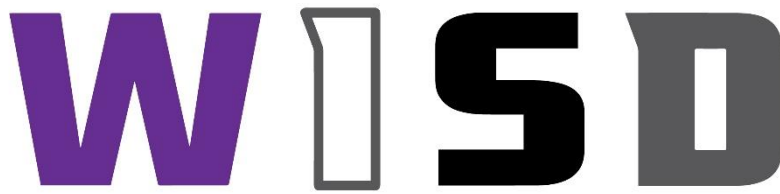


Weslaco ISD  
Return to Athletics  
Risk Mitigation Plan



Revised Jan. 2021

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## **I. INTRODUCTION**

These safety guidelines and plans have been prepared under consideration of COVID-19 virus and the unknown circumstances. They have been prepared from literature and guidelines from, CDC, NFHS, UIL, and TEA. Serious thought has been taken under these unusual times on how to keep all involved, safe and healthy. Our primary concern as Athletic Trainers is the health and wellbeing of all and the mitigation of risks.

Research from the Centers for Disease Control has proved that COVID-19 virus can infect people of all ages, and has found that healthy young adolescence can get infected by COVID-19 and be asymptomatic, while few relatively infected with COVID-19 are hospitalized. None the less, young adolescence 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 we can take to return to competitive athletics safely by minimize the risks and exposure of COVID-19.

COVID-19 can be spread to others by infected persons who have few or no symptoms. Even if an infected person is only mildly ill, the people they spread it to may become seriously ill or even die, especially if that person is 65 or older with pre-existing health conditions that place them at higher risk. Because of the hidden nature of this threat, we all should rigorously follow the practices specified by the CDC, UIL, TEA, NFHS, all of which facilitates a safe and measured return to athletics. We know that the COVID-19 is still circulating in the Rio Grande Valley and our communities within Hidalgo County. We must continue to observe practices that protect everyone, including those who are most vulnerable.

The details in this entire document are subject to change as directives are provided by governing authorities and/or health officials or as environmental conditions change.

WISD Athletic Director, Campus Athletic Coordinators, and Athletic Trainers are designees for ensuring all guidelines and procedures are followed.

## **II. FACE COVERINGS**

Protective measures, including the use of face coverings, will be determined by the level of disease activity of COVID-19. The athletic department will rely on data from the Center for Disease Control (CDC), Hidalgo County Office of Emergency Management, and the Texas Education Agency to determine the disease activity level and the appropriate protective measures. The district will develop a process to alert students, parents, and staff of the disease activity level and when face coverings must be worn.

**Currently, Executive Order GA-29, regarding face coverings, applies to all UIL activities effective July 3, 2020. This includes the 2020-2021 school year. As the public health situation changes, and/or if subsequent Executive Orders are issued by Governor Greg Abbott, these guidelines may be further modified.**

1. For the purposes of this document, face coverings include non-medical grade disposable face masks, cloth face coverings (over the nose and mouth), or full-face shields to protect eyes, nose, and mouth.
2. All employees, parents, visitors and students ten years of age or older must wear face coverings or face shields upon entry to an area where UIL activities are being conducted and when not actively practicing or playing in the contest, unless an exception listed below applies.
3. The face coverings requirements do not apply to a school in a county that meets the requirements of paragraph 11 of Executive Order GA-29, unless the local school system chooses to implement these requirements locally. Even in these circumstances, the wearing of face coverings or face shields is strongly encouraged.

Exceptions to the wearing of face coverings or face shields include:

- Any person with a medical condition or disability that prevents wearing a face covering;
- While a person is consuming food or drink;
- While the person is in a swimming pool, lake, or similar body of water.
- When a congregating group of persons maintains at least 6 feet of social distancing; or
- Any other reason or circumstance indicated under Executive Order GA-29.

### **III. SCREENING**

All Athletes and Coaching Staff will be screened for COVID-19 symptoms regularly and individuals who show symptoms will be separated and sent home.

1. Coaches: All coaching staff members are required to self-screen for COVID-19 symptoms prior to reporting to work each day. Coaches are required to take their own temperature. If a coach is experiencing any of the symptoms listed below in a way that is not normal for them, the campus administrator will be notified, and the coach member will not report to the campus.

Symptoms to screen for include:

- Feeling feverish or a measured temperature greater than or equal to 100 degrees fahrenheit
- Loss of taste or smell
- Cough
- Difficulty breathing
- Shortness of breath
- Headache
- Chills
- Sore Throat
- Shaking or exaggerated shivering

- Significant muscle pain or ache
- Diarrhea

Additionally, they must report to the school if they have had close contact with an individual who is test-confirmed with COVID-19, as defined at the end of this document, and, if so, must remain off-campus and away from areas where UIL activities are being conducted until the 14-day incubation period has passed. Close contact is defined in this document below. Under Hidalgo County Health Department approval if testing is completed on or after the 7<sup>th</sup> day of exposure and is negative, the person is allowed to return to sport. Upon returning to campus students will be required to submit a self-screening questionnaire on a daily basis for the next 7 days after returning.

2. Athletes: Parents/guardians are expected to screen their children for COVID-19 symptoms each day prior to sending their students to school.

WISD will screen student athletes for COVID-19 as well. Screening will be accomplished by asking questions by phone or other electronic methods and/or in person, temperature checks, and possibly COVID-19 diagnostic tests.

WISD will screen all student athletes to determine if they themselves have COVID-19 symptoms (as listed in this document) or are test-confirmed with COVID-19. If so, they must remain off-campus and away from areas where UIL activities are being conducted until they meet the criteria for re-entry as noted below.

Additionally, WISD will screen to determine if student athletes have had close contact with an individual who is test-confirmed with COVID-19, and if so they must remain off-campus and away from areas where UIL activities are being conducted until the 14-day incubation period has passed.

When practical, screening questions will be supplemented with temperature checks of student athletes.

Weslaco ISD coaches will also monitor students and refer to the athletic trainer or nurse if symptoms are present.

3. Visitors: Before visitors are allowed access to areas where UIL activities are being conducted, WISD will approve visitors. Visitors will conduct a daily self-screen to determine if they themselves have COVID-19 symptoms (as listed in this document) or are test-confirmed with COVID-19. If so, they must remain off-campus and away from areas where UIL activities are being conducted until they meet the criteria for re-entry as noted below.

Additionally, WISD will require visitors to determine if they have had close contact with an individual who is test-confirmed with COVID-19, and if so they must remain off-campus and away from areas where UIL activities are being conducted until the 14-day incubation period has passed.

When practical, self-screening could be supplemented with temperature checks of adult visitors.

Coaches will utilize virtual meeting options to limit campus visitors when possible.

All visitors who enter the building will be required to wear a face covering.

Visitors and coaches will maintain physical distancing for meetings in smaller conference areas.

4. WISD is permitted to prevent any individual who fails the screening criteria from being admitted into school facilities or sites where UIL activities are being conducted until they meet the criteria for re-entry

as described below. Any individual for whom screening cannot be confirmed should be presumed symptomatic until confirmed otherwise.

