

Shalom Christian Academy
Athletic Department
Participation Waiver for Communicable Diseases Including COVID-19

The COVID-19 pandemic has presented athletics across the world with a myriad of challenges concerning this highly contagious illness that primarily attacks the upper respiratory system. 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, Shalom Christian Academy will take necessary precautions and comply with guidelines from the NFHS and MDCC to reduce the risk to students, coaches, and their families. As knowledge regarding COVID-19 is constantly changing, Shalom reserves the right to adjust and implement precautionary methods as necessary to decrease the risk of exposure for our staff, students and spectators. Some precautionary methods in the Shalom Resocialization of Sports Recommendations include, but may not be limited to:

1. Health screenings prior to any practice, event, or team meeting with participation in the activities being limited and/or prohibited where an individual displays positive responses or symptoms.
2. Encourage social distancing and promote healthy hygiene practices such as hand washing, using hand sanitizer, etc. I understand that my student may be expected to clean and disinfect the areas he or she touched to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and other communicable diseases.
3. Intensify cleaning, disinfection, and ventilation in all facilities.
4. Educate athletes, coaches, and staff on health and safety protocols.
5. Require athletes and coaches to provide their own water bottle for hydration. **Refill stations will not be available for outside sports.**
6. I understand that the determination of someone being sufficiently healthy to participate in sports is the school's sole determination and that any athlete who is sick must stay home and further may be sent home or not permitted to participate until healthy.

By signing this form, the undersigned voluntarily agree to the following Waiver and release of liability. The undersigned agree to release and discharge all claims for ourselves, our heirs, and as a parent or legal guardian for the student named below, against Shalom's board of directors, successors, assigns, officers, agents, employees, and volunteers and will hold them harmless from any and all liability or demands for personal injury, psychological injury, sickness, death, or claims resulting from personal injury or property damage, of any nature whatsoever which may be incurred by the student or the undersigned relating to or as a result of the student's participation in athletic programs, events, and activities during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The undersigned acknowledge 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. The undersigned further acknowledge that they are aware of the risks associated with COVID-19 and that certain vulnerable individuals may have greater health risks associated with exposure to COVID-19, including individuals with serious underlying health conditions such as, but not limited to: high blood pressure, chronic lung disease, diabetes, asthma, and those whose immune systems that are compromised by chemotherapy for cancer, and other conditions requiring such therapy. While particular recommendations and personal discipline may reduce the risks associated with participating in athletics during COVID-19 pandemic, the risk of serious illness, medical complications and possible death does exist.

We understand and agree that a student-athlete may be removed from participation in programs, events, and activities if either they or I fail to fully comply with the precautionary measures taken by Shalom Christian Academy. If, however, either I or the student-athlete observe any unusual or significant hazard during my presence or participation, the student-athlete will remove himself or herself from participation and bring such to the attention of the nearest official immediately.

We knowingly and freely assume all such risks, both known and unknown, even if arising from negligence of others, and assume full responsibility for student's participation in athletics during the COVID-19 pandemic. We willingly agree to comply with the stated recommendations put forth by Shalom Christian Academy to limit the exposure and spread of COVID-19 and other communicable diseases. We certify that our student is in good physical condition or believe our student to be in good physical condition and allow participation in sports at our own risk.

Sport(s): _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian: _____ Date: _____

Signature of Student Athlete: _____ Date: _____