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John Hossler, M.D., Health Officer

August 5, 2020

Dr. Jeff Studebaker
Madison Consolidated Schools

The Jefferson County Health Officer has reviewed your plan for Madison Athletic Events. After reviewing your plans to follow along with the Governor's Executive Order 20-36 the Jefferson County Health Officer supports your plan to have such an events. Please note this approval is barring no further executive orders from the Governor that orders such events to not take place.

The Jefferson County Health Department's first priority is to keep our citizens and visitors to our great county safe and healthy. We appreciate your work on this plan.

Thank you,

John Hossler, M.D.
Jefferson County Health Officer

Madison Athletics Event Plan

To Our Fans and Families,

We are very excited to welcome visitors back to our outdoor athletics facilities and Connor K. Salm gymnasium for our fall sports programming throughout the fall for Madison Consolidated High School and Madison Junior High School Athletics.

We appreciate your patience and understanding during these challenging times, and we want you to know that we are doing our very best to provide a safe environment.

Using recommendations from our local/state government, the CDC, and the IHSAA, we are changing some of our approaches and procedures to keep everyone safe. We are committed to the safety and well-being of our athletes, staff, and patrons.

Changes will include but are not limited to:

-MASKS: We are asking that anyone who enters our building wear a mask or face covering. We understand that this isn't possible when eating/drinking concessions at your seat, but when moving throughout the facility, or when you get up to go to the restroom or visit the concession stand, we ask everyone to wear a mask PLEASE! Our staff will all be wearing masks for your safety and theirs.

-SOCIAL DISTANCING: We ask that everyone please maintain a safe social distance when moving throughout the facilities, in the lobby, in line for concessions, and our restrooms. We will have signs at our gymnasium to help with this.

-REDUCED CAPACITY: We will need to temporarily operate at reduced capacity so that we can maintain social distancing guidelines. We have adjusted our Connor K. Salm seating to upstairs only for patrons during our fall season. We are also moving our JH Volleyball matches to Connor K. Salm for the same purpose. We recommend you purchase your ticket with exact money to limit the exchange of money. We are working with an online ticketing agent to provide pre-purchasing so it can be paperless. We are also selling our pre-purchased "All-Sports Passes" so that will limit exchanges and lines at the ticket booth as well.

-HEALTH & SAFETY:

- We will be implementing new cleaning and sanitizing procedures throughout the facility, and we will provide personal protective equipment for our staff.
- There will be hand sanitizer available in the lobby and throughout the facilities.
- Comprehensive disinfecting will also happen throughout your visit and between each event to reduce the risk of COVID-19 and other disease-causing bacteria and viruses.
- All staff/athletes will self assess prior to working/playing.