#### **IV. ISOLATION AND REQUIRED ACTIONS     Athletes or Coaching Staff Displaying COVID-19 Symptoms**

1. When an athlete has displayed symptoms of COVID-19, the athletic trainer or school nurse will provide a clinical assessment to determine if and when a student needs to be sent home.
2. Athletes who are ill will be separated from their peers and should be picked up within 30 minutes and no later than 1 hour from the time the campus contacted the athlete's parent/guardian. These athletes will be placed in a secure area of the office while waiting for parent/guardian pickup.
3. Other athletes will be removed from the area and taken to an alternate location so that the area can be disinfected.
4. Areas will be closed off that were heavily used by the individual with the test-confirmed case (student, teacher, or staff) until the non-porous surfaces in those areas can be disinfected, unless more than 7 days have already passed since that person was on campus.
5. District communication will be provided to the parents of athletes who came in contact with COVID-19 positive athlete or coaching staff member.
6. Coaching staff members displaying COVID-19 symptoms will follow district protocols including isolation from athletes and other coaching staff members.
7. Athletes and coaches who have tested positive for COVID-19 will be required to submit a letter of good health from a physician's office prior to returning to school.

Athletes or coaches who come in "close contact" with a COVID-19 positive individual will be asked to self-quarantine for 14 days and may not return to campus during that time. Under Hidalgo County Health Department approval if testing is completed on or after the 7<sup>th</sup> day of exposure and is negative, the person is allowed to return to sport. Upon returning to campus students will be required to submit a self-screening questionnaire on a daily basis for the next 7 days after returning.

8. WISD will use the Texas Education Agency's "close contact" definition for all cases.
9. Any individuals who themselves either: (a) are test-confirmed to have COVID-19; or (b) experience the symptoms of COVID-19 (listed below) must stay at home throughout the infection period, and cannot return to campus until the school system screens the individual to determine any of the below conditions for campus re-entry have been met:
  - A. In the case of an individual who was diagnosed with COVID-19, the individual may return to school when all three of the following criteria are met:
    - at least one day (24 hours) have passed since recovery (resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications);
    - the individual has improvement in symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath); and
    - at least ten days have passed since symptoms first appeared.
  - B. In the case of an individual who has symptoms that could be COVID-19 and who is not evaluated by a medical professional or tested for COVID-19, such individual is assumed to have COVID-19, and the individual may not return to the campus until the individual has completed the same three-step set of criteria listed above.

- C. If the individual has symptoms that could be COVID-19 and wants to return to school before completing the above stay at home period, the individual must either (a) obtain a medical professional's note clearing the individual for return based on an alternative diagnosis or (b) obtain an acute infection test (at a physician's office, approved testing location, or other site) that is negative for COVID-19.
10. In addition to the criteria and processes described above, a student who has been diagnosed with COVID-19 must receive clearance from a physician and a lab confirmed negative test prior to returning to participation in UIL activities. Secondly, they will need to complete the WISD Gradual Return to Play Protocol. See Appendix
  11. If an individual who has been in areas where UIL activities have been conducted is test-confirmed to have COVID-19, Weslaco ISD will notify its local health department, in accordance with applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations, including confidentiality requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).
  12. Consistent with school notification requirements for other communicable diseases, and consistent with legal confidentiality requirements, WISD will notify all teachers, staff, and families of all students in a if a test-confirmed COVID-19 case is identified among students, teachers or staff who participate in any UIL activities. If the person who is test-confirmed to have COVID-19 participated in a contest against another school(s), the school must notify other school(s) and sports/contest officials involved in the contest.
  13. Upon receipt of information that any teacher, staff member, student, or visitor at a school is test-confirmed to have COVID-19, WISD must submit a report to the Texas Department of State Health Services via an online form. The report must be submitted each Monday for the prior seven days (Monday-Sunday).

## **V. CLOSE CONTACT** Updated per TEA 11/5/20

This document refers to "close contact" with an individual who is test-confirmed to have COVID-19. The definition of close contact is evolving with our understanding of COVID-19, and individual scenarios should be determined by an appropriate public health agency. In general, close contact is defined as:

- a. being directly exposed to infectious secretions (e.g., being coughed on); or
- b. being within 6 feet for a total of approximately 15 minutes throughout the course of a day; however, additional factors like case/ contact masking (i.e., both the infectious individual and the potential close contact have been consistently and properly masked), ventilation, presence of dividers, and case symptomology may affect this determination.

Either (a) (b) or defines close contact if it occurred during the infectious period of the case, defined as two days prior to symptom onset to 10 days after symptom onset. In the case of asymptomatic individuals who are test-confirmed with COVID-19, the infectious period is defined as two days prior to the confirming lab test and continuing for 10 days following the confirming lab test.

## **VI. DISINFECTING AND HAND SANITIZING**

Hand Washing/Sanitizing Expectations

1. Alcohol based hand sanitizer will be available at entrances, locker rooms, weight room, coaches offices, and in common areas throughout the athletic department.
2. Coaching staff will be expected to regularly wash or sanitize their hands.
3. Coaching staff will be required to remind and educate athletes on proper hand washing and/or use of Weslaco ISD provided hand sanitizer:
4. Athletes will be encouraged to wash their hands when returning from outdoors, before eating, following restroom breaks, and before and after practice activities.
5. Athletes will be encouraged to bring their own hand sanitizer on a daily basis.

#### Disinfecting Expectations

1. Coaching staff will have access to disinfectant supplies and will implement a plan regularly to sanitize high-touch working surfaces, and shared objects.
2. Coaching staff will limit the use of shared supplies when possible.

## **VII. FACILITY CLEANING AND DISINFECTING**

Protocols will be in place for disinfecting of equipment, students changing clothes, showering, and other areas where distancing is essential.

#### Daily Facility Cleaning

1. Each locker room and restroom will be disinfected daily.
2. All high-touch areas will be disinfected daily.
3. Custodial staff have been trained on cleaning protocols.
4. Custodians will wear masks and gloves during work hours.

#### Practice Environment

Athletic practices and contests will be conducted following safety protocol provided by guidance from WISD, UIL, and TEA. This will include COVID-19 screening, group sizes, sharing and sanitizing of equipment, locker room usage, etc.

1. Practice drills will be socially distanced as much as instructionally possible.
2. When possible, communal equipment will be eliminated. Shared equipment will be sanitized between uses.
3. Signage will be posted in all locker rooms regarding protocols and prevention.
4. Multiple locations of hand sanitizer, tissues, and trash cans will be available in several locations to limit movement.
5. Whenever possible, practices will be held outside to allow for maximum physical distance between students.
6. Visual markers will be on the gym floor and bleachers as reminders of social distancing rules.

#### Locker Rooms



Locker room use will be determined by UIL/TEA. If locker rooms can be accessed, all locker room space will be utilized to follow social distancing guidelines.

1. Any equipment that will be kept in student lockers and/or in these areas will be cleaned and disinfected each day prior to students accessing these areas.
2. Coaches shall develop a plan for managing the storage, cleaning and disinfecting, and redistribution of student equipment.
3. Coaches shall develop a plan that will be implemented in the locker rooms to limit social distancing.
4. Coaches will monitor locker rooms and other areas where students may congregate to ensure effective use of school protocols. When possible, coaches will open windows and/or doors to improve airflow by allowing outside air to circulate in these areas.
5. Coaches and athletes are required to wear face coverings while inside locker rooms, meeting rooms, training rooms, and other areas where athletes may congregate other than shower facilities.
6. As part of their overall plan, coaches will develop a plan for mitigating the risk of spreading COVID-19 when disinfecting, cleaning, and laundering items such as towels, practice clothes, and uniforms. This plan will include protocols for redistributing these items to students.

