



2020 Kyrene Athletic Program **Softball Modifications**

This document provides guidance and game modifications for schools, game administrators, coaches, players, and officials to follow in accordance with NFHS, state and local restrictions and recommendations. Game Administration is responsible for informing all participants of local guidelines for participation.

❖ **Practices**

- Guidelines for maintaining healthy operations and a healthy environment must be followed at all times.
- Athletic programs that are offered during this phase are permitted to have a 1:50 ratio with athletes staying in cohorts.
- Each team will be no larger than a 1:25 ratio. Training groups/cohorts will remain separate with consistent membership for attendance and contract tracing purposes if needed. Coach will take attendance daily and report to their COVID-19 Point of Contact at their school if an athlete is absent.
- Coaches must wear a cloth face mask at all times.
- Athletes must wear a cloth face mask when transitioning between facilities and entering or leaving campus. Athletes may but are not required to wear masks when warming up or practicing softball skills/drills during practice.
- Social distancing of at least 6 feet is required for athletes.
- No water will be provided. Athletes should bring their own water bottle. Two gallons of water are recommended per training session.
- Shared sports equipment, such as softballs and bats, will be disinfected before, during and after practices.
- Temperature checks and self-reported screening reports are required; athletes must be free from symptoms to participate.
- Coaches and athletes will wash their hands or use hand sanitizer every time they enter or leave a practice facility.
- Locker rooms may be open only if 6 feet social distancing can be practiced and supervision is possible. It is recommended that a maximum of 10 students are allowed in the locker room at one time with adult supervision.

❖ **Attending a game- Pre-Game**

- For transportation to a game (on a school bus) coaches are to follow district guidelines.
- Masks are to be worn by athletes when not warming up or doing skills/drills.
- Coaches are to wear masks at all times; when in contact or proximity of participants or spectators. Spectators must also be masked.

- Athletes are to bring their own labeled water bottles.
- If an athlete is to interact with a medical personnel or trainer; they are to wear a mask.
- All athletes must be dressed prior to arrival to the visiting team's school.
- Coaches meeting should be conducted with both head coaches and the umpire at the home plate. No handshakes will be allowed and social distance of 6' will be enforced for pregame conference.
- Athletes in the dug outs will be required to wear a mask and sit 3-6' feet apart.
- Official score book keeper, supervisors, Athletic Directors and coaches must wear a face covering at all times.
- Shared sports equipment, such as softballs and bats, will be disinfected before, during and after games.
- Umpires are scheduled for games. Umpires should come to the venue dressed for all athletic-based competitions and abide by the social distancing requirements.
- Umpires must wear a face covering while on campus (whenever not actively engaged in officiating a contest including while observing warmups).
- Spectators will need to remain socially distanced. All spectators must wear masks at events.

❖ **During the Game**

- In the team huddle there is to be no hand holding. A team may still do a team chant. Athletes not in the game should NOT be a part of the team huddle.
- No hand shaking, high fives, or fist bumps allowed.
- Coaches and umpires will maintain social distancing.
- Athletes and umpires on the field will maintain social distancing to the greatest extent possible.

❖ **Post-Game**

- Suspend post-game handshakes for sportsmanship.
- Positive cheer or chant after game to opposing team will be required.

Should the conditions warrant, these modifications will be adjusted.

PLEASE NOTE:

Practice and game schedules vary per school. In the event that a team or school is impacted by COVID-19, a game or meet may need to change locations or be cancelled and is not likely to be able to be rescheduled. Schedules and the format of practices or games may need to be adjusted mid-season if there is a shift in the level of community spread. Please be mindful of these possibilities upon registration, we will not be able to issue refunds for athletics participation fees as they are most commonly paid through non-refundable tax credits.