

Central Dauphin School District Participation Waiver for Communicable Diseases Including COVID-19

The COVID-19 pandemic has presented athletic organizations across the world with a myriad of challenges. The COVID-19 virus is a highly contagious illness that primarily attacks the upper respiratory system. The virus that causes COVID-19 can infect people of all ages. Research from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), among others, has found that while children do get infected by COVID-19, relatively few children with COVID-19 are hospitalized. However, some severe outcomes have been reported in children, and a child with a mild or even asymptomatic case of COVID-19 can spread the infection to others who may be far more vulnerable. While it is not possible to eliminate all risk of furthering the spread of COVID-19, the current science suggests there are many steps schools can take to reduce the risks to students, coaches, and their families.

The Central Dauphin School District will take certain precautions and recommendations from the federal, state, and local governments, CDC, PA DOH, as well as the NFHS and PIAA. The School District realizes the knowledge regarding COVID-19 is constantly changing as new information and treatments become available. The precautions taken by the District will be adjusted as needed as new information becomes available in order to decrease the risk of exposure for our staff, students, and spectators.

The precautions taken by the District may include::

1. Athletes, Coaches, and Staff may undergo a COVID- 19 health screening prior to any practice, event, or team meeting. The type of screening will be dependent upon the available resources and the level of participation. The purpose is to check for signs and symptoms of COVID-19. It may include a questionnaire and temperature check as needed.
2. Promote healthy hygiene practices such as hand washing, using hand sanitizer, cough in your elbow, avoid touching eyes, nose, face and mouth, no spitting, no gum chewing, no handshakes/celebrations (high fives, fist/elbow bumps, chest bumps, hugging).
3. Intensify cleaning, disinfection, and ventilation in all facilities.
4. Encourage social distancing through increased spacing, small groups, and limited mixing between groups, if feasible.
5. Educate athletes, coaches, and staff on health and safety protocols.
6. Anyone who is sick must stay home.
7. Plan in place if a student or employee gets sick.
8. Regularly communicate and monitor developments with local authorities, employees, and families regarding cases, exposures, and updates to policies and procedures.
9. Athletes and coaches **MUST** provide their own water bottle for hydration. Water bottles must not be shared. **Refill Stations and Water Fountains will NOT BE Initially AVAILABLE!**
10. PPE (gloves, masks, eye protection) will be used as needed and situations warrant, or determined by local/state governments. Face Coverings are not required for athletes while practicing or competing.

I understand that participating in athletic programs, events, and activities may include a possible exposure to a communicable disease including but not limited to MRSA, influenza, and COVID-19. While particular recommendations and personal discipline may reduce the risk, the risk of serious illness and death does exist. I knowingly and freely assume all such risks, both known and unknown, even if arising from the negligence of the Central Dauphin School District or others, and assume full responsibility for my participation. I willingly agree to comply with the precautionary measures taken by the Central Dauphin School District to limit the exposure and spread of COVID-19 and other communicable diseases. I understand and agree that I may be removed from participation in athletic programs, events, and activities if I fail to fully comply with the precautionary measures taken by the Central Dauphin School District.

I, for myself and on behalf of my heirs, assigns, personal representatives and next of kin, hereby waive, release and hold harmless the Central Dauphin School District, its school board directors, officers, officials, agents and/or employees, other staff and personnel (collectively, the "Releasees"), against any and all claims, suits, liability, judgments, costs, attorneys' fees and expenses with respect to any and all injury, illness, disability, death, or loss or damage to person or property, whether arising from the negligence of the Releasees or otherwise as a result of participation in Central Dauphin School District athletics.

Sport: _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian: _____ Date: _____

Signature of Student Athlete: _____ Date: _____

*The complete Athletics Health and Safety Plan may be viewed at <https://www.cdschools.org/domain/17>.
Please contact COVID-19 point person Sarah Box at Sbox@cdschools.org with questions.