#### Meeting Spaces

1. Meetings will be limited to video conferencing when possible.
2. If meetings must be held in person, all social distancing protocols will be implemented.
3. Visual reminders will be added and furniture rearranged to help athletes maintain social distancing while in the meeting space.
4. Students and staff will wash/sanitize hands upon entering and after visiting the library.
5. High touch surfaces will be disinfected regularly.
6. Occupancy will be limited.
7. Facial coverings are required during meetings by both coaches and athletes

#### Restrooms

1. Restrooms will be monitored and sanitized throughout the day. Students must wash hands and then use hand sanitizer before returning to practice or contest area.
2. Increased disinfecting will occur throughout the day.

### **VIII. GAME DAY AND PRACTICE PREPARATIONS**

#### Visiting Teams

1. All team players, coaches, and personnel complete a self-screening prior to entering any athletic venue
2. All team players, coaches, and personnel must wear face coverings
3. Locker rooms will be cleaned prior to team arrival and cleaned again after departure
4. No fans or family members will be allowed on the field or court at any time

5. A designated area for bus drop off and pick up has been designated for all venues

#### Travel

1. Bus travel will follow transportation department protocols and guidelines provided by WISD and TEA.
2. Face Coverings will be worn at all times while on the bus by both coaches and athletes.
3. Coaches will make assigned seating charts in the buses.
4. Every effort will be made to secure extra buses to accommodate one person per seat.

#### Sideline Management

1. Must wear face covering if not actively playing in the game.
2. Coaches must wear face coverings at all times
3. Expanded sideline/ bench area (team box) to allow space for distancing as per agreed upon by DEC, both team coaches and officials.
4. Only players, coaches and essential personnel are allowed in team box. Reduce and monitor sideline access to non-game essential personnel.

#### Hydration

1. Athletes are expected to bring their own water
2. Water will be supplied according to access
3. No handling of team water bottles by athletes
4. No sharing of water bottles
5. Assign water bottles
6. Use disposable cups when possible
7. Assign one person to fill bottles and cups

#### General

1. Limit coin toss attendees to officials
2. The ball should be cleaned and sanitized throughout the contest as recommended by the ball manufacturer
3. There shall be NO handshakes between teams

## IX. APPENDIXES

1. Game Day Venue Risk Mitigation Plan
2. Frequently Asked Questions
3. Standard Response Map For Covid-19
4. Gradual Return-to-Play Form
5. UIL Covid-19 Risk Mitigation Guidelines

# Swimming Meet Risk Mitigation Plan

## WISD Aquatic Center

801 E. 7<sup>th</sup> St.



### Swimming Meet Effective Sept. 28, 2020

Bleacher occupancy limits will be in accordance with city and county guidelines currently at 50%.

Aquatic Center Seating Capacity = 140 Actual admittance will follow governing DEC decisions.

Spectators, parents, fans, and media are required to wear face coverings as described in Executive Order GA-29 and follow WISD visitor prescreening protocols.

Seating will be marked and blocked off to maintain a minimum of six feet of distance between groups.

Hand sanitizer will be provided at entrances and designated areas.



#### Visiting Teams

- Drop off and pick up area will be located on the South West corner of the Aquatic Center.
- Use the South West corner doors to enter and exit the Aquatic Center
- Coaches shall wear face coverings at all times
- Athletes shall wear face coverings when not actively participating in the meet.

#### Officials

- Parking will be on the North side of the Aquatic Center
- Locker Room/ Dressing Area will be in the coach's dressing room in the gymnasium field house
- Signing in will take place with the gatekeeper located in front lobby
- Officials must follow WISD visitor prescreening protocols

#### Gatekeeper

- Gatekeeper will keep a counter of occupancy
- Ensure that visitors are following prescreening protocols
- Sign in all workers and contractors

#### Student Groups

- Cheerleaders and Pep Bands are allowed
- Shall remain separate from spectators and court

#### Concession Stand (availability TBD)

- Face coverings are required by staff and volunteers
- Frequent hand washing and sanitizer is required
- Condiments and silverware upon request only
- Cleans and disinfect regularly
- Limit contact with patrons
- Sponsor must follow WISD screening protocol

### ROLES OF COACHES & STAFF:

- Ensure that all participants are wearing face coverings.
- Encourage use of hand sanitizer, hand washing, and social distancing.
- Follow screening protocols to screen team and self.
- Communicate with visiting team and game officials on procedures.
- Send students home immediately at end of contest.
- Disinfect all surfaces in locker rooms and game area at the end of the day.
- Implement a pre-game plan for coaches and officials meeting.
- Implement post-game gesture plan that is safe and allows for appropriate distancing.
- Ensure no access to the court **Before, During and After** games by individuals non-essential to the team.

# Tennis Match/Tournament Risk Mitigation Plan

Weslaco East High School

810 S. Pleasantview Dr.



## TENNIS

Effective Sept. 28, 2020

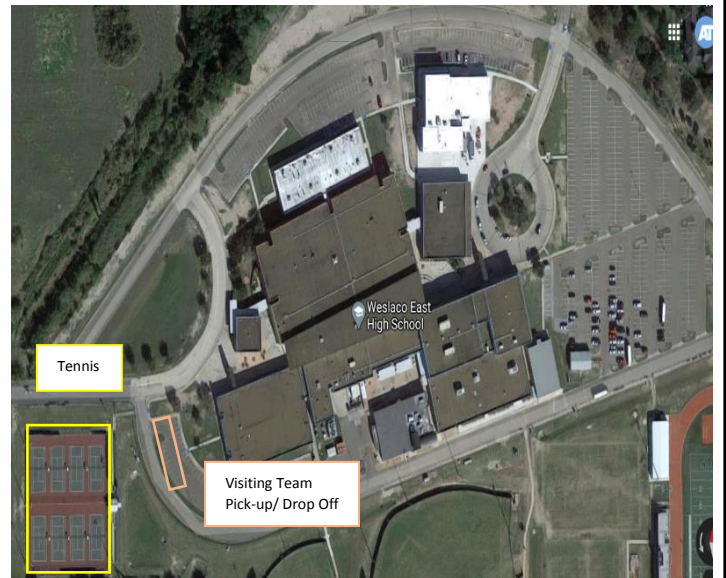
Occupancy limits will be in accordance with city and county guidelines currently at 50%.

Tennis Bleachers Max = TBD by 32-5A DEC

Spectators, parents, fans, and media are required to wear face coverings as described in Executive Order GA-29 and follow WISD visitor prescreening protocols.

Groups shall remain at least six feet apart from other groups. A group is defined as no more than 10 people including the members of the household and those persons who traveled together to the facility. Seating will be marked and blocked off to maintain a minimum of six feet of distance between groups.

Hand sanitizer will be provided at entrances and designated areas.



### Visiting Teams

- Drop off and pick up area will be located the North end of the tennis courts.
- No locker room will be available
- In case of inclement weather the weight room will be available or a designated area
- Coaches shall wear face coverings at all times

### Gatekeeper

- Gatekeeper will keep a counter of occupancy
- Ensure that visitors are following prescreening protocols
- Sign in all workers and contractors

### Student Groups

- Cheerleaders and Pep Bands are allowed
- Shall remain separate from spectators and court

### ROLES OF COACHES & STAFF:

- Ensure that all participants are wearing face coverings.
- Encourage use of hand sanitizer, hand washing, and social distancing.
- Follow screening protocols to screen team and self.
- Communicate with visiting team and game officials on procedures.
- Send students home immediately at end of contest.
- Disinfect all surfaces in locker rooms and game area at the end of the day.
- Implement a pre-game plan for coaches and officials meeting.
- Implement post-game gesture plan that is safe and allows for appropriate distancing.
- Ensure no access to the courts **Before, During and After** matches by non-essential individuals.

