

Winter Athletics



High Risk Winter Sports Planning Discussion

Bari Suman, Director of Health, PE & Athletics

January 25, 2021

MAMARONECK ATHLETICS

Statement on COVID-19

COVID-19 is a highly contagious, infectious disease. The Mamaroneck Athletic Department primary objective is to protect individuals through mitigating exposure.

Governance-Who Makes Decisions?

- Governor and NYSED Commissioner's Regulations
- NYSDOH - New York State Department of Health
- NYSPHSAA- New York State Public High School Athletic Association
- County Health Departments
- Section 1- Westchester, Rockland, Putnam & Dutchess (80+ schools in 4 counties)
- Mamaroneck School District

Resources:

- NYSDOH <https://health.ny.gov>
- Westchester County Health Department
<https://health.westchestergov.com/2019-novel-coronavirus>
- NYSPHSAA <http://www.nysphsaa.org>
- [Return to Interscholastic Athletics NYSPHSAA](#)

High Risk Sports Approval

NYS DOH guidance released on January 22, 2021 states:

“Effective February 1, 2021 participants in higher risk sports and recreation activities may partake in individual or distanced group training and organized no/low-contact group training and, further, may partake in other types of play, including competitions and tournaments, only as permitted by the respective local health authorities (i.e., county health departments).”

Schools can only participate in high-risk sports (contact practice, games, competitions, etc..) **if approval is provided by local health authorities (i.e., Westchester County Department of Health).**

Winter Low, Moderate & High Risk Sports per NYS Governor's Office and DOH

Low/Moderate (underway)

Winter Start Date January 4th

- Boys & Girls Bowling
- Boys & Girls Fencing
- Boys & Girls Skiing
- Boys Swimming & Diving
- Boys & Girls Track & Field (Indoor/Outdoor)

High Risk (TBD)

Winter Start date with approval February 1st

- Boys & Girls Basketball
- Ice Hockey
- Wrestling
- Competitive Cheerleading

Low/Moderate Winter Sports Data

Sport	Approx # of Contests	Location of Games/Meets	# of Athletes Registered	# of Athletes at Competitions	# of Coaches
Skiing	4	Thunder Ridge	38	10 Boys 10 Girls	1 for dryland training +1 supervisor travel
Track	6	MHS/Sound Shore or League Schools	58	20 Boys 20 Girls Opposite Site for Meets	3 +1 for meets
Fencing	4	Lower Westchester	25	3/weapon (2 weapons) per gender Total 12	1
Boys Swim & Dive	8	HMX Pool Meets are Virtual	31	All	2
Bowling	8	Bowlerland Only Section 1 Lower Westchester Schools	14	5 Boys and 5 Girls compete each game-most attend	1 +1 Aide

Fall II & Spring Low, Moderate, & High Risk Sports per NYS Governor's Office and DOH

Low/Moderate

Fall II Start Date March 1st

- Girls Swimming & Diving

Spring Start Date April 19th

- Boys & Girls Track & Field
- Baseball
- Girls Lacrosse
- Golf
- Softball
- Boys Tennis

High Risk

Fall II Start Date March 1st

- Competitive Cheer
- Football
- Volleyball

Spring Start Date April 19th

- Boys Lacrosse

2020-21 Summary of Program Experience

- Low & Moderate Risk Sports were successfully played in the fall
- Low & Moderate Winter Sports (in progress)
- No Regional/State Championships
 - Regionalized sectional championships occurred this fall and are anticipated for winter sports
- Local competition within Westchester County, (primarily lower).
 - Exceptions: Skiing at Thunder Ridge & swim meets
- Fall High Risk Sports moved to Fall II on March 1st
- Winter High Risk Sports require WCDOH approval and tentatively can begin February 1st.
- Spring High Risk Sport (Boys Lacrosse) tentatively begin April 19th

Mandated Protocols for MHS Sports

Travel

- Prohibited outside of the region or contiguous counties
 - Regions (refers to COVID regions)

Spectators/Gathering Limitations

- As per Section 1, indoor spectators at athletic events are prohibited
- As per Section 1, outdoor spectators are limited to 2 per athlete

Screening of Student Athletes

- Athletes must complete the district attestation form prior to all events, including practices and contests
- Athletes must have their temperature checked prior to travel or upon entry into a building

Mandated Protocols for MHS Sports

- Prior to arriving to Mamaroneck facilities, visiting teams, athletes, and personnel must adhere to their districts' screening processes
- Locker room use is not permitted
- Athletes work in small groups or “pods” as much as possible
- Transportation:
 - Athletes and Coaches will socially distance on buses
 - Bus size determines capacity at 50% or <
 - Masks must be worn at all times on buses

Mamaroneck Coaches

Coaches, officials, & trainers are required to wear face coverings

Coaches will:

- Complete the NFHS Course [COVID 19 for Coaches & Administrators](#)
 - The online course presents helpful information and materials to assist coaches to conduct workouts, practices, and contests as safely as possible
- Sanitize and assign equipment to athletes daily
- Provide hand sanitizer during all events
- Complete the district's Covid-19 attestation form prior to attending practices or contests
- Ensure athletes follow social distancing guidelines and district protocols
- Monitor athletes temperature prior to traveling to games

Next Steps

- Regional Superintendent Survey for High Risks Winter Sports
- Westchester County Department of Health final determination to move forward and list of requirements (e.g., testing, protocols, etc..)

Under development:

- School protocols for coaches, student athletes, and parents
- Scheduling
- Facility assignments, practice guidelines/schedules per 2/1 and WCDOH approval
- Cleaning protocols and transportation
- Budget plan
- Registration and pre-season meetings (students, parents, & coaches)