Athletic Covid Protocols for Fall 2021

Updated 9/10/2021
**Screening of Athletes**

1. **Screening Procedures** - All athletes will continue to be screened every single day. The spread sheets with the screening responses will need to be submitted to the school AD every single week. If, per the Mitigation Matrix, a school reaches the 100 cases per 100,000 category, **all athletes will be temperature checked every day prior to practice or competitions.**

2. **Group Size** - Continue to try to keep your athletes in small groups, when possible, for contact tracing purposes. There are no group size limitations when normal practices occur. Try to keep different levels (V, JV, 9th) separate when possible.

3. **Locker rooms** – They can be used. Please make sure that they are cleaned on a regular basis. Athletes should change and get out as quickly as possible. Please continue to make sure that the athletes are not hanging out in the locker rooms. Please use the fogger machines for the locker rooms and weight rooms after use.

**Transportation on Buses**

1. Masks are always required on buses for all students and coaches. There are no exceptions.

2. Buses are operating at full capacity for athletic trips.

3. There are no official seating charts, but please encourage the students to sit next to the same person to and from the competition.

**Coaches of Indoor Sports**

1. If, per the Mitigation Matrix, a school reaches the 100 cases per 100,000 category, Coaches will be required to always wear their masks for any indoor sports (Home and Away).

**Capacity at Athletic Events**

1. **Capacity at Events** – FCS will open at full capacity for all athletic events/contests. **Visitors will be expected to comply with any mitigation strategy in place at the school.**

2. The decision to have full capacity will be evaluated as the level of spread is continuously monitored.

3. Social distancing is always encouraged at athletic events.
What type of COVID Protocols will be in place at Sports venues starting in the fall?

1. Currently, masks for athletic events are optional for outdoor events. They are also optional for indoor events unless the school is in a mask mandate based on the COVID spread or following any jurisdiction where the state, county or municipality requires masks to be worn. The schools will communicate with their community and opponents if masks are required for volleyball matches or competition cheerleading meets.
2. Disposable masks will be available at the gate area for anyone who wants a mask or if the school is currently under a mask mandate.

Ticket Sales

1. All ticket sales will be digital through Go Fan. Tickets will be sold online prior to the event or by using QR codes at the gate. FCS is no longer accepting cash for the purchase of tickets.
2. Parking – cash can be collected for parking at football games, but the parent volunteers must wear gloves and masks while collecting money. The maximum amount collected for parking is $5.00.

Concession Stands

1. FCS will resume normal concessions at all events. Anyone handling food will be required to wear disposable gloves and masks. Please take all precautions to continue safe practices with food prep and serving of food.
2. Please encourage your booster clubs to use cashless models, when possible, for the transactions at concession stands.
3. Hand sanitizer should be available at the concession stand.
4. Outside vendors will be permitted to set up on FCS property, but they must meet our COVID protocols. Vendors will be expected to comply with any mitigation strategy in place at the school.

Parent/Information Meetings

1. Teams Meetings are strongly encouraged for all parent/informational meetings. If necessary, in-person meetings can occur. Please use social distancing and follow any local school mask mandates at the time.
Pre-Game Meals

1. Pre-game meals are approved. If they are not pre-packaged foods (containers that need to be served), then we need 1-2 adults serving the players. The servers need to be masked and wearing gloves. Social distancing needs to be enforced while the students get served.

Cleaning Procedures

1. Athletic Training Clinic
   
   A. Every table will be cleaned at the beginning of each day and after each student athlete is treated.
   B. Athletic Training staff will wash hands or use hand sanitizer before and after contact with every patient. Gloves should be used for every contact with every patient.
   C. All reusable equipment to be cleaned after use by each athlete.
   D. Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) to be provided and worn / used as indicated.
   E. All disposable goods and PPE to be disposed of properly.

2. Weight Room
   
   A. The weight room must be cleaned prior to each workout.
   B. Each weight bench must be sanitized after every use.
   C. Wipes and hand sanitizer will be available in the weight room
   D. After the last session of the day, the coach should use the sprayer to spray down the entire weight room.
   E. Custodians should clean the weight room each night.