# Football/ Soccer Game Day Risk Mitigation Plan

Weslaco East High School

810 S. Pleasantview Dr.



## FOOTBALL/SOCCER Effective Sept. 28, 2020

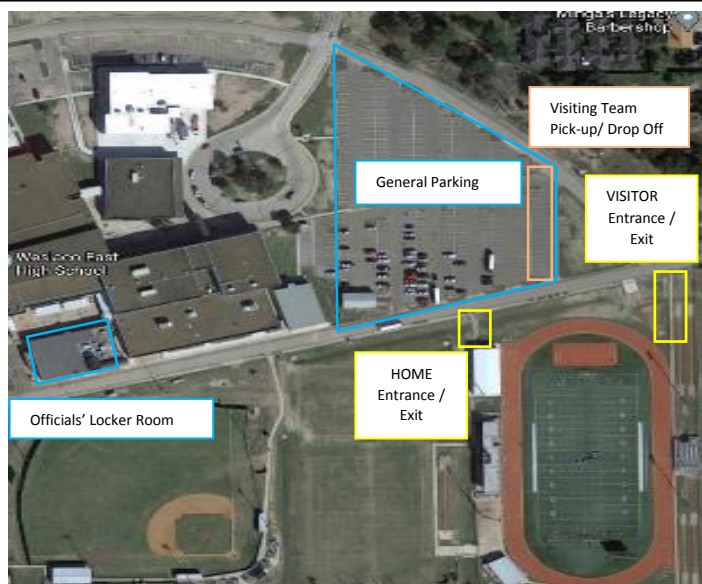
Bleacher occupancy limits will be in accordance with city and county guidelines currently at 50%.

Actual spectator limitations are TBD by 32-5A DEC

Spectators, parents, fans, and media are required to wear face coverings as described in Executive Order GA-29 and follow WISD visitor prescreening protocols.

Groups shall remain at least six feet apart from other groups. A group is defined as no more than 10 people including the members of the household and those persons who traveled together to the facility. Seating will be marked and blocked off to maintain a minimum of six feet of distance between groups.

Hand sanitizer will be provided at entrances and designated areas.



### Visiting Teams

- Drop off and pick up area will be located on the East side of the general parking lot.
- Use gate at north east side of field to enter and exit the gym
- No locker room will be available
- In case of inclement weather the weight room will be available
- Coaches shall wear face coverings at all times

### Gatekeeper

- Gatekeeper will keep a counter of occupancy
- Ensure that visitors are following prescreening protocols
- Sign in all workers and contractors

### Student Groups

- Cheerleaders and Pep Bands are allowed
- Shall remain separate from spectators and court

### Officials

- Parking will be on the west side of the Wildcat Field House
- Locker Room/ Dressing Area will be in the coach's dressing room in the gymnasium field house
- Signing in will take place with the gatekeeper located by the gate under the HOME side bleachers
- Officials must follow WISD visitor prescreening protocols

### Concession Stand (availability TBD)

- Face coverings are required by staff and volunteers
- Frequent hand washing and sanitizer is required
- Condiments and silverware upon request only
- Cleans and disinfect regularly
- Limit contact with patrons
- Sponsor must follow WISD screening protocol

### ROLES OF COACHES & STAFF:

- Ensure that all participants are wearing face coverings.
- Encourage use of hand sanitizer, hand washing, and social distancing.
- Follow screening protocols to screen team and self.
- Communicate with visiting team and game officials on procedures.
- Send students home immediately at end of contest.
- Disinfect all surfaces in locker rooms and game area at the end of the day.
- Implement a pre-game plan for coaches and officials meeting.
- Implement post-game gesture plan that is safe and allows for appropriate distancing.
- Ensure no access to the field **Before, During and After** games by individuals non-essential to the team.



# Volleyball/Basketball/Wrestling Game Day Risk Mitigation Plan

Weslaco East High School

810 S. Pleasantview Dr.



## **VOLLEYBALL/BASKETBALL/WRESTLING** Effective Sept. 28, 2020

Bleacher occupancy limits will be in accordance with city and County guidelines currently at 50%.

Actual spectators will be 50 Visitors and 50 Home = Total 100

Spectators, parents, fans, and media are required to wear face coverings as described in Executive Order GA-29 and follow WISD visitor prescreening protocols.

Groups shall remain at least six feet apart from other groups. A group is defined as no more than 10 people including the members of the household and those persons who traveled together to the facility. Seating will be marked and blocked off to maintain a minimum of six feet of distance between groups.

Hand sanitizer will be provided at entrances and designated areas.



### **Visiting Teams**

- Drop off and pick up area will be located on the South side of the gymnasium field house.
- Use front glass doors to enter and exit the gym
- Locker Room will be the Girls P.E. dressing area
- Coaches shall wear face coverings at all times
- Athletes shall wear face coverings when not actively participating in the game.

### **Officials**

- Parking will be on the west side of the Wildcat Field House
- Locker Room/ Dressing Area will be in the coach's dressing room in the gymnasium field house
- Signing in will take place with the gatekeeper located in front of concession area lobby
- Officials must follow WISD visitor prescreening protocols

### **Gatekeeper**

- Gatekeeper will keep a counter of occupancy
- Ensure that visitors are following prescreening protocols
- Sign in all workers and contractors

### **Student Groups**

- Cheerleaders and Pep Bands are allowed
- Shall remain separate from spectators and court

### **Concession Stand (availability TBD)**

- Face coverings are required by staff and volunteers
- Frequent hand washing and sanitizer is required
- Condiments and silverware upon request only
- Cleans and disinfect regularly
- Limit contact with patrons
- Sponsor must follow WISD screening protocol

## **ROLES OF COACHES & STAFF:**

- Ensure that all participants are wearing face coverings.
- Encourage use of hand sanitizer, hand washing, and social distancing.
- Follow screening protocols to screen team and self.
- Communicate with visiting team and game officials on procedures.
- Send students home immediately at end of contest.
- Disinfect all surfaces in locker rooms and game area at the end of the day.
- Implement a pre-game plan for coaches and officials meeting.
- Implement post-game gesture plan that is safe and allows for appropriate distancing.
- Ensure no access to the court **Before, During and After** games by individuals non-essential to the team.

# Volleyball/ Basketball/ Wrestling Game Day Risk Mitigation Plan

Sepulveda and Lackey Gym

1005 W Pike Blvd



## Volleyball/Basketball/ Wrestling Effective Sept. 28, 2020

Occupancy limits will be in accordance with city and county guidelines currently at 50%.

Actual spectators allowed are TBD by 32-6A DEC

Spectators, parents, fans, and media are required to wear face coverings as described in Executive Order GA-29 and follow WISD visitor prescreening protocols.

Groups shall remain at least six feet apart from other groups. A group is defined as no more than 10 people including the members of the household and those persons who traveled together to the facility. Seating will be marked and blocked off to maintain a minimum of six feet of distance between groups.

Hand sanitizer will be provided at entrances and designated areas



### Visiting Teams

- Drop off and pick up area will be located on the North end of the Sepulveda Gym.
- Use rear glass doors (South side) to enter and exit the gym
- Locker Room will be the P.E. dressing area
- Coaches shall wear face coverings at all times
- Athletes shall wear face coverings when not actively participating in the game.

