



IDENTIFICATION OF CLOSE CONTACTS FOR STUDENTS INVOLVED WITH ATHLETICS

The National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) classifies the winter sports of basketball, ice hockey, wrestling, dance, and competitive cheer as high to moderate risk for transmission of COVID-19 because of the close physical contact that occurs between athletes, as well the fact that these sports are played indoors.

In order to support safe athletic activity for student athletes and coaching staff, adherence to recommendations from the following resources is strongly encouraged:

MT Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics

<https://cdn4.sportngin.com/attachments/document/ca7d-2313628/wintersports11.5.pdf>

Montana High School Association

<https://www.mhsa.org/coronavirus>

GUIDELINE FOR IDENTIFICATION OF CLOSE CONTACTS ON SPORTS TEAMS

If the sports activity is conducive to organization of the team into smaller “pod” groups that can be maintained throughout the entire practice or competition, including during team meetings and use of locker rooms:

- If each “pod” group does not interact with other “pod” groups whatsoever, then only the “pod” members who were exposed to the person who has tested positive for COVID-19 during their infectious time period must be required to quarantine.

If the sports activity involves frequent interaction where athletes are closer than 6 feet to each other during team activities, practice drills, and scrimmages:

- All team members who were present during team activity involving the person who has tested positive for COVID-19 during their infectious time period must be required to quarantine.

If a player from an opposing team participated in a competitive event during their infectious time period and BPS is made aware of the exposure:

- All individual athletes who directly competed against the positive individual or for team sports, individuals who were on the floor during game time with the positive individual must be quarantined.

If the BPS athlete was involved with a competition during their infectious time period:

- The opposing team school/district must be notified of the date the exposure occurred.

LENGTH OF QUARANTINE:

- The infectious time period for a person who has tested positive begins 48 hours prior to the onset of symptoms or if they were asymptomatic, then 48 hours prior to their test date. The start date for an athlete’s quarantine as a close contact begins with day 0 being the last day they had contact with the person who has tested positive during their infectious time period and day 1 being the following day.
- **Length of quarantine for close-contact athletes:** Students may attend practice on day 11 if they remain asymptomatic for a full 10 day quarantine period but they must wear a mask at all times and maintain a 6 foot distance from others to the greatest extent possible. The athlete may NOT participate until completion of the full 14 day quarantine period (may return to full activity on day 15 if they remained asymptomatic).