3. Other Equipment

   A. Any equipment used during workouts will be cleaned prior to workouts beginning and immediately following each workout.
   B. Any equipment used by an athlete during a workout will be cleaned prior to use by any other athlete.
**Indoor Sports**

Masks are required for all athletes if the school is in a mask mandate. Volleyball and Competition Cheerleaders can take their masks off when they step out onto the competition floor. If they are on the bench, they should be wearing their mask.

_for example:_ Volleyball player starts the match on the court, they do not need their mask on. When they are subbed out, they need to put their mask on. If they reenter the match, they can take their mask off.

**Dealing with Athletes that have been exposed/deemed high risk**

1. FCS is currently in a mask mandate for all schools. All athletes/coaches are required to wear a mask for all indoor activities including weight room sessions, film sessions, visits to the training room, and changing in the locker room.
2. If a child is deemed high risk, they can return the following day if they are symptom free and wearing a mask. If they play an indoor sport (volleyball and cheer), they must always wear their mask including competitions.
3. We are allowing the high-risk athletes to remove their masks for vigorous outdoor activity.

**Strategies on how to navigate the mask mandate for athletes that have been deemed high risk due to exposure and play outdoor sports.**

1. **Football**
   A. Masks required for the weight room, film sessions, and locker rooms.
   B. Allow the players to stretch and warm up without their helmets and wearing masks.
   C. If the players are standing around on the sideline, masks should be worn.
   D. Remove the masks when the athlete starts vigorous activity – INDY, Group, Team, etc.

2. **Cross Country**
   A. Stretch and warm up in masks.
   B. Remove masks when the athletes start their running routines but stagger the start times to avoid large groups of athletes running together.

3. **Softball**
   A. Wear masks in the dugout but remove them when batting or playing in the field.
Indoor Sports for high-risk athletes

1. Volleyball and Cheerleading
   A. Masks are always required including competitions.

Football Stadium Capacity if the Mitigation Matrix is applied:

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<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Stadium Capacity</th>
<th>50% Capacity</th>
<th>30% Capacity</th>
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<td>Banneker</td>
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<td>1875</td>
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Gym Capacity if the Mitigation Matrix is Applied:

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<td>Westlake</td>
<td>1970</td>
<td>985</td>
<td>590</td>
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**Softball Capacity:** Capacity will be set at a max of 200 spectators if the mitigation matrix is applied to your school at 50%. It will be set at 100 spectators if the mitigation matrix is applied to your school at 30%.
# FCS Mitigation Matrix for Rising Case Levels

**Note:** Case levels are reported according to municipal boundaries within Fulton County and can be found in the weekly Fulton County Board of Health Epidemiology Report. For more information, please visit our website at [https://www.fultonschools.org/34-day-strategy](https://www.fultonschools.org/34-day-strategy).

## 100 Cases Per 100,000
- Masks
- Limit visitors
- Seating charts in class
- Assigned seating on buses
- Central office substitute support program
- Remote learning preparation
- Communication to parents/visitors regarding mitigation practices in place
- Athletics/Performances/Extras
- Digital tickets sales for events

## 500 Cases Per 100,000
- Limit lunch in cafeteria
- Limit transitions
- No visitors
- Limit fieldtrips
- Limit assemblies
- Essential F2F meetings
- Use of outdoor spaces
- Students bringing water bottles
- Scheduled handwashing
- Staggered safety drills
- Modified lunch lines
- Clearing buses before walkouts/riders (prevents congregation of students)
- Athletics/Performances/Extras
- 50% capacity inside

## 750 Cases Per 100,000
- Eat in classroom
- Random student temperature checks
- No fieldtrips
- Staggered class changes
- No assemblies
- All teacher meetings via Teams
- Staggered recess
- Limited communal items
- Grab and go meals
- Athletics/Performances/Extras
- 50% capacity outside
- 30% capacity inside

## 1000 Cases Per 100,000
- Close contact quarantining at home
- No outside rentals
- Virtual club activities
- Athletics/Performances/Extras
- 30% capacity outside
- No inside spectators

## 1250 Cases Per 100,000
- 100% Virtual
- Athletics/Performances/Extras
- No spectators