### Officials

- Parking will be on the North side of the of the gym in front of the main school building
- Locker Room/ Dressing Area will be in the coach's dressing room in the gymnasium field house
- Signing in will take place with the gatekeeper located by the gate under the HOME side bleachers
- Officials must follow WISD visitor prescreening protocols

### Gatekeeper

- Gatekeeper will keep a counter of occupancy
- Ensure that visitors are following prescreening protocols
- Sign in all workers and contractors

### Student Groups

- Cheerleaders and Pep Bands are allowed
- Shall remain separate from spectators and court

### Concession Stand (availability TBD)

- Face coverings are required by staff and volunteers
- Frequent hand washing and sanitizer is required
- Condiments and silverware upon request only
- Cleans and disinfect regularly
- Limit contact with patrons
- Sponsor must follow WISD screening protocol

### ROLES OF COACHES & STAFF:

- Ensure that all participants are wearing face coverings.
- Encourage use of hand sanitizer, hand washing, and social distancing.
- Follow screening protocols to screen team and self.
- Communicate with visiting team and game officials on procedures.
- Send students home immediately at end of contest.
- Disinfect all surfaces in locker rooms and game area at the end of the day.
- Implement a pre-game plan for coaches and officials meeting.
- Implement post-game gesture plan that is safe and allows for appropriate distancing.
- Ensure no access to the field **Before, During and After** games by individuals non-essential to the team.



# Football/Soccer Game Day Risk Mitigation Plan

Bobby Lackey Stadium  
1005 W. Pike Blvd



## **FOOTBALL (sub-varsity)/Soccer** Effective Sept. 28, 2020

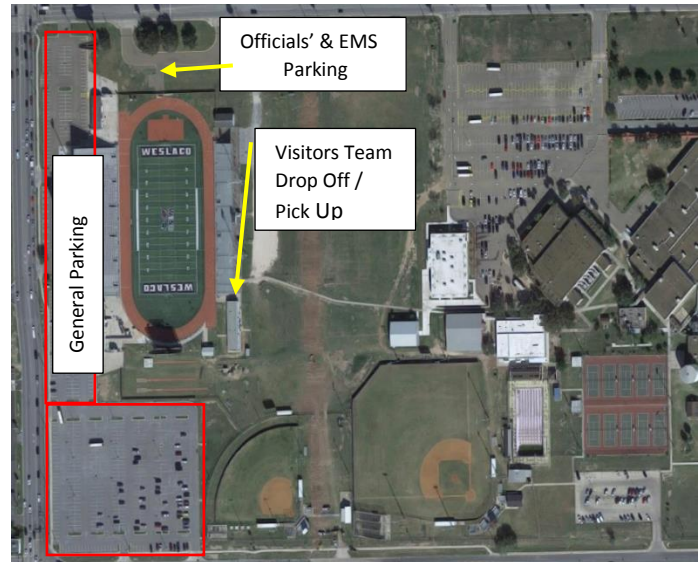
Occupancy limits will be in accordance with city and county guidelines currently at 50%.

Actual spectator limitations will be set by governing DEC

Spectators, parents, fans, and media are required to wear face coverings as described in Executive Order GA-29 and follow WISD visitor prescreening protocols.

Groups shall remain at least six feet apart from other groups. A group is defined as no more than 10 people including the members of the household and those persons who traveled together to the facility. Seating will be marked and blocked off to maintain a minimum of six feet of distance between groups.

Hand sanitizer will be provided at entrances and designated areas.



### **Visiting Teams**

- Drop off and pick up area will be located behind the visitors side (East) of Lackey Stadium.
- Use gate at South East side of field to enter and exit the field
- No locker room will be available
- In case of inclement weather, the locker rooms will be available
- Coaches shall wear face coverings at all times

### **Officials**

- Parking will be on the North side of Lackey Stadium
- Dressing Area will be located at the South end of the field.
- Signing in will take place with the gatekeeper located by the gate under the HOME side bleachers
- Officials must follow WISD visitor prescreening protocols

### **Gatekeeper**

- Gatekeeper will keep a counter of occupancy
- Ensure that visitors are following prescreening protocols
- Sign in all workers and contractors

### **Student Groups**

- Cheerleaders and Pep Bands are allowed
- Shall remain separate from spectators and court

### **Concession Stand (availability TBD)**

- Face coverings are required by staff and volunteers
- Frequent hand washing and sanitizer is required
- Condiments and silverware upon request only
- Cleans and disinfect regularly
- Limit contact with patrons
- Sponsor must follow WISD screening protocol

### **ROLES OF COACHES & STAFF:**

- Ensure that all participants are wearing face coverings.
- Encourage use of hand sanitizer, hand washing, and social distancing.
- Follow screening protocols to screen team and self.
- Communicate with visiting team and game officials on procedures.
- Send students home immediately at end of contest.
- Disinfect all surfaces in locker rooms and game area at the end of the day.
- Implement a pre-game plan for coaches and officials meeting.
- Implement post-game gesture plan that is safe and allows for appropriate distancing.
- Ensure no access to the field **Before, During and After** games by individuals non-essential to the team.

# Tennis Match/Tournament Risk Mitigation Plan

Weslaco High School

1005 W. Pike Blvd



## TENNIS

Effective Sept. 28, 2020

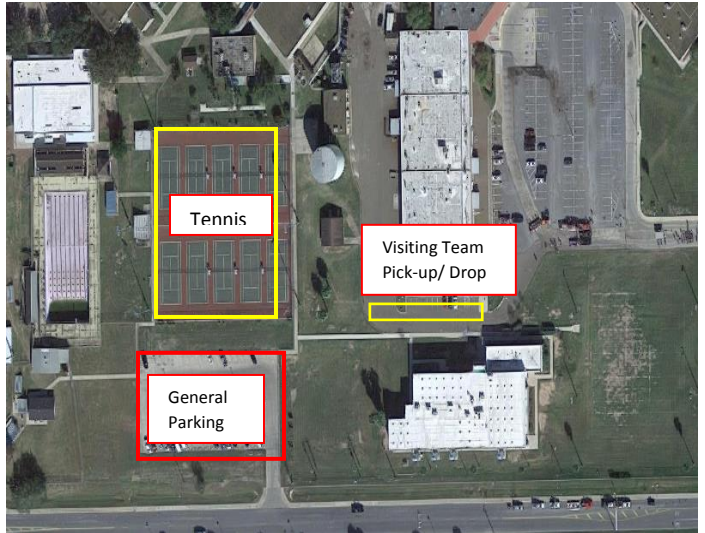
Occupancy limits will be in accordance with city and county guidelines currently at 50%.

Actual spectator limitations are TBD by 32-6A DEC

Spectators, parents, fans, and media are required to wear face coverings as described in Executive Order GA-29 and follow WISD visitor prescreening protocols.

Groups shall remain at least six feet apart from other groups. A group is defined as no more than 10 people including the members of the household and those persons who traveled together to the facility. Seating will be marked and blocked off to maintain a minimum of six feet of distance between groups.

Hand sanitizer will be provided at entrances and designated areas.



