



ATHLETICS REOPENING GUIDELINES IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19

Updated August 2020

Our goal at Spanish River Christian School is to provide the safest possible environment for our student-athletes to compete at the highest level. In response to the rapidly changing COVID-19 environment, we are taking *additional* steps to decrease the potential exposure to this virus.

First, team sizes may be limited to ensure social distancing guidelines can be followed. We will be following the sport-specific guidelines provided by the FHSAA (Florida High School Athletic Association) as well as implementing new policies and procedures established by our Athletic Department and administration. Additionally, **if a student is enrolled in a distance learning option for all or part of the year, they will not be eligible to participate in sports at SRCS until they return to school for in-person learning.**

Per the FHSAA- "This is not an exhaustive list and there might be additional steps in each school, and school district, to help prevent the spread of the virus. Even when taking all precautions, there will still be risk of transmitting illnesses. Everyone should stay vigilant about the health of members of their teams. Lastly, the situation with Covid-19 is rapidly changing. These considerations may quickly become outdated. Please keep up with the latest from the CDC and other health officials in your local area."

Practice Days and Elementary Intramurals

- As athletes and coaches enter the gym to change and prepare for practice, they will be screened with a contactless thermometer and asked if they have any signs/symptoms of COVID-19 (See COVID-19 Athlete/Coach Monitoring Form). Any person with positive symptoms will be isolated and not allowed to participate in practice. Parents will be contacted for immediate pick-up. The SRCS COVID Staff Protocol will be followed to ensure the safety of our coaches.
- A locker room attendant will be outside of each locker room limiting the number of people to 10 at any given time. While students are in line to change, they should be an "arm's length" apart at all times.
- 2:55 pm-3:15 pm after students have changed for practice, social distancing will be enforced. Students can use this time to decompress from the school day, have a snack, hydrate, and get ready for practice.
- Students will be required to bring their own water bottles, which are not to be shared. Students will only be allowed to use water fountain filling stations or school-provided

water jugs to refill student-provided water bottles. That water filling stations will be cleaned and sanitized before the start of each practice/game.

- Hand sanitizer/bathrooms with soap and water will be available for athletes throughout practice to maintain cleanliness.
- Equipment used will be cleaned and sanitized before/after practice.

Home Games

- All athletes competing in the contest, coaches, and referees will be screened with a contactless thermometer and asked if they have any signs/symptoms of COVID-19 (See COVID-19 Athlete/Coach Monitoring Form). Any person with positive symptoms will be isolated and not allowed to participate in the game. Parents will be contacted for immediate pick-up.
- Signs will be posted at the entrance to the gym and field outlining the social distancing guidelines in accordance with CDC recommendations.
- In the gymnasium, bleacher seats will be marked indicated where spectators are to be seated to ensure social distancing. Additional seating may be set up along the baselines using appropriate spacing as well.
- Athletes who are on the bench will be spaced appropriately. The length of the bench may be extended to accommodate this.
- Water fountain/water jugs will be cleaned and sanitized before the start of each game. Disposable cups will be provided. Individual water bottles are encouraged and should be used.
- Hand sanitizer/bathrooms with soap and water will be available for athletes throughout the game to maintain cleanliness.
- For Volleyball, the protocol of switching benches between sets will be suspended. Teams are to remain on the same bench throughout the entirety of the contest.
- Visiting team personnel (scorer, statisticians, etc.) are not deemed essential personnel and will need to find an alternate location.
- The traditional “handshake line” after a contest will be altered or eliminated. If both teams and coaches are comfortable, a socially distant “air high-five line” may be a suitable substitute.

Away Games

Each school is going to have slightly different protocol and procedures regarding COVID-19. As we are asking for the same respect when teams travel to our school, we will comply with these as long as they are in the interest of safety for our student-athletes.