

Downsville Central School District

COVID-19 Basketball Safety Measures as per the
Delaware County Department of Health

January 28, 2021 (Revised: February 4, 2021)



Compliance Items:

Board of Education approval: Special Meeting of the Downsville Central School District scheduled for Monday, February 8, 2021.

Sport Specific Plan: (Appendix A)

Approved by

District Medical Director: February 5, 2021 – Dr. Denise Freeman,

denise.freeman@nyuhs.org - Telephone: 607-363-2517

Plan Administrator: Athletic Director – Mr. Jeff Baier

jbaier@dcseagles.org - Telephone: 607-363-2100

Parent/Guardian must sign an “Informed Consent Form” (Appendix B)

Distributed to all student athletes interested in participation in sports – similar to many of our health and athletic forms.

Each student-athlete must have medical clearance from their healthcare provider: Our school nurse – Georgia Odell, godell@dcseagles.org – communicate collect, and monitor this in a routine fashion.

Each parent/guardian and student athletes must agree to fully cooperate with case investigations and quarantines if needed: This is already included in our “Informed Consent Form”.

Each school district must establish a confidential phone number and email address to allow student-athletes, parents, or others to report concerns: The Downsville Central School District already maintains an anonymous TIP line on our school website. Sarah Hood (shood@dcseagles.org) has created an additional and specific COVID-19 sports-related anonymous line for those concerned about sports-related safety to anonymously inform our nurses and athletic director.

Each school district must have a plan coordinator:

The go to person if there is a COVID case, to assist the County with case investigations, create a daily system to monitor that no one is ill: Every opponent that the Downsville Central School District competes against will exchange a complete list of names, phone numbers, addresses and contact information. They will also attest that their athletes, coaches, scorekeepers, were screened before boarding the bus to compete. Our athletic Director and school nurse will monitor this paperwork as well as take the temperatures of game staff and game officials.

Temperature of all involved must be taken before practices, workout sessions, and competitions: The coaches of the Downsville Central School District have agreed to accept this responsibility and record this information. Digital thermometers have been purchased and supplied to each coach as well as a daily health attestation form.

We must also stagger practice or games to avoid congregating students, coaches, referees. Our athletic director has established specific plans for each team in terms of days each week they will practice, times when they will practice and for how long each team is allowed to practice in order to prevent congregation of athletes.

The use of locker rooms as is strongly discouraged. Students are expected to arrive dressed for workouts and carry other sneakers to change into or athletic gear with them.

Physically distancing on buses is still in effect: We are fortunate to own school buses with high backed seats. Even if we have a varsity and junior varsity teams traveling to play an opponent – each will travel on their own bus.

Maintain cleaning and disinfection protocols: We already have a strong cleaning and disinfection procedure in the Downsville Central School District. Our Director of Facilities, Ryan Vogler and facilities staff are aware of and prepared to clean and disinfect all areas impacted by athletic participation.

Masks should be worn at all times: The Downsville Central School District is a mask wearing school district. For sports masks must be worn at all times.

When or if masks are removed out of doors, there still needs to be 6' of physical distancing: We do not use bleacher benches and as such all will be physically distanced by at least 6 feet.

The Downsville Central School District will not allow spectators except for Senior Recognition events when each athlete will be allowed to invite two guests who will spectate from a well-distanced stipulation. Otherwise, **ALL contests will be streamed for fans/families to watch from their own homes.**

Community-wise:

To Compete –

Our 7-day rolling average must remain below 4%: Our school nurse along with our athletic director will monitor this. **If above 4% we will only engage in our sport specific workouts with physical distancing in place.**

Region's hospital capacity must be above 15%: Our school nurse along with our athletic director will monitor this.

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Appendices:

Appendix A:

Agreement & Consent PCP/school MD Eval

Pre-Workout Screening

- All coaches and students will be screened for signs/symptoms of COVID-19 prior to a workout. - Screening will include a temperature check. – Attendance will be taken every day.
- Responses to screening questions for each person will be recorded and stored with the AD or School Nurse
- Any person with positive symptoms reported will not be allowed to take part in workouts and should contact his or her primary care provider and nurse; or other appropriate health-care professional per school district and health department protocols.

Hydration:

- All students should bring their own water bottle. Water bottles must not be shared.
- Hydration stations and water coolers will not be utilized.
- Facilities Cleaning and Hygiene:
 - Adequate cleaning schedules have been created and implemented for all facilities to mitigate any communicable diseases.
 - Individuals should wash their hands for a minimum of 20 seconds with warm water and soap before touching any surfaces or participating in workouts.
 - Hand sanitizer will be available to individuals as they participate in workouts.
 - weight equipment will be wiped down thoroughly before and after an individual's use of equipment; and room will be cleaned daily per district protocols.