## Visiting Teams

- Drop off and pick up area will be located on the East side of the Tennis Court Entrance is off Border Ave.
- Use gate on South end court to enter and exit
- No locker room will be available
- In case of inclement weather the weight room or designated area will be available
- Coaches shall wear face coverings at all times

## Gatekeeper

- Gatekeeper will keep a counter of occupancy
- Ensure that visitors are following prescreening protocols
- Sign in all workers and contractors

## Student Groups

- Cheerleaders and Pep Bands are allowed
- Shall remain separate from spectators and court

## ROLES OF COACHES & STAFF:

- Ensure that all participants are wearing face coverings.
- Encourage use of hand sanitizer, hand washing, and social distancing.
- Follow screening protocols to screen team and self.
- Communicate with visiting team and game officials on procedures.
- Send students home immediately at end of contest.
- Disinfect all surfaces in locker rooms and game area at the end of the day.
- Implement a pre-game plan for coaches and officials meeting.
- Implement post-game gesture plan that is safe and allows for appropriate distancing.
- Ensure no access to the courts **Before, During and After** matches by non-essential individuals.

## Frequently Asked Questions

- **Who must wear face covering (mask)?** *Everyone who attends or who is participating in a UIL activity must wear a mask at all times. The mask cover the mouth and nose at all times. Exception: Athletes that are actively participating in the game may remove their face covering. Failure to comply or cooperate may result in removal from the venue by administration and or police/security.*
- **Will my child be screened for symptoms?** *Yes, each athlete and staff will be required to complete an electronic self-screen form every week. In addition, athletes will have temperature checks daily and self-screen for symptoms. WISD will make COVID-19 testing available for athletes and coaches once per week.*
- **Can my child participate in athletics if they choose to take classes virtually?** *Yes. UIL and WISD will allow a student to participate in athletics if they choose to attend school remotely. Students must adhere to all other UIL rules and regulations for eligibility.*
- **Will transportation be provided for athletes to attend practices?** *At this time, transportation will be provided for games only. Parents and athletes will be responsible to transport their child to and from practices.*
- **Can I transport my child in my own vehicle to local and out of town games?** *No. Transportation will be provided by WISD.*
- **Who will be allowed to enter games?** *At this time, attendance will be determined by venue capacity figures and District Executive Committee regulations. (other factors may play a role in determining attendance)*
- **Will games be streamed online?** *Yes. Efforts will be made to stream as many games as possible by KWES or on a team Facebook live page. A link will be provided before the game.*
- **Will my child need a physical before participating in athletics for 2020-21?** *Athletes that have a physical form on file from the previous year (2019-20) will not need a new physical form.*
- **Will players and coaches be tested before participating in activities?** *Currently WISD is offering rapid COVID-19 testing on campus. Testing is being performed on campus by designated local doctors. Testing is NOT mandatory but highly encouraged.*
- **Can my child return to activities after testing negative?** *Yes. After completing the WISD return to play protocols.*

If you have, any additional questions contact your respective Head Coach or Athletic Trainer.



## RESPONSE MAP FOR COVID 19

Does the student report to practice?

Does the student self isolate or quarantine at home? And # of days?

Is it required to obtain a negative Covid-19 test result?

Is a negative test or a medical note acceptable to suspend or reduce isolation /quarantine?

Is student required to meet the 3 step process?  
1. At least 24 hours have passed with no fever, without using fever reducing medication;  
2. Improvement in symptoms; 3. 10 days have passed from onset of symptoms.

Athletic Trainer will advise school nurse for Student COVID-19 intake report

Student TESTED POSITIVE (with or without symptoms)

Student had EXPOSURE or CLOSE CONTACT to a confirmed positive

Student is experiencing 1 or more symptoms during the school day

NO

NO

NO

Yes: 10 days from onset of symptoms or date of test result whichever is earlier

Yes: 7 days (Day 0= first day of contact)  
(Day 8= first day back with no symptoms and a negative test)

Yes: 7 days from onset of symptoms or date of test result whichever is earlier

NO (Only an MD note indicating clearance)

YES: only if returning prior to 14 days

Either an MD note OR negative Covid test.

YES (when an alternative diagnosis is given or obtain 2 negative PCR tests 24 hours apart)

YES: Only a negative test will be accepted when taken on/after day 7

YES (when an alternative diagnosis is given or a negative test)

YES

YES

YES

YES

YES

YES

# Weslaco ISD COVID-19

## Gradual Return-to-Play Form

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_ ID# \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Positive Test \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Negative Test \_\_\_\_\_ Physician Name \_\_\_\_\_

The Athlete has met the following requirements before beginning the Return-to-Play Protocol:

- ☐ Physician evaluation documentation indicating that it is safe for the student to begin the Return-to-Play Protocol
- ☐ 24 Hours have passed with no fever, without using fever-reducing medications
- ☐ Improvement in symptoms
- ☐ 10 days have passed from onset of symptoms

Athletes must complete the progression below without development of chest pain, chest tightness, palpitations, light-headedness, pre-syncope or syncope. If these symptoms develop, athletes will be referred to their Primary Care Provider for further evaluation.

Phase	Successfully Completed	Date Successfully Completed	Athletic Trainer Signature
Phase 1: Percentage of Max HR: 60-65% Duration: 30 minutes No weight lifting	YES NO		
Phase 2: Percentage of Max HR: 60-75% Duration: 30 minutes May begin weight lifting	YES NO		
Phase 3: Percentage of Max HR: 60-75% Duration: Up to 60 minutes	YES NO		
Phase 4: Percentage of Max HR 60-80% Duration: Up to 60 minutes	YES NO		
Phase 5: Full return to activity	YES NO		

The above student has completed all phases without any development of symptoms and based on the results of this protocol, the student may return to full competition.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Athletic Trainer Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

# 2020-2021 UIL COVID-19 Risk Mitigation Guidelines

**Updated September 1, 2020**

The following guidance related to UIL activities, based on the public health situation as we understand it today, applies to the 2020-2021 school year. This guidance is effective immediately. Changes to the public health situation in the coming months may necessitate changes to this guidance.

Given the varying numbers of COVID-19 cases across different areas of the state, and the vast geographic area in the state of Texas, UIL is presenting modifications for the 2020-21 school year that reflect the situation at this time. UIL will continue to work with state officials and monitor CDC and other federal guidance to determine any potential modifications that may become necessary. Schools should be prepared for the possibility of interruptions in contest schedules. District Executive Committees should work and plan to accommodate, as best possible, for these interruptions.

These guidelines are in addition to guidance issued by the Texas Education Agency (TEA) and intended to be implemented along with [TEA guidance](#), which applies to academic and extracurricular non-UIL activities. The information below includes a requirement for schools to develop a plan for mitigating risk of COVID-19 spread during UIL activities. Schools should take their local context into account and follow all state requirements when considering UIL activities.

It is recommended that each school identify a staff member or group of staff members to serve as compliance officer(s) to oversee effective use of these protocols. Schools must follow all requirements of state authorities in addition to the requirements below.

## Face Coverings- Executive Order GA-29

**Executive Order GA-29, regarding face coverings, applies to all UIL activities effective July 3, 2020. This includes the 2020-2021 school year. As the public health situation changes, and/or if subsequent Executive Orders are issued by Governor Greg Abbott, these guidelines may be further modified.**

1. For the purposes of this document, face coverings include non-medical grade disposable face masks, cloth face coverings (over the nose and mouth), or full-face shields to protect eyes, nose, and mouth.
2. All employees, parents, visitors and students ten years of age or older must wear face coverings or face shields upon entry to an area where UIL activities are being conducted and when not actively practicing or playing in the contest, unless an exception listed below applies.
3. The face coverings requirements do not apply to a school in a county that meets the requirements of paragraph 11 of [Executive Order GA-29](#), unless the local school system chooses to implement these requirements locally. Even in these circumstances, the wearing of face coverings or face shields is strongly encouraged.

