



Spring 2021 Reopening Guidelines for Recreational Sports

In the interest of the primary prevention of COVID-19, the Connecticut Department of Public Health is offering revised guidance for the continued operation of sports activities for private, municipal, and interscholastic youth and adult sports leagues. With that being said, the Town of Farmington is working to observe the guidelines put forth by the State of Connecticut to provide safe and enjoyable youth and adult athletic experiences adapting to the **Updated Guidance for the Operation of Interscholastic, Youth and other Amateur Sport Activities during the COVID-19 Pandemic**, updated April 21, 2021 as well as the **Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Conference 2021 Spring Sports Plan**, approved March 10, 2021. Please review and take note of the guidelines below.

SCREENING

Event organizers, staff, coaches, players (parents), volunteers, umpires/officials must conduct daily symptom assessments (self-evaluation) and stay home if they are experiencing any symptoms related to COVID-19.

TRAVEL

Event organizers, staff, coaches, players (parents), volunteers, umpires/officials are strongly recommended to travel to the venue alone or only with members of their immediate household, if possible.

TEAM MEALS

Suspend post-activity group snack.

SHARED EQUIPMENT

Ensure athletes do not share equipment to the most extent possible. If shared, clean and disinfect frequently.

HYDRATION

All event organizers, staff, coaches, players, volunteers, umpires/officials shall bring their own water bottles. Water bottles shall not be shared.

PRACTICE

Coaches should keep players in small groups at practice to allow for physical distancing. Practices shall be scheduled to prevent overlap of participants from other teams and allow for time to clean and disinfect commonly used surfaces including, but not limited to: Benches/dugouts, Doorknobs/handles if indoors. Please note that the Town of Farmington is asking youth sports programs to discontinue the use of benches for the Spring 2021 season unless they can be cleaned and disinfected on a per use basis.

HUDDLES

Players shall not huddle at any point during the game/practice. Sportsmanship will continue in a touchless manner – no handshakes/slaps/fist bumps after games.

MAILING ADDRESS

Community & Recreational Services
1 Monteith Drive
Farmington, CT 06032
Phone: 860.675.2540
www.farmington-ct.org

SATELLITE OFFICE

Farmington Recreation
1 Depot Place
Unionville, CT 06085
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WATER FOUNTAINS

Event organizers, staff, coaches, players, volunteers, umpires/officials shall be required to bring their own water bottles. Water fountain use shall be restricted to water bottle filling only. Congregating at water bottle filling stations shall be limited and signage reinforcing the use of water bottle filling stations only must be displayed.

CROWD CONTROL

Staff and/or volunteers should assist with crowd control by reminding spectators to maintain social distancing when queuing at the gate or other common areas. Spectator compliance with social distancing should be encouraged through periodic announcements or audio recordings if available.

- Individuals shall not congregate in common areas or parking lots following an event or practice. Strategies should be developed that will avoid large crowds at exits, such as dismissing crowds by section if applicable.

CONCESSION STANDS

Allowed to open but must follow Sector Rules for Restaurants.

- Sales of only prepackaged food and drink does not have to follow Sector Rules for restaurants.

DUGOUTS, BENCHES, & BLEACHERS

Dugouts, benches, and bleachers can open only if they can be thoroughly cleaned before and after every use, and 6 ft of distance can be maintained. Please note that the Town of Farmington is asking youth sports programs to discontinue the use of benches for the Spring 2021 season unless they can be cleaned and disinfected on a per use basis.

PARENT SEATING AREA

Can open only if they can be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected before and after every use, and 6 ft of distance can be maintained. Please note that the Town of Farmington is asking youth sports programs to discontinue the use of benches for the Spring 2021 season unless they can be cleaned and disinfected on a per use basis.

PERSONAL PROTECTION FOR COACHES/STAFF/ATHLETES

Any athletic activities occurring indoors, as well as those occurring outdoors that involve frequent close contact between participants, require the use of a mask that completely covers the nose and mouth, and that is worn directly on the face (i.e., not attached to a helmet or other equipment), at all times, including during active play. This requirement applies to all participants, coaches, officials, spectators, and any other individuals associated with athletic events.

Until further notice, Farmington Recreation will utilize the same mask protocols in the spring as it did in the fall. Mask should always be worn when not actively competing; this includes coaches, players, officials, game workers, and spectators. Masks must always be worn when traveling to and from the field/event and on the sidelines. We will continue to monitor guidance and announce as it changes.

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Sport/Program	Indoor/Outdoor	Masks Required During Active Participation	Masks Required When Not Actively Participating
Baseball	Outdoor	No (Catcher – Yes)	Yes
Biking	Outdoor	No	Yes
Dance	Indoor	Yes	Yes
Flag Football	Outdoor	No	Yes
Golf Lessons/Camps	Outdoor	No	Yes
Lacrosse, Boys	Outdoor	No	Yes
Lacrosse, Girls	Outdoor	No	Yes
Martial Arts	Indoor	Yes	Yes
Running/Track & Field	Outdoor	No	Yes
Soccer	Outdoor	No	Yes
Softball	Outdoor	No (Catcher – Yes)	Yes
Tennis	Outdoor	No	Yes

***Please note that although masks are not required for all outdoor sporting activities, their use is suggested by the Connecticut Department of Health per their Updated Guidance for the Operation of Interscholastic, Youth and other Amateur Sport Activities updated on April 21, 2021.**

PERSONAL PROTECTION FOR SPECTATORS

Spectators are required to bring and wear a facemask or cloth face covering that completely covers the nose and mouth as required by the State of Connecticut. We will continue to monitor guidance and announce as it changes.

HAND SANITIZER

It is expected that all event organizers, staff, coaches, players, volunteers, umpires/officials bring their own hand sanitizer and sanitize at the start, during breaks and at the conclusion of practices and games.

BATHROOMS/HANDWASHING

Please note that restrooms may not be open and available at all locations.

REPORTING COVID-19 CASES

If an event organizer, staff member, coach, player (parent), volunteer or umpire/official involved in Farmington Recreation sponsored activities who has been present in the program is diagnosed with COVID-19, the program organizer/supervisor must notify the Town of Farmington’s Recreation Supervisor about the exposure.

In February 2020, COVID-19 was added to the List of Reportable Diseases. Those required to report such diseases must report cases of COVID-19 infection immediately to the Connecticut Department of Public Health and to the local department of health in the town of residence of the case-patient by telephone on the day of recognition or strong suspicion of the disease. The COVID-19 report form is available on the DPH website at <https://dphsubmissions.ct.gov/Covid/InitiateCovidReport>.

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