaches, refs, and workers. (not just spectators)
2. \*INDOOR ONLY\*When the Governor declares we are in Yellow fan attendance for games is at 50% or 250 people (whichever is less) be allowed to attend.
   1. ONLY PARENTS of BOTH School participants and ONLY HOME STUDENTS Allowed to attend.
      1. Part of the 250 is participants, coaches, refs, and workers. (not just spectators)

**Ticketing**

* Activity passes will still be available.
* Ticket takers will be required to wear a mask and gloves at all times.

**Concessions**

Must follow ND smart restart restaurant guidelines.

**Game Modifications**

See NDHSAA restart for sport specific changes

**Live Streaming**

* **Will be available at home indoor events when possible.**

**Meetings**

* Seasonal parent meetings will be put on hold and replaced with sport specific meetings instead. Please schedule through the District Office.
* All in school meetings must be held in a space that can provide for social distancing guidelines. Masks will be recommended.

**Storage/Equipment**

* To avoid cross contamination of equipment please keep your equipment in the designated area.
* Athletes should not have access to those areas without your immediate supervision.
* All PE equipment will be held in a separate space, so please stay out of their area as well.
* Sanitizing of equipment must be done each night before returning equipment to the storage area.

**Waiver specific to Covid-19 for athletics/activities**

This is being discussed if it is necessary. Will work with region schools and go with what they do