

SECTION VI FOOTBALL FEDERATION COVID-19 GUIDELINES and RECOMMENDATIONS

General Recommendations:

- Health screening for all players and coaches will be conducted according to their school's protocols.
- Officials screening will be completed by Home School upon arrival.
- Face covering guidelines will be in accordance with NYS and local county DOH regulations.
- Home school will provide hand sanitizing stations for all in attendance at games.
- Maintain social distance of 6 feet while on sidelines or on the field whenever possible.
- Gloves are permissible for all coaches, players, and officials.
- Limit the number of non-essential personnel on the field throughout the contest.
- Athletes from visiting teams should arrive at the field partially or fully dressed ready to participate.
- Officials should arrive dressed and ready unless granted prior permission for use of a locker room from the home school.
- Hydration:
 - * Athletes should bring their own water bottles. Bottles should NOT be shared.
 - * Hydration stations may be provided by home school.

- Home school shall provide video sharing access.

MEDIA:

- All media must request permission to attend prior to the event from the host school.
- Media should expect screening upon arrival by host school as per host school protocol.
- Media will be escorted to a designated area and maintain social distancing throughout the contest. Face coverings will be required at ALL times.

PREGAME:

- Visiting team should arrive no earlier than 1 hour before kickoff.
- Visiting teams will be greeted by the host school and led directly to their sideline.
- Home school will provide any necessary markings for sideline organization.
- Bathroom option will be communicated in game day protocols.
- Minimum 30 minute warm-up will be provided on the field.
- Identify game balls. Do NOT use them for pregame warm up. Keep them separate.
- No player or team introductions.
- All players coaches are to be socially distanced during national anthem.
- Pregame conference, coin toss and overtime procedures:
 - * For coin toss, limit one representative from each team.
 - * Coin toss will take place at center of the field with individuals maintaining a social distance of 6 feet apart.

- * No handshakes prior to or following the coin toss.
- * Maintain a 6 foot distance while conducting pregame conferences between coaches, officials and athletes.
- * In the event of overtime, follow the same procedures.

DURING THE GAME:

- Sideline Box:
 - * Limit sideline personnel to essential people only. Each school will monitor their own program.
 - * Home school will provide a chain crew .
 - * Teams should limit ball boys to two.
 - * Home school to provide video sharing access for both teams.
 - * Team box will be extended from 10 yard line to 10 yard line for ATHLETES. Coaches box will remain the same.
 - * Maintain a social distance of 6 feet while on sideline and in the team box area.
 - * Face coverings MUST be worn at all times if you are on the sideline or in team box area,
 - * If mouthguards are removed on the sideline, the player should use hand sanitizer each time after touching the mouthguard.

- THE BALL:
 - * The ball should be cleaned/disinfected throughout the game by HOME school Personnel.
 - * The ball holders shall maintain a social distance of 6 feet throughout the game.

- TIMEOUTS:
 - * A single charged timeout will be extended to a maximum of two minutes.
MINUTE ONE- players hydrate.
MINUTE TWO- instruction while maintaining social distance.
 - * *The conference for the timeout should take place between the 9 yard marks and not The sideline for social distancing purposes (it is permissible for more than one coach To be involved in this conference and for technology to be used)*

- INTERMISSIONS:
 - * The time between quarters will be extended to a maximum of two minutes.
 - * It's recommended to shorten halftime to the NFHS minimum of 10 minutes and that

teams social distance on the field, or in bad weather, they may report to a large meeting area.

* In the event of bad weather, halftime may be extended per officials and Home AD.

- Compliance of Sideline Covid protocols are the responsibility of coaches/school personnel.
- Thunder/Lightning Plan needs to be considered in game day protocols. A space large enough to social distance needs be available.

POSTGAME:

- Suspend postgame protocol of shaking hands.
- Teams line-up on hash marks and provide a sportsmanlike gesture.
- Postgame talks should take place in endzones while maintaining social distancing.
- Teams should exit field by predetermined host school protocols. (Supervisor directed)
- Parents/fans should leave the field area and proceed directly to vehicles.