Physical Activity and Athletic Equipment:

- There should be no shared athletic equipment (towels, clothing, shoes) between students.
- Students should wear their own appropriate workout clothing (do not share clothing) individual clothing/towels should be washed and cleaned after every workout.
- Students are encouraged to shower and wash their workout clothing immediately upon returning to home.
- All athletic equipment, including balls, should be cleaned after each use and prior to the next workout.
- Drills requiring the use of athletic equipment are permissible, but the equipment will be cleaned after use.
- Safety measures in all forms must be strictly enforced at all times on campus.
- **No hugging, high fives, shaking hands, or fist bumps.**

Parents/Spectators:

- At this time there will be NO fans in attendance for indoor sporting events.
 - Family and friends will be able to watch the indoor events on our school Live Stream page

Basketball:

- BOYS - For pregame conference, the referee and one athlete per team standing on the center circle on each side of the division line.
- GIRLS – For pregame conference, the referee and one athlete per team standing on the center on each side of the division line.
- For pregame conference, all individuals maintain a social distance of 6 feet or greater at the center circle.
- Limit the number of bench personnel to observe social distancing of 6 feet or greater.
- Place team benches on opposite sides of the bleachers.
- Additional chairs or rows may be added to allow bench personnel to observe social distancing of 6 feet or greater.
- Create separation between the team bench and spectator seating behind the bench.
- Limit contact between players when substituting.
- **No hugging, high fives, shaking hands, or fist bumps.**
- The host school should sanitize the table before the game and at half time.
- Place officials table sufficiently away from the sideline to allow for additional space for substitutes.
- Limit seats at the table to essential personnel which includes home team scorer, timer and shot clock operator with a recommended distance of 6 feet or greater between individuals. Other personnel (visiting scorer, statisticians, media, etc.) may not be deemed essential personnel and consider an alternate location for them.
- Eliminate all handshakes, fist bumps and similar gestures pre- and post game.
- Give game ball to officials in the locker room where it is sanitized as recommended by the ball manufacturer and not used for warm-ups.
- The host school should ensure that the ball is sanitized during time-outs and between quarters.
- Sanitizer should be provided by the host team at the table.
- Long-sleeved shirts are permissible.

Considerations for Officials:

- Officials are responsible for game management, which does not include monitoring activities on the sidelines, such as social distancing, face coverings, hand washing, symptoms of illnesses and other such issues. This monitoring obligation remains with the responsible parties.
- Bring personal hand sanitizer. Wash hands frequently.
- Do not share equipment. • Follow social distancing guidelines.
- Suspend handshakes, fist bumps and similar gestures prior to and following the pregame conference.
- Officials are not required to wear jackets during pre-game court/player observation.
- Electronic whistles are permissible.
- Gloves are permissible.
- Official may stand 6 feet or greater away from the player making a throw-in and bounce the ball to that player on a front court throw-in.
- The lead official shall stand on the end line and bounce the ball to the free thrower.

Considerations for Coaches:

- Communicate your guidelines in a clear manner to students and parents.
- Consider conducting workouts in “cohorts” of same students always training and rotating together in practice to ensure more limited exposure if someone develops an infection.
- Keep accurate records of those athletes and staff who attend each practice in case contact tracing is needed.

Considerations for Students:

- Consider making each student responsible for their own supplies.
- Students should wear their own appropriate workout clothing (do not share clothing)
- Individual clothing/towels should be washed and cleaned after every workout immediately upon returning home.
- Bring own water bottle.
- **No hugging, high fives, shaking hands, or fist bumps.**

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COVID-19 RISK INFORMED CONSENT

Effective January 22, 2021, New York State approved high risk sports (as defined in the New York State Department of Health "Interim Guidance for Sports and Recreation During the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency" issued January 22, 2021) to begin on February 1, 2021, subject to local health department approval. On January 28, 2021, the Delaware County Health Department provided local schools approval to begin high risk sports.

CONSENT

I acknowledge the following and give permission for my child to participate in high-risk sports, or I am a student age 18 years of age or older and I acknowledge the following and choose to participate in high-risk sports:

- Participation in a high-risk sport places the student-athlete at risk of exposure to SARS CoV-2.
- Symptomatic and asymptomatic individuals can spread the virus.
- At present, it cannot be predicted who will become severely ill if infected.
- Masking, distancing, and other mitigation measures reduce, but do not eliminate risk.
- SARS-CoV-2 can lead to serious medical conditions and death for people of all ages. The long-term effects of SARS-CoV-2 are, at present, unknown; even people with mild cases may experience long-term complications.
- There is a significant risk of transmission to those in the home of infected student-athletes. Older people and people with underlying health conditions are at higher risk of serious disease.
- The undersigned agrees that as a condition of ongoing participation in sports, the undersigned will provide full cooperation with case/contact investigations and compliance with isolation/quarantine requests, if indicated.

Athletic Event/Sport

Printed Name of Student

Printed Name of Parent/Guardian

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date

Signature of Student