

Return to Sports Protocols & Procedures

Pemberton Township School District

Preseason Requirements:

- In addition to all currently required videos and trainings, all approved Pemberton Township School District Athletic Coaches will be required to view the NFHS's "Covid-19 for Coaches and Administrators" video prior to the commencement of any official practices.
- All student-athletes participating in fall interscholastic athletics, as well as a parent/guardian of all fall participants, will complete and submit a "hold harmless" document acknowledging awareness that participation in fall athletics carries with it expanded risk to Covid-19 exposure. This document will be added to the seasonal participation packet all student-athletes are required to submit and must be received prior to participation in any organized team activity

In-Season Procedures:

- All procedures and protocols carried out by the Pemberton Athletic Department will be done so in accordance with current guidance disseminated by any and all pertinent organizations such as the NJSIAA, County, State, or U.S. Departments of Health, and the CDC. This includes the wearing of masks when necessary, practicing of proper social distancing measures, and appropriate sanitation of equipment. Given the fluid nature of the on-going situation regarding Covid-19, the Pemberton Athletic Department will maintain the flexibility to adjust any of its operational procedures as deemed necessary.
- *Daily Health Screenings:*
 - All in-person students-athletes will be screened in accordance to School District procedures upon arrival at school. Student-Athletes cleared to participate in the in-person academic setting for the day will be deemed to be allowed to participate in after-school athletic practices for that day as well. Gameday health screening procedures will be addressed later in this document.
 - All remote students (either full choice remote, or students on a remote-day in accordance to the District's hybrid schedule), home-schooled students, and non-Pemberton student-athletes (ex. BCIT students) will be required to meet the below prior to participation in any after-school athletics:
 - A. Submission of the NJSIAA generated Daily Covid-19 questionnaire
 - B. Temperature checks upon arrival

- *Sanitation:*
 - All equipment used during daily athletics, sport specific equipment or Athletic Trainer equipment, will be sanitized in accordance with current Department of Health and CDC guidelines. Sanitation of equipment will be done so through coordination with the School District's Maintenance Department.
 - Per current NJSIAA regulations, all footballs used in game play will be sanitized in between each quarter. Additionally, soccer balls used in game play will be sanitized at the halftime intermission.

- *Locker rooms:*
 - Use of locker rooms by student-athletes will be limited to essential use only. All coaches, along with the Athletic Director, will determine the method and means of essential locker room use for student-athletes on practice and game days that will ensure adherence to all relevant guidelines.
 - At this time, use of locker rooms by either visiting athletes/coaches and game officials will be strictly prohibited.

- *Athletic Trainer office visitation:*
 - Use of the Athletic Trainer's office by student-athletes will be done so in accordance with all applicable mitigation guidelines. Athletes will be required to be granted permission to enter the office, rather than simply entering on their own, in order to ensure proper social distancing is followed. Additionally, any athletes who have to wait in the hallway prior to being granted admission into the Athletic Trainer office will do so in a manner that ensures proper social distancing.
 - Rehabilitation exercises supervised by the Athletic Trainer will be done on an individual basis (rather than small group rehabilitation as has been done previously) and will be designed in a manner that will follow all social distancing guidelines while still meeting the student-athletes specific rehabilitation needs.
 - At no time will teachers or other school staff members be permitted to use the Athletic Trainers office.

- *Weightroom:*
 - Use of the weightroom by student-athletes will be done so in a manner that strictly adheres to all NJSIAA and Department of Health guidelines.
 - At no time will teachers or other school staff members be permitted to use the weightroom for non-academic purposes.

- *Gameday/Visiting team procedures:*
 - Prior to departing for any away athletic contests, athletes will have a health screening that will include having their temperatures checked. Pre-game health screenings will be done under the supervision of the Athletic Trainer or other authorized personnel. Any athletes with potential Covid-19 symptoms, including but not limited to a body temperature of 100 or higher, will be withheld from participating in the contest that day and their parent/guardian will be contacted. Follow-up measures to be carried out upon the identification of possible Covid-19 symptoms will be done so in accordance to School District, County/State Department of Health Burlington County Scholastic League (BCSL), and/or NJSIAA guidelines.
 - For home athletic contests, visiting team personnel (players, coaches, managers, etc...) will be screened for a fever upon arrival.
 - Use of locker rooms by visiting teams and game officials will be strictly prohibited during the Fall athletic season.
 - It is expected that all BCSL member schools will follow identical operational procedures in regards to all athletic contests in regards to gameday health screenings. Such protocols have been created by BCSL Athletic Directors in coordination with BCSL Athletic Trainers and shared with and reviewed by all member schools.
 - Any required health screenings of Game officials will be done so in accordance with NJSIAA and/or Officials Assigning Chapters regulations.

- *Positive Covid-19 tests - Reporting and Sharing of Information:*
 - In the case that a positive Covid-19 test is reported among a particular athletic program - athlete or coach, all permissible information will be shared with all relevant parties in adherence to approved School District and Department of Health policies addressing such an occurrence.

- *Spectators - All Fall Sports:*
 - Spectators will not be permitted to attend any team practice.
 - Spectator attendance policies at Home athletic contests will be done so in accordance with guidelines from either the NJSIAA and or County/State Department of Health on the matter. As guidelines change, spectator attendance policies may change as well. Specific spectator attendance policies are those of local Boards of Education and may vary from site to site based upon specific resources available to particular school districts.
 - Any spectators in attendance are required to adhere to any and all Health guidelines, whether they be local, state, or national Departments of Health or NJSIAA generated guidelines. Refusal to adhere to such guidelines may result in removal from a game site and revocation of a spectator's privilege to attend district sporting events this fall.

- *Spectators - Varsity Football specific:*
 - It is anticipated that no ticket sales will take place at home varsity football games for the duration of the 2020 season. Tickets will instead be provided to account for 2 family members for each member of the home and away programs involved in gameday activities (football players/coaches, members of the cheer program, members of the band, etc...). The "2-ticket" policy may be amended at any time should providing such creates a conflict with any NJSIAA or Department of Health guidelines that dictate capacity limits for outdoor activities. Tickets will be submitted by all attendees in a contact-less fashion.
 - Upon arrival, spectators will be required to submit to a temperature screening prior to admission into any home varsity football games. Any spectator registering a temperature of 100 or higher will be denied admission into varsity football games. Additionally, all spectators are required to follow any and all current health guidelines (ex. Mask wearing, etc...).
 - Out of an abundance of caution, concessions will not be sold during home football games for the duration of the Fall 2020 season.