

Guidance for Sports-Specific Summer Activities

Questions & Answers

Updated 7/1/2020 - 8 a.m.

1. Are the risk levels aligned with the Wisconsin DHS Activity Levels shown on the map?

A: The sport specific guidelines are using the risk levels indicated in the general guidelines. Risk levels are determined. The key is to get as much information that you can and determine which level best fits. The gathering numbers after the title are a good start. High is limited to 10 inside and outside. Moderate is 10 inside and 50 outside. Compare that to the information that you have and see where your district is comfortable in assessing the risk. The assessment factors are in the guidelines.

2. What disinfection measures are required to have softball, baseball, etc, move to a low-risk sport.

A: In low risk level, disinfection of balls and equipment is at the end of the activity. Again, the general guidelines contain these details.

3. How often must the ball be disinfected for softball games? Between innings? Between half innings? After every batter?

A: Best practice is to disinfect the ball after every half inning or when the balls are provided to the umpire. Bats should be disinfected after each batter if used by others.

4. I noticed in the guidelines that basketball allows a return to competition in the low-risk category, while volleyball only allows a return to live drills and scrimmage with teammates. Is that correct that a contact sport in close proximity would return to play while volleyball. Also, for clarification, is there guidance on whether to allow sports to resume this fall?

A: It's important to remember these are summer guidelines. Some sports have competition because they have summer contests. The same guidelines for basketball would apply to other sports with summer contests. As for the fall, decisions based on risk level must be made at the local level. Regular-season play will be local decision—as it always has been. WIAA tournaments remain a Board of Control decision. We will provide guidance and help to our member schools to the best of our ability to do so.

5. The football team is planning to use the last week of July for its five contact days. Under that scenario, could the team use those days for acclimatization as well? Or, would it need to do the acclimatization process during the next week when practice officially starts?

A: The five contact days must use the acclimatization plan as well as the first five day so the season. Kids have not been physically active for a while and the weather is hot in July and August. Acclimatization is much more important this year than any other year.

6. If masks are being worn during the season in competitions, will the typical rules governing slogans, advertising, and school colors be required of the masks?

A: Yes. Advertising is not allowed during competition. Any obscene or negative message could result in removal, a foul being called, or ejection. School may choose color and mascot restrictions.

7. Can basketball teams, during their contact days, travel to play/scrimmage other teams from surrounding communities or into other states? Also, if you could provide whether the WIAA has an answer based on a guideline (optional, schools can make their own decision) or a requirement (meaning member schools must comply).

A: Local decision based on your county's health guidelines and your community's environment.