



NEXT LEVEL SPORTS COVID-19 GUIDELINES

GENERAL AREA - SPECTATORS and PARTICIPANTS

- Do not come to any Next Level Sports event if you, or anyone you live with, are experiencing any signs of illness including but not limited to sneezing, coughing, sniffles, fever, or generally feeling sick in any way.
- Only players, coaches, referees and Next Level Sports staff are permitted to go onto the fields. Spectators and other teams (when not playing) must stay off the fields and socially distance from others.
- Spectators and participants are required to wear face masks when social distancing is not possible (e.g. walking to fields, concession line, restrooms, being within 6 feet of other spectators etc.) per the Governor's public mask mandate.
- If bleacher seating must be used, spectators must maintain social distance guidelines and remain 6 feet apart.
- Restrooms should be used consistent with social distancing rules and space should be established between people waiting in lines.
- Teams and spectators are asked to leave the general field as soon as their game ends.
- Next Level Sports will have sanitizing stations at each complex.

FIELD AREA - PLAYERS, COACHES and REFEREES

- All players and coaches must sign the Next Level Sports Covid-19 Waiver to participate in play.
- Every time a coach, player or referee arrives at a field for a game, they must sanitize their hands and get their temperature taken at our Next Level Sports staff tent before going onto the field.
- Teams should refrain from congregating around the field prior to their game and maintain social distance from others.

- Players and coaches from each team must be on opposite sides of the field.
- The sidelines of the fields must be clear of spectators so that the athletes and coaches can maintain social distancing guidelines.
- There will be no chairs on the field for players so we can enforce social distancing.
- It is recommended that spectators bring their own chair to be spaced according to social distancing standards, or stand more than 6 feet apart at all times.
- Teams are asked not to congregate around the fields or in public areas when not participating in a game.
- Coaches please refer to these same guidelines when conducting practices outside of game play.

GAME PROTOCOL

- At the pregame meeting and throughout the game, coaches and referees will not be permitted to shake hands or have physical contact with each other.
- Only one captain per team is permitted at the coin toss.
- Coaches should wear masks during timeouts, huddles or when 6 feet of separation with players is not possible.
- Players and coaches are asked to refrain from high fives or any other celebrations that involve physical contact.
- Eliminate huddles when possible. If the coach must huddle up with the team to call plays the coach must have their mask or face covering on.
- We suggest each player should have QB wristbands containing plays/formations. Coaches should call plays verbally from the sideline whether using a QB wristband. (If possible)
- Players should refrain from picking up other players' flags off the ground.
- Each team will use their own football throughout the course of each game.
- Players on the offense are responsible for retrieving incomplete passes. The center will spot the ball on offense at the referee's instruction. Referees should not touch the footballs.
- All defensive players must drop the flag immediately after pulling it.
- At the conclusion of the game, players will be asked to forego the customary sportsmanship handshake line. Instead, we ask each team to line up across from each other on their sideline and give a round of applause as a salute to the other team in order to promote sportsmanship.
- Players may, but are not required to, wear face masks during game play.

EQUIPMENT

- Coaches should bring hand sanitizer and/or disinfectant wipes to be used before, during and after the games, and whenever appropriate, such as if/when coming into contact with the ball or any other players, coaches or shared equipment.
- Refrain from sharing equipment in general.
- Each team is responsible for disinfecting their flags with disinfectant wipes, before, at halftime, and after the game.
- Players should be discouraged from removing and re-inserting mouthguards while on the field. If a mouthguard falls out, players should be instructed not to re-insert it until it can be sanitized with clean hands.
- All players should bring a personal water bottle with their name on it to use during the game.
- Coaches should clean their footballs after each game using disinfectant wipes.
- All players except the quarterback should wear football gloves.
- Coaches should follow these same guidelines when conducting practices outside of game play.

REFEREES

- Referees are not required to wear face masks during game play (optional).
- The coaches should confirm the score verbally with the official at the end of the game.
- Coaches and players should maintain 6 feet distance from the referee positioned on their sideline at all times.
- Referees should have a face mask on them at all times and wear it if they leave the field during breaks and/or unable to social distance whether on the field or not.