

Spring-Ford Area School District
Officials
Participation Notice for Communicable Diseases Including COVID-19

The COVID-19 pandemic has presented athletics across the world with a myriad of challenges. The COVID-19 virus is a highly contagious illness that primarily attacks the upper respiratory system. The virus that causes COVID-19 can infect people of all ages. Research from the Centers for Disease Control, among others, has found that while children do get infected by COVID-19, relatively few children with COVID-19 are hospitalized. However, 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, the current science suggests there are many steps schools can take to reduce the risks to students, coaches, and their families.

The Spring-Ford Area School District will take the necessary precautions and recommendations from the federal, state, and local governments, CDC, PA DOH, as well as the NFHS and PIAA. The Spring-Ford Area School District realizes the knowledge regarding COVID-19 is constantly changing as new information and treatments become available. These recommendations will be adjusted as needed as new information becomes available in order to decrease the risk of exposure for our staff, students, officials and spectators

These Recommendations include but may not be limited to:

Contest Officials

The PA Department of Health has issued a recommendation that any person who has traveled to or will travel to the following states self-quarantine for 14 days following their return to PA. The district is asking student-athletes and coaches to self-report if they have been in a "hot-spot" state or if they plan on traveling to a "hot spot" state. We are requesting a culture of cooperation to keep you and your fellow employees as safe as possible. We respectfully request that you notify the Director of Athletics if you have been or will be in a "hot spot" state and to self-quarantine. Please note that the list of "hot spot" states is fluid and may change.

Click [here](#) to view the most current list from the PA Department of Health COVID-19 Information for Travelers

1. Officials should pre-screen themselves prior to arrival at Spring-Ford. If an official has a fever or any signs/symptoms of COVID-19 or has come in contact with anyone with, or symptoms of COVID-19, they should not come to Spring-Ford and should contact their primary care physician and self-isolate.
2. Officials will undergo a COVID-19 health screening prior to contests. The type of screening will be dependent upon the available resources and the Phase level. The purpose is to check for signs and symptoms of COVID-19. It will include a questionnaire and temperature check as needed.
3. Promote healthy hygiene practices such as hand washing, using hand sanitizer, cough in your elbow, avoid touching eyes, nose, face and mouth, no spitting, no gum chewing, No Handshakes/Celebrations (high fives, fist/elbow bumps, chest bumps, hugging)
4. Intensify cleaning, disinfection, and ventilation in all facilities
5. Encourage social distancing through increased spacing, small groups, and limited mixing between groups, if feasible
6. Educate officials on health and safety protocols
7. Anyone who is sick must stay home
8. Regularly communicate and monitor developments with local authorities, employees, and families regarding cases, exposures, and updates to policies and procedures
9. Officials **MUST** provide their own water bottle for hydration and towel. Water bottles must not be shared. **Refill Stations and Water Fountains will NOT BE Initially AVAILABLE!**
10. PPE (gloves, masks, eye protection) will be used as needed and situations warrant, or determined by local/state governments. Face Coverings will not be used for athletes while practicing or competing.

I understand that officiating, events, and activities may include a possible exposure to a communicable disease including but not limited to MRSA, influenza, and COVID-19. While particular recommendations and personal discipline may reduce the risk, the risk of serious illness and death does exist. I knowingly and freely assume all such risks, both known and unknown, even if arising from the negligence of others, and assume full responsibility for my participation. I

willingly agree to comply with the stated recommendations put forth by the Spring-Ford Area School District to limit the exposure and spread of COVID-19 and other communicable diseases.

Sport: _____ Level: (Circle One) HS 9 8 7

Signature of Official: _____ Date: _____

Print Official's name: _____ Date: _____

*Officials may request a full copy of the SFASD Resocialization of Sports Recommendations. Contact Mickey McDaniel, AD at mmcda@spring-ford.net or Dan Holman, Head Athletic Trainer dholm@spring-ford.net