

The Wisconsin All-American Youth Football League (AAYFL), in conjunction with the Wisconsin Youth Football Alliance, believes that a return to football in the fall can occur safely and with a minimum amount of disruption. However, it is fully understood that circumstances may change at a moment's notice, thus rendering changes in any and/or all aspects of operation for the 2020 season. As such, the AAYFL is committed to ensuring that all of our student-athletes, coaches, families and officials are able to enjoy the great game of football while abiding by procedures and guidance set by a variety of medical outlets, both locally and nationally.

The AAYFL shall follow all of the safety guidelines that are presented by the Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association (WIAA), except where written. In all cases below, the AAYFL has increased the measures of safe practices, further strengthening the WIAA's policies and also keeping in mind the differences between High School and Youth participants, and the additional challenges the Youth game presents. **REMINDER THAT LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENTS WILL SUPERCEDE ANY PLAN THAT WE HAVE WRITTEN!**

*If your High School is not fielding a team for the 2020 season, or if they plan on postponing their 2020 season to Spring 2021, you **must** secure approval from your High School/School District Administration to play/practice on their property and/or field any team(s). That written approval must be submitted to the AAYFL Executive Board prior to commencing any and all activities.

Important Dates

Equipment Handout: Anytime after insurance for 2020-21 has begun. Helpful tips/safety protocols to come.

Practices

The first date of allowable practice will be Tuesday, September 8. During that week AND the following week, all acclimatization/contact regulations shall be followed. Teams are allowed to practice a maximum of 2 hours per day, with a 4-day maximum. Starting the week of September 21, teams will be limited to a maximum of 6 hours per week, with a 4-day maximum.

It is **STRONGLY RECOMMENDED** that teams spend a considerable amount of time during the acclimatization time period dedicated to new, safe practices that are implemented via the COVID-19 Plan. Communication with District and School Administration, as well as daily check-ins with their local Health Department is essential to success.

First Day of Practice: Tuesday, September 8

Week 1 (9/8): 4 days maximum, 2 hours per day maximum

Week 2 (9/14): 4 days maximum, 2 hours per day maximum

Week 3 (9/21) and beyond: 4 days maximum, 6 hours per week maximum (so 4-90s or 3-120s)

Game Schedule

Per WIAA regulations, teams must practice a minimum of 9 days in order to participate in a scrimmage and a minimum of 14 days prior to competition. Schedules should be fluid and publicly released on a weekly basis to ensure up to date information in each locality.

As always, this can change at a moment's notice due to school districts and/or local health guidelines. Protocols on game play will be forthcoming and added to this document when available.

First Date of Competition: Saturday, October 3 (or after practice #14, whichever comes first)

Amount of games: 5 games (*current postseason model not in use; possible positional playoff*)

Schedule Release: Weekly public release according to who is allowed to host that week.

Organizations will have a draft schedule to keep internally and only release when authorized.

Organizations are encouraged to attempt to reserve their facilities for each week and then cancel as necessary.

Opponents: We will be utilizing a "locality" scheduling model. Teams will not be traveling too far from their homes as per Health Department recommendations. We will keep teams in their counties as much as possible, regardless of program size.

Editorial Changes from WIAA Plan:

In the WIAA plan under *Pre-Workout/Pre-Contest Screening*, the first bullet has the word "should." That will be replaced with "shall."

In the WIAA plan under *Player Licking*, all references to "QB" will be changed to "player."

Miscellaneous notes:

Participants - Participants include all players, coaches, volunteers and other essential personnel that actively participate in the activity.

Risk Levels - All risk levels will be set by each individual County or municipality.

Essential personnel - Essential Personnel are noted on the document, and it is outlined what they can and cannot do. Added to non-essential personnel are High School Head Coaches (who are not serving as the District Representative on-site) and coaches who have a child playing on a different team than they coach (e.g. an A-team coach that has a child who plays on the C-team).

Concessions - Concessions stands are permitted for use. Utilizing a business to cater in your food is the best method, as they will have strict standards to follow. However, if that is not feasible, you must adhere to the following safety standards:

1. Anyone working must adhere to the same protocol and procedures as players and coaches (check in with COVID Representative and answer questionnaire prior to admittance to the work station).
2. All workers in the stand must wear masks and dispose of gloves after handling food.
3. Hand sanitizer shall be available to all, including customers.
4. All condiments must be prepackaged and shall only be handled by concessions workers (no self-service allowed).
5. Dedicated money handler is required. Use of a Square or other method of contactless payment is highly encouraged.

Additional Policies and Procedures:

In addition to the policies and procedures put forth in the WIAA plan, we shall enact the following policies and procedures.

1. Each **TEAM** shall have **from 2-4** COVID Representative(s) assigned for the entire season. These Representatives will be rostered and shall go through a background check however, does not need to be an active coach. Representatives shall be responsible for adherence to all COVID "Coach" duties outlined in the WIAA policy, plus the following:
 - a. Organizations should not check individuals for temperatures unless their School District and/or Facility Management requires it for usage. **At no time should anyone record temperatures as that is a violation of HIPAA/FERPA policy!** COVID Representatives shall ensure that all participants/volunteers are symptom-free before they enter the practice/competition/work area via a questionnaire. Questionnaires will be standard throughout the League and published as such and can be found [HERE](#).
 - b. Anyone showing signs/symptoms of COVID-19 shall be informed that they must return home and contact their local Health Department for further instruction. The notification protocol listed below shall then be followed.
 - c. All practices shall be closed to all parents and onlookers, unless they are approved by the AAYFL Executive Board and the Member Organization.
 - d. COVID Representatives should assist Organizations in setting up a check-in system for all, including those who do not come via automobile (bike, walk, etc.). Procedures should be documented and posted for guidelines on checking in.
 - d.i. System should include some of the following parameters: Easy traffic flow for drop-off/pick-up, tables/areas for individuals to check-in via separate teams that participants can socially distance while waiting, et al.
 - e. All non-rostered coaches and volunteers must check-in using the same procedure.

2. Use of masks is permitted, provided the following provisions are met:
 - a. Any rostered member of a team, including essential, non-essential and medical professionals, who wishes to wear a mask may do so. The mask may only be a single-solid color, "camo-pattern," have the team/city name on or have a team logo. Any logo and/or writing on the mask must be affixed by the manufacturer and shall not have any saying or depiction that is outside of these parameters.
 - b. If the mask does not comply with this policy, the offender must leave the field (player) and/or playing vicinity (adult) until it is rectified. It is recommended that organizations expand this policy to all personnel that represent the organization in public settings.
3. Players should provide their own water and hand sanitizer when possible. Teams/organizations should invest in large quantities/jugs of sanitizer for cleaning field equipment, such as dummies and balls, between groups/session periods, or for multiple player use in some cases.
4. Mouthguards - Mouthguards must be secured to helmet and should be washed/rinsed at home after each use.
5. Players should be highly encouraged to launder all practice apparel and shower immediately upon returning home.
6. Since a majority of players will likely not be at the desired fitness level right away, coaches are encouraged to gradually work on getting players into a safe fitness condition for play.

In the event of a positive test for COVID-19, the following actions shall be taken with due speed*:

1. Sick individuals shall not attend the sports activity.
2. The Organization shall close off all areas used by a sick person within the last 24 hours.
 - a. Areas should not be used until after cleaning and disinfecting them.
 - b. For outdoor areas, this includes surfaces or shared objects in the area, if applicable.

Notification Process*

1. Participants/volunteers are required to notify the assigned COVID Representative if:
 - a. They, or someone in their household, becomes sick with COVID-19 symptoms;
 - b. A positive COVID-19 test is confirmed in their household, or;
 - c. They, or someone in their household, has been exposed to someone suspected or confirmed to have COVID-19.
2. Notification shall be made to the assigned COVID Representative. The Representative shall then notify their Organization Contact who will notify local health officials, team members and the AAYFL.
3. The AAYFL will immediately contact the following entities:
 - a. The most recent team that shared the field with the exposed team, if applicable.
 - b. Game officials, if applicable.

- c. Once that occurs, the remainder of the League will be notified. The individual(s) who have tested positive will remain confidential as per HIPAA and Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) Policies.
4. Any individual who has had [close contact](#) with the individual diagnosed with COVID-19 shall stay home and [self-monitor for symptoms](#), following [CDC guidance](#) if symptoms develop.
 - a. More detailed guidance will be given by local health officials.
5. Individuals that have tested positive or are symptomatic may NOT return until they have met the CDC's and local health department's [criteria to discontinue home isolation](#).
 - a. Free of fever (less than 100.4°F) AND respiratory symptoms (for example, cough, shortness of breath) for at least three days (72 hours) without the use of fever-reducing medicine;
 - b. Ten days have passed since symptoms first appeared; and,
 - c. The individual(s) must have written and signed approval from their local health department to return to participation. Information must be submitted to the organization for record-keeping purposes.

* Excerpts taken from "Considerations for Youth Sports."

(<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/youth-sports.html>).

Accessed June 30, 2020