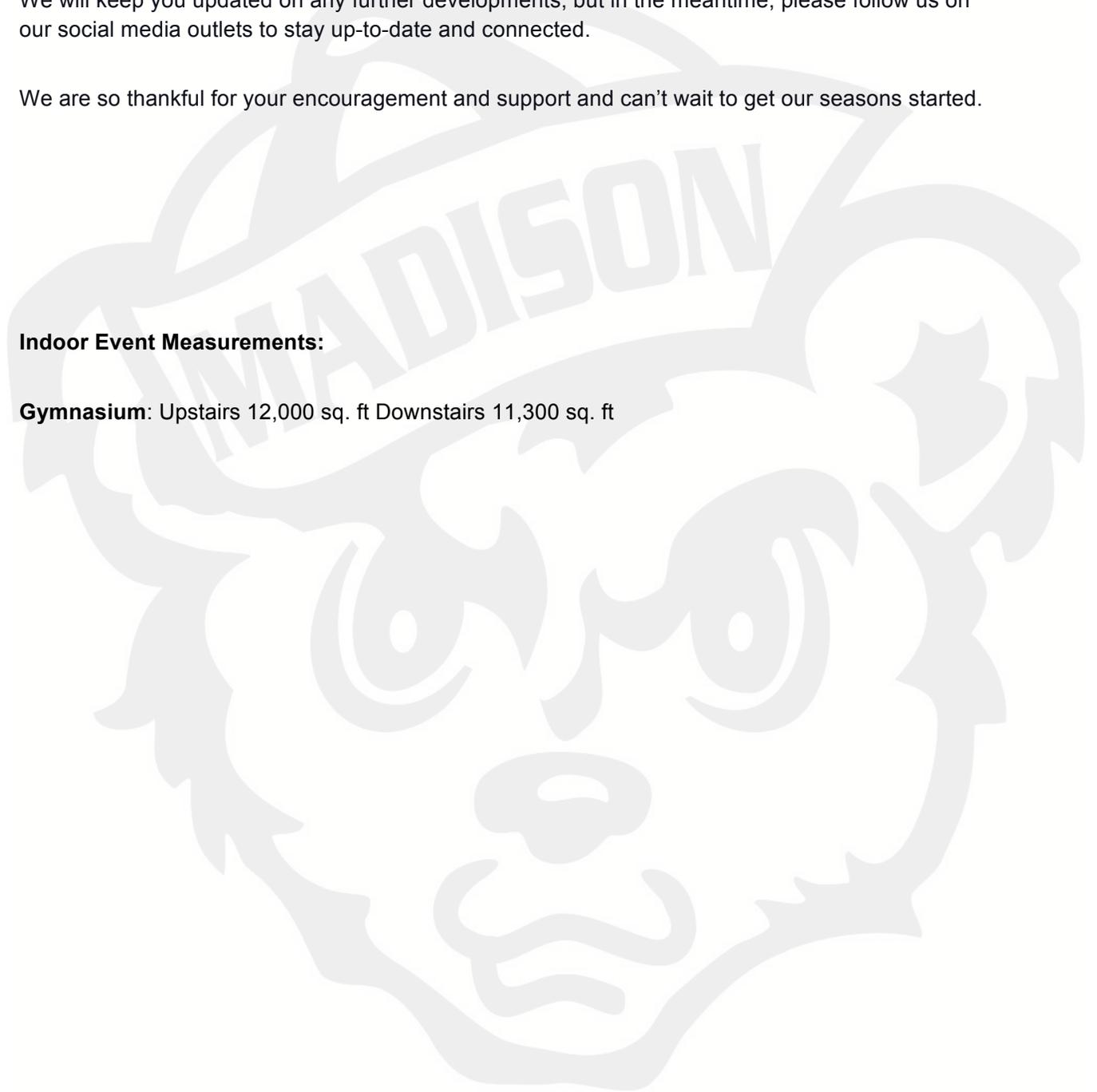
-CONCESSIONS: You can still enjoy your favorite snacks; however, we ask that you only consume your food and beverage in your designated seat in the auditorium. We will only offer bottled drinks, pre-packaged candy, and bagged chips with cheese containers at our school sponsored concession stands. Once you have finished with your food and drink, please cover up with your mask or face covering. We ask that you throw away your empty containers at the end of the event in our trash receptacles.

We will keep you updated on any further developments, but in the meantime, please follow us on our social media outlets to stay up-to-date and connected.

We are so thankful for your encouragement and support and can't wait to get our seasons started.

Indoor Event Measurements:

Gymnasium: Upstairs 12,000 sq. ft Downstairs 11,300 sq. ft



COVID-19 Resource Center

Indiana High School Athletic Association, Inc.



The Indiana High School Athletic Association, with support of its Board of Directors and feedback from its Sports Medicine Advisory Committee, will continue to work in collaboration with Governor Holcomb's office, the Indiana State Department of Health, and the Indiana Department of Education to provide guidance to its member schools during the COVID-19 pandemic.

This Resource Center will continue to be updated with new information as conditions change during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The IHSAA believes it is essential to the physical and mental well-being of student-athletes to return to organized physical activity and build team relationships with their peers and coaches. Students who participate learn life lessons in an environment that cannot be duplicated. Academic achievement, the development of leadership and social skills as well as the mental health benefits are known to be greatly enhanced in students who participate in these programs compared to those who do not. There is no doubt that the COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic has already resulted in thousands of our students missing out on these life-shaping educational experiences over the past several months. A [study conducted by UW Health & the University of Wisconsin](#) concluded that more than two-thirds of high school athletes report anxiety and depression since the onset of the pandemic. Another [report by the group](#) measured the impact of School Closures and Athletic Cancellations on the health of Indiana adolescents.

The IHSAA fully supports its member schools in determining what is in the best interests of the health and well-being of their student-athletes and staff. Each IHSAA member school's athletic department will operate with the approval of its school administration in moving forward throughout the 2020-21 school year. It will be the decision of each local school district to determine if they can safely conduct athletic practices and contests.

Due to the nature of the outbreak, there may be inequities due to geography within the state of Indiana as some areas will have higher COVID-19 rates that may not warrant full athletic participation while another area has lower COVID-19 rates that allow full participation.

For workouts, practices and competitions to continue, social distancing and other preventive measures such as face covering/masking and frequent sanitizing of hands, implements, and equipment are strongly encouraged. This will likely remain in place until a cure, vaccine or very effective treatment is readily available, or so-called "herd immunity" is confidently reached.

As the science about COVID-19 evolves, it will be important to remain vigilant and nimble to respond to new developments. Students and their families, along with school personnel, must recognize these risks and implement best practices to reasonably mitigate these risks. Participation in school activities is voluntary and every individual will need to evaluate the risk versus the benefits of athletics participation. Those immune-compromised students and staff, or those who live with family members with elevated health concerns, should evaluate associated risks of participation and may choose not to participate.

According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the virus that causes COVID-19 is thought to spread mainly from person to person, mainly through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs, sneezes or talks, and also may be produced when yelling, cheering, singing and spitting. These droplets can land in the mouths or noses of people who are nearby or possibly be inhaled into the lungs. Spread is more likely when people are in close contact with one another (within about six feet). Risk mitigation strategies should be aimed at reducing the likelihood of a person being exposed to respiratory droplets coming from another person. Every school is different, and every

athletics activity is different. Certain mitigation strategies may be feasible in one school or for one activity, but not another.

We are also providing sport-specific recommendations and/or considerations that our team has developed in conjunction with the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) or a similar governing body. These documents have been shared with member school administrators and links are available below. Note that a rule modification is a modification to a playing rule from the governing body of the sport and is a requirement to adhere to and follow. A recommendation is a consideration to the sport and allows for optional guidelines. Recommendations are not required but are permitted.

Again, this Resource Center will be updated as necessary.

NFHS Officials Considerations for Returning to Officiating: [Link](#)

Wilson Game Ball Cleaning Recommendations: [Link](#)

IHSAA Sport-Specific Guidelines

- **Golf** specific recommendations and/or considerations: [Download](#)
- **Tennis** specific recommendations and/or considerations: [Download](#)
- **Cross Country** specific recommendations and/or considerations: [Download](#)
- **Soccer** specific recommendations and/or considerations: [Download](#)
- **Volleyball** specific recommendations and/or considerations: [Download](#)
- **Football** specific recommendations and/or considerations: [Download](#)

Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH)

- **COVID-19 Home:** [Link](#)
- **Back-to-School Resources:** [Link](#)

Indiana Department of Education (IDOE)

- **Resources for Indiana Schools:** [Link](#)
- **Re-Entry Guidance (Extra-Curricular Activities in Appendix C):** [Link](#)

National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS)

- **Free online course from NFHSLearn.com:** [COVID-19 for Coaches and Administrators](#)
- **Guidance for opening up High School Athletics and Activities:** [Link](#)
- **Plans to Preserve High School Athletics, Performing Arts Continue Amid Pandemic:** [Link](#)

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

COVID-19 Home: [Link](#)

Q&A

Cancellation Fees

Q1. If a school must cancel a contest due to COVID-19, do they need to pay the contract cancellation fee to the offended school?

A. No, contests canceled due to COVID-19 will not be required to pay a cancellation fee.

Canceled Contests

Q2. If a school must cancel a contest due to COVID-19, does it count as a loss, or simply a no contest?

A. If a contest is canceled due to COVID-19, it should be recorded as "No Contest".

Masks

Q3. During contests, do players not participating have to wear masks?

A. Yes, the governor's mask order dictates this. Anyone who is not engaged in strenuous physical activity should be wearing a mask.

Neck Gaiters

Q4. Can student-athletes wear neck gaiters while participating?

A. Yes, athletes can wear neck gaiters and should slip them up over their nose when they are not participating in the contest and, if they choose to, down around the neck when they enter the contest. Anyone who is not engaged in strenuous physical activity should be wearing a mask.

Concessions

Q5. May schools sell concessions at contests?

A. Yes, but it is at the discretion of the host school. If a school chooses to, it is recommended that all items sold in the concession stand be pre-packaged prior to sale. Pre-packaged can be items purchased like a bag of chips, bottled soft drinks, candy bar etc. These types of items would be considered the safest and easiest to handle. However, pre-packaged can also be items packaged by concession staff, such as a popcorn, hamburgers, hot dogs etc. as long as they are safely handled prior to packaging.

Spectator Seating

Q6. Will spectators be allowed to attend sporting events?

A. Yes, but it will be at the discretion of the host school with guidance from local health officials and in accordance with the [governor's stage 4.5](#). If allowing spectators in a bleacher setting:

- a) Family units may sit together but using 6 feet of social distancing between another family unit.
- b) On a set of bleachers, it should be no more than 50% capacity with a maximum of 250 people (even if the bleachers can fit more with social distancing).
- c) If a stadium has multiple individual sets of bleachers, each separate area can be seen as a separate unit (see item 2 above). However, an important part is each segment must have separate designated entrances and separate designated restroom facilities in order not to exceed a total of 250 people. Schools might be able to accomplish this by having staggered arrival times if multiple entrances are not available. Bottom line is that they must do something to avoid people congregating (to get in or in line for restrooms).
- d) With large events, schools should work with and have approval of the local health department.

Practice Rules

Q7. Will the IHSAA waive its practice rules during the pandemic?

A. IHSAA by-laws 9-14 (Practice Attendance Required to Participate in a Contest) and 50-1/101-1 (Pre-Participation Practice) will remain in effect.