Exceptions to the wearing of face coverings or face shields include:

- Any person with a medical condition or disability that prevents wearing a face covering;
- While a person is consuming food or drink;
- While the person is in a swimming pool, lake, or similar body of water.

- When a congregating group of persons maintains at least 6 feet of social distancing; or
- Any other reason or circumstance indicated under Executive Order GA-29.

## General Operational Guidelines

### **REQUIRED OF ALL SCHOOLS:**

TEA requires all school systems to develop a plan for mitigating COVID-19 spread in schools. UIL guidelines require schools to include UIL activities for the 2020-2021 school year as part of this plan and carefully plan for mitigating risk of spread as students and staff participate in them. Schools must post these plans on the homepage of the school website or other easily accessible area of the school website. These plans do not require UIL or TEA approval.

#### *Required Screening*

Required Screening before attending or participating in activities:

If staff have not been screened by the school for purposes of participating in instructional activities, schools must implement these screening protocols before allowing staff to participate in UIL activities.

1. Schools must require staff to self-screen for COVID-19 symptoms before participating in UIL activities or entering areas where UIL activities are being conducted. Symptoms are listed at the end of this document. The self-screening should include staff taking their own temperature. Staff must report to the school if they themselves have COVID-19 symptoms or are test-confirmed with COVID-19, and, if so, they must remain off-campus and away from areas where UIL activities are being conducted until they meet the criteria for re-entry as noted below. Additionally, they must report to the school if they have had close contact with an individual who is test-confirmed with COVID-19, as defined at the end of this document, and, if so, must remain off-campus and away from areas where UIL activities are being conducted until the 14-day incubation period has passed. Close contact is defined in this document below.
2. Parents must ensure they do not send a student to participate in UIL activities if the student has COVID-19 symptoms (as listed in this document) or is test-confirmed with COVID-19 until the below conditions for re-entry are met. School systems may consider screening students for COVID-19 as well. Screening is accomplished by asking questions by phone or other electronic methods and/or in person. The screening questions should also be asked of a student's parent if that parent will be dropping off or picking up their student from inside areas where UIL activities are being conducted.
3. Before visitors are allowed access to areas where UIL activities are being conducted, school systems must screen all visitors to determine if they themselves have COVID-19 symptoms (as listed in this document) or are test-confirmed with COVID-19, and if so, they must remain off-campus and away from areas where UIL activities are being conducted until they meet the criteria for re-entry as noted below. Additionally, school systems must screen to determine if visitors have had close contact with an individual who is test-confirmed with COVID-19, and if so they must remain off-campus and away from areas where UIL activities are being conducted until the 14-day incubation period has passed. When practical, screening questions could be supplemented with temperature checks of adults.

4. Schools are permitted to prevent any individual who fails the screening criteria from being admitted into school facilities or sites where UIL activities are being conducted until they meet the criteria for re-entry as described below. Any individual for whom screening cannot be confirmed should be presumed symptomatic until confirmed otherwise.

#### *Individuals Confirmed or Suspected with COVID-19*

- Any individuals who themselves either: (a) are test-confirmed to have COVID-19; or (b) experience the symptoms of COVID-19 (listed below) must stay at home throughout the infection period, and cannot return to campus until the school system screens the individual to determine any of the below conditions for campus re-entry have been met:
  - In the case of an individual who was diagnosed with COVID-19, the individual may return to school when all three of the following criteria are met:
    - at least one day (24 hours) have passed since recovery (resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications);
    - the individual has improvement in symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath); and
    - at least ten days have passed since symptoms first appeared.
- In the case of an individual who has symptoms that could be COVID-19 and who is not evaluated by a medical professional or tested for COVID-19, such individual is assumed to have COVID-19, and the individual may not return to the campus until the individual has completed the same three-step set of criteria listed above.
- If the individual has symptoms that could be COVID-19 and wants to return to school before completing the above stay at home period, the individual must either (a) obtain a medical professional's note clearing the individual for return based on an alternative diagnosis or (b) obtain an acute infection test (at a physician's office, approved testing location, or other site) that is negative for COVID-19.
- In addition to the criteria and processes described above, a student who has been diagnosed with COVID-19 must receive clearance from a physician prior to returning to participation in UIL marching band or athletic activities.

#### *Identifying Possible COVID-19 Cases on Campus*

- Schools must immediately separate any student who shows COVID-19 symptoms while at school until the student can be picked up by a parent or guardian.
- Schools should clean the areas used by the individual who shows COVID-19 symptoms while at school (student, teacher, or staff) as soon as is feasible.
- Students who report feeling feverish should be given an immediate temperature check to determine if they are symptomatic for COVID-19.

#### **Close Contact**

This document refers to "close contact" with an individual who is test-confirmed to have COVID-19. The definition of close contact is evolving with our understanding of COVID-19, and individual scenarios should be determined by an appropriate public health agency. In general, close contact is defined as:

- being directly exposed to infectious secretions (e.g., being coughed on); or
- being within 6 feet for a largely uninterrupted or sustained extended contact period, throughout the course of a day, of approximately 15 minutes; however, additional factors like case/contact masking



(i.e., both the infectious individual and the potential close contact have been consistently and properly masked), ventilation, presence of dividers, and case symptomology may affect this determination. Either (a) or (b) defines close contact if it occurred during the infectious period of the case, defined as two days prior to symptom onset to 10 days after symptom onset. In the case of asymptomatic individuals who are test-confirmed with COVID-19, the infectious period is defined as two days prior to the confirming lab test and continuing for 10 days following the confirming lab test.

*Required Actions if Individuals with Test-confirmed Cases Have Been in a School or in an Area Where UIL Activities Are being Conducted*

1. If an individual who has been in areas where UIL activities have been conducted is test-confirmed to have COVID-19, the school must notify its local health department, in accordance with applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations, including confidentiality requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).
2. Schools must close off areas that are heavily used by the individual with the test-confirmed case (student, teacher, or staff) until the non-porous surfaces in those areas can be disinfected, unless more than 7 days have already passed since that person was on campus.
3. Consistent with school notification requirements for other communicable diseases, and consistent with legal confidentiality requirements, schools must notify all teachers, staff, and families of all students in a school if a test-confirmed COVID-19 case is identified among students, teachers or staff who participate in any UIL activities. If the person who is test-confirmed to have COVID-19 participated in a contest against another school(s), the school must notify other school(s) and sports/contest officials involved in the contest.
4. Upon receipt of information that any teacher, staff member, student, or visitor at a school is test-confirmed to have COVID-19, the school must submit a report to the Texas Department of State Health Services via an online form. The report must be submitted each Monday for the prior seven days (Monday-Sunday).

**COVID-19 Symptoms**

In evaluating whether an individual has symptoms consistent with COVID-19, consider the following question:

Have they recently begun experiencing any of the following in a way that is not normal for them?

- Feeling feverish or a measured temperature greater than or equal to 100.0 degrees Fahrenheit
- Loss of taste or smell
- Cough
- Difficulty breathing
- Shortness of breath
- Fatigue
- Headache
- Chills
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Shaking or exaggerated shivering
- Significant muscle pain or ache
- Diarrhea

- Nausea or vomiting

#### *Screening Questionnaire Information*

1. When asking individuals if they have symptoms for COVID-19, school systems must only require the individual to provide a “Yes” or “No” to the overall statement that they are symptomatic for COVID-19, as opposed to asking the individual for specific symptom confirmation. School systems are not entitled to collect information during screening on the specific health information of an individual beyond that they are symptomatic.
2. Once it is determined that individuals who responded “Yes” to either of these questions have met the criteria for re-entry, school systems must destroy those individuals’ responses.

### **Performance Areas, Band Halls, Locker Rooms and Other Congregate Settings**

1. Schools should make hand sanitizer, disinfecting wipes, soap and water, or similar disinfectant readily available in these areas.
2. All congregate areas should be regularly and frequently cleaned and disinfected including all frequently touched surfaces such as doorknobs, tables, chairs, lockers, and restrooms.
3. Any equipment that will be kept in student lockers and/or in these areas should be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected each day prior to students accessing these areas. Schools should develop a plan for managing the storage, cleaning and disinfecting, and redistribution of student equipment.
4. Schools should consider identifying staff to monitor locker rooms and other areas where students may congregate to ensure effective use of school protocols. When possible, schools should open windows and/or doors or otherwise work to improve airflow by allowing outside air to circulate in these areas.
5. Schools must require staff and students to wear face coverings while inside locker rooms, meeting rooms, training rooms, band halls and other areas where students may congregate other than shower facilities.
6. As part of their overall plan, schools should develop a plan for mitigating risk of spreading COVID-19 when disinfecting, cleaning, and laundering items such as towels, practice clothes, and uniforms. This plan should include protocols for redistributing these items to students. Involved staff should be trained specifically on these protocols.

### **Practice and Rehearsal Activities**

In addition to the above general guidelines and rules in the UIL Constitution and Contest Rules and UIL manuals and handbooks, the following applies to practice activities during the 2020-2021 school year.

1. All surfaces in practice areas should be thoroughly disinfected throughout and at the end of each day.
2. Any equipment should be regularly disinfected before, during, and after practice sessions.
3. Schools may provide food, water or other drinks. If they provide these items, schools should do so in a manner that ensures students are not sharing these items.

### **Game, Contest, and Event Management**

In addition to the above guidelines and rules in the UIL Constitution and Contest Rules and UIL manuals and handbooks, the following applies to games, scrimmages, and events:

## **Teams and Participants**

1. If the school is planning to offer transportation for students, schools should follow [TEA guidance](#) related to such transportation.
2. Teams and participants are required to wear face coverings as described in Executive Order GA-29.
3. The host site should designate a cleaned and disinfected area for teams to unload and load buses separate from fans, spectators, and other individuals not essential to the team or group.
4. Visiting team /group locker rooms should be cleaned and sanitized by the host site before the visiting team arrives. Visiting teams/groups are responsible for cleaning and disinfecting equipment once it is unloaded. Schools should limit access to these facilities to only students and staff essential for the game, contest, or event.
5. Before each game, contest, or event, schools should follow the screening protocols described above to screen all staff members, contractors, volunteers, sports officials, contest judges, and any individuals otherwise involved in working the event. These individuals should also self-screen as described in these screening protocols.
6. Fan and spectator areas including bleachers, stands, walkways, and other spectator areas should be at least six feet from team /group areas such as team benches or performance areas. Where distancing is not feasible, other methods should be utilized to slow the spread of COVID-19, such as face coverings, implementing engineered controls such as physical barriers, or other risk mitigation efforts the school deems appropriate.
7. As previously indicated, water or other drinks and/or food may be provided. Schools or host sites should consider doing so in a manner that ensures students are not sharing these items.
8. Other areas used by participants, such as press box areas, should be cleaned and disinfected prior to and after use. Sites should develop plans for providing access to these areas that limit or remove potential contact between participants and non-participants.
9. The host site should provide sports and contest officials an area to enter and exit separate from fans when possible. Officials should be provided a dressing and meeting area, if applicable, that has been cleaned and disinfected prior to their arrival.
10. Pregame or pre-event meetings between teams and/or sports and contest officials should be planned to allow appropriate distancing between individuals.
11. Pregame and post-game gestures of sportsmanship should be conducted between teams and sports and contest officials in ways planned to help reduce the risk of spread of COVID-19.
12. All participants should be provided with entry and exit plans for contest areas that maintain separation from non-participants and fans. Individuals not essential to the team or group should not be given access to contest areas, performance areas, courts, or fields at all before, during, or after contests and events.

## **Student Groups not directly involved in the game or contest**

Student groups such as marching bands, cheerleaders, drill teams, and other groups approved by the school district may attend and perform at games or contests in which they are not competing. Schools should consider limiting the number of participants to those essential to the performance.

1. These student groups should remain separate from the game or contest participants at all times. These student groups should avoid mixing with fans or non-group members throughout the game or contest.
2. Student groups are required to wear face coverings as described in Executive Order GA-29.

3. Schools should consider limiting the number of students and staff given access to the playing areas and ensure protocols for entering and exiting the playing areas are in place.
4. Fans and spectators should be located to provide at least 10 feet of distance from bands playing wind instruments from the stands.
5. These students should maintain appropriate distancing from game or contest participants at all times, including when on the sideline.

## **Spectators, Audiences, Fans and Media**

Schools may allow spectators to attend games, contests, or events within a maximum 50% capacity limitation, provided that appropriate spacing between spectators is maintained according to the protocol, and according to the following:

1. Schools and/or host sites should post visible signs and/or messaging stating any individuals who are confirmed to have, suspected of having, are experiencing symptoms of, or have been in close contact with an individual who has been confirmed to have COVID-19 should not enter the facility.
2. Spectators, audiences, fans and media are required to wear face coverings as described in Executive Order GA-29.
3. Sites are encouraged to utilize remote ticketing options to help manage capacity limitations within a maximum 50% occupancy. Paper tickets and programming should be minimized to help avoid transferable materials.
4. If possible, set reserved times for entry to avoid mass arrivals.
5. Groups should maintain at least six feet of distance from other groups at all times, including the process of admission and seating. A group is defined as no more than 10 people including the members of the household and those persons who traveled together to the facility.
6. Schools should not allow seating in consecutive rows, and should block off seating to maintain a minimum six feet of distance between groups.
7. Pathways for spectator ingress and egress should be clearly marked and unobstructed.
8. Schools should provide hand sanitizing stations and/or hand washing stations at entrances and inside the facility.
9. Seating, hand rails, and other common surfaces should be cleaned and disinfected prior to each game or contest.
10. Press Box seating should include social distancing of at least six feet between individuals when possible.
11. Schools should limit access to working media providing coverage of the event to ensure protocols are followed.
12. Post-game interviews should be conducted while wearing face coverings and maintaining at least six feet of distance between the interviewer and individual being interviewed.

## **Concession Stands and Food Service**

For games, contests, and events that will include concession stands or other food service, the following guidelines apply:

1. Staff, contractors, and volunteers involved in food service are required to wear face coverings as described in Executive Order GA-29.

2. Sites should avoid leaving condiments, silverware, flatware, glassware, or other traditional tabletop items on unoccupied tables or at the counter. Sites should only provide condiments or flatware upon request, and in single-use, individually wrapped items.
3. Regularly clean and disinfect the food service counters and areas. Clean and disinfect dining areas (tables, etc.) after each patron departs.
4. Limit contact between the individuals involved in food service and patrons as much as possible. Have employees, contractors, and volunteers follow proper food-handling protocols.
5. Before each game, schools should follow the screening protocols described above to screen staff, contractors, and volunteers who will be involved in food service prior to events. These individuals should also self-screen as described in these screening protocols.