



updated 1/05/2022

CYO Basketball Guidelines & Protocols COVID-19

The guidelines and protocols found below, have been established to help the CYO parish programs and their community return to the court so long as we can do it safely. There is an inherent risk in all activities amidst the COVID-19 Pandemic, but we can manage these risks and have a systematic and clear way to safely operate our CYO programs this year. Participation in CYO sports is voluntary. Players and/or programs may opt out of any or all sports as they choose; particularly if they believe the guidance from NYS, the region and/or the local County/Borough Health Departments cannot be fully met. As the pandemic conditions and New York State guidelines change, we will update and revise our procedures to provide the safest environment possible for our children, families, coaches and officials.

The following guidelines are to provide a range of strategies and best practices learned from the data obtained during the pandemic ensure parish programs electing to participate in CYO activities (practices, in-house intramural, clinics and/or competition) are meeting the standards of safety for everyone involved as well as meet our new public health obligation:

Guidelines & Protocols

- 1) Vaccinations are at the discretion of each athlete and parent. Athletes that are fully vaccinated can refrain from quarantine following a known exposure if they are asymptomatic and must test 3-5 days after exposure.
- 2) Covid-19 Screening testing for student-athletes who are not fully vaccinated will help facilitate safe participation and reduce the risk of transmission. For areas of high spread which is all areas in the Archdiocese presently, the CDC and the NYS Health Department recommends weekly testing for all athletes, screening testing for participants is at the discretion of the parents.
- 3) **Update 12/22:** NYC parish programs (Bronx, Manhattan, Staten Island) staff & volunteers must be in compliance with NYC vaccine mandate.
- 4) Anyone experiencing or exhibiting [symptoms](#) of COVID-19 should stay home and must receive a PCR test and will not be permitted to participate in practice or game activities without a negative test or alternative diagnoses from a medical professional with a negative PCR COVID test.
- 5) Coaches, players, parents, officials and spectators must self-monitor for [symptoms](#) and take their own temperatures on the day of practice and competition. A parent or guardian is responsible for completing the daily screening and temperature check on behalf of their child(ren).
- 6) Parish programs should administer a pre-screening questionnaire form to participants, families,



volunteers and staff in paper form or electronically on days of practice and competition. See attached.

- 7) Social Distancing is defined by the CDC recommendation that schools maintain at least 6 feet of physical distance between students and adults indoors combined with mask-wearing.
- 8) Universal masking will apply to all those that enter the facility at all times including coaches, staff and spectators. All athletes **must** wear masks during competition as per NY State Mandate [10 NYCRR 2.60](#).
- 9) Make sure to emphasize to all participants the importance of washing hands or using hand sanitizer before, during, and after competitions.
- 10) Programs must ensure properly sanitized facilities and have hand sanitizer and disposable masks readily available for practices and contests.
- 11) Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces and equipment including balls. This is the responsibility of the host program, and the process should be outlined in plan submitted to CYO. Review NYS guidelines here: [NYS Department of Health guidelines](#).
- 12) If a parish CYO program shares gym space with a school and that space is being used for classroom space, priority must remain with the education needs
- 13) CYO recommends to put in place practices for 6 feet social distancing in all areas, such as locker rooms, restrooms, and break rooms, and ensure mask usage.
- 14) Have a hydration plan and the ability to provide water to student-athletes and coaches in a safe manner. Athletes are required to, (both home/visitors) bring their own water bottles.
- 15) Practice / competition site – Only essential personnel should be permitted on the practice/competition site as authorized. These are defined as athletes, coaches, medical personnel/athletic trainers, and officials. In addition to these, the 2 parents of each child may attend.
- 16) Personal Items – It is required that each athlete bring their own bag for personal items. All personal items should remain in the bag when not in use.
- 17) Coaches are responsible for compliance with these protocols at each game amongst themselves, assistant coaches, players and guardians/parents. In consultation with the parish coordinator and CYO administration, any team not in compliance are subject to forfeit and removal from league play.



- 18) Carpooling is discouraged and participants should arrive to practice/games with their family members/household units.
- 19) It is the responsibility of each parish to ensure that the gyms, bathrooms and high contact surfaces are properly cleaned at the end of the day at games and practices. Windows should be opened as frequently as possible for practices and games, weather permitting, to allow for maximum ventilation.
- 20) At the conclusion of each contest, teams will not shake hands. Coaches will not be permitted to speak to their teams inside the gym/court area. The priority will be to reunite players with a parent and immediately exit the facility. Parent/guardian must immediately move to meet their child and leave the gym/court premises.
- 21) Spectators/coaches/players arriving for the next scheduled game will not be permitted to enter the gym/court area while the earlier game is still in progress. Individuals waiting for the next game will be permitted in playing area once previous participants have left and the facility and court is reopened for the next game.
- 22) Any individual quarantining due to school or health department enforcement due to close contact or who has tested positive outside of CYO participation will not be permitted to participate in practice or game activities.

ASSIGNMENT OF RESPONSIBILITY AND COORDINATION OF EFFORTS:

Each parish must develop a plan that is specific to the building(s) it uses. Sample template attached and can be emailed to seth.peloso@archny.org for review. For parish programs that share their gym with a catholic school, the plan must be conducted in consultation with the school principal and mutually agreed and signed.

This includes identifying the responsible party or parties for developing, implementing, and enforcing the plan, IF it will be someone other than the Parish Coordinator for the particular sport. In consultation with the Parish Coordinator and/or parish CYO sports board, the plan needs to be communicated to the Pastor for approval and submitted to the CYO office.

CONFIRMED CASES & RETURN TO SCHOOL AND COMPETITION:

When there is a confirmed case for a player, coach, official, or spectator, the Parish CYO Coordinator must immediately follow and implement the CYO Trace Policy. If a student tests positive they must quarantine for 10 days from symptom onset or positive test if asymptomatic- and be fever free and mitigation of symptoms. They must also have a doctor's note clearing them to return to school and resume all activities including athletic programs.



If a student exhibits any symptoms they are required to quarantine until they receive a negative PCR test- they are unable to attend school or activities until cleared with a negative test or a written alternative diagnosis from a medical doctor.

CYO TