



FVWAL Back to Volleyball and Soccer (COVID Plans and Protocols)

The Fox Valley WELS Athletic League with guidance from the WIAA and the FVL Schools principals has developed plans, procedures, and protocols for a safe and careful return to sports in our schools. The leaders of our league and the principals of our FVL Schools want to keep our schools as healthy as possible, while still giving our students the opportunity to play sports. This season will be like no other season. The main emphasis of the season is to give our students the ability to practice and play volleyball and soccer with their classmates and compete in a few games. In order for our schools to continue to educate our students in-person and maintain a healthy and safe environment for competition, these procedures are created to care for all the individuals involved in these sports programs. Our league schools will share this information with their faculties, coaches, players, and parents so that everyone understands the plan.

Game Rules

- Normal game play rules will be used for both volleyball and soccer matches
- Instead of handshakes at the end of a game, [Suggestion: Separate huddle break recognizing other team]
- Each player will bring their own, filled water bottle. Water will not be available at any of the gyms. Schools are encouraged to supply bottled water for players if needed.
- Volleyball Game balls should be cleaned and ready for the start of each game. The game ball will be switched or sanitized at the end of each set.
- Volleyball warm-ups
 - 3 minutes shared court
 - 4 minutes - visiting team's court (1 minute used for serving)
 - 4 minutes - home team's court (1 minute used for serving)
- Soccer game balls should be cleaned and ready for the start of each game.
- All away teams will need to bring practice balls for their teams warm-ups. The home team will not provide volleyballs for the opposing team's warm-ups.
- Masks
 - Masks will be worn, in the gymnasium for volleyball, by everyone entering the building and will also be worn by all participants on and off the court. This is in line with the mask mandate enacted by Governor Evers. [WI Mask Mandate](#) (January 21, 2021)
 - Soccer - Masks will be worn only on the sidelines by the coaches and players not on the field of play. The 22 players on the field along with the officials will not be required to wear masks.



Quarantining

- If a player on a team tests positive (or shows symptoms), it is up to the school with the student who tested positive to alert the other school that they just currently played. When contacting that school, the AD will let the other AD know the playing time situation (quarters played, amount of time played - if possible) of the student who tested positive. This will then determine if the positive case student would be considered a low-impact close contact or a high-impact close contact. Low-impact close contacts are players who have not been on the court for an excessive amount of time during the game. This means they would not have been within 6 feet of any players for more than 15 minutes of the game. High-impact cases are your starters and 2nd string that have played a considerable amount of time.
- With either a high or low-impact case, this information will assist the school that was played with deciding on how to proceed with quarantining, if necessary. Everything will follow the guidance of the local health department.
- Being proactive in not bringing illness into our schools is essential. Parents, athletes, coaches, and fans are strongly encouraged to stay home if anyone is not feeling well. Every family can help the success of this plan by honestly screening themselves before they leave their homes to come to a game.

Concessions

- No food or beverages will be sold at any games.
- Fans are not allowed to bring any food or beverage items into the gym.

Locker rooms

- Players will come to the gym ready to play. There will not be a place for players to change. Each school will determine if they have a room for teams to meet before each game.

Fans (Volleyball)

- two fans allowed, per player (If you play in one of the games that evening you are not considered a fan)(Someone at door will check off fans next to number on roster sheet or track the fans in some way)
 - Options for checking off fans:
 - 1 -Have a roster sheet available, ask what number or player the fans are here for and place checkmarks next to that player.
 - 2 -Have stickers made for each player and place the stickers on the fans for that player.
 - [Whatever works best for your school]



- Fans must stay in their seat in the bleachers unless they need to use the bathroom. Any children need to stay with their parents. They will not be allowed to freely roam in any league gym.
- Clear the gym after each game. Bleachers will be sanitized after each game
- If possible, have exiting parents leave through different door
- Fans will be masked, no exceptions. You will be asked to leave or put a mask on. All coaches, scorekeeping personnel, and players on the court and on the bench will also be wearing masks, no exceptions. Schools will have masks that they can provide.
- All fans, players, and official personnel must understand that you are entering our gyms at your own risk. Our league and schools are doing the best we can to mitigate the risks of infection, but we cannot make any guarantees.

Fans (Soccer)

- Fans are limited to family only. These family units will be required to socially distance themselves from the other fans at the game. Due to the fans sitting as family units, masks are not required to be worn by fans.

Scheduling

- Volleyball - Practices may start March 1
- Games played during these weeks, actual day to be determined by schools playing each other that week:
 - March 22-26
 - March 29-31
 - April 6-9
 - April 12-16
 - Flex game - played at some point during the previous four weeks
 - Final Game - **A-team ONLY** (1v.2)(3v.4)(5v.6) at FVL on Friday, April 16.
- Soccer - Practices may start April 6
- Games played during these weeks, actual day to be determined by schools playing each other that week:
 - April 19-23
 - April 26-30
 - May 3-7
 - May 10-14
 - May 10-14 or 17-21

***This plan for a safe and healthy return to sports was approved by all the Fox Valley WELS athletic directors and the FVL Schools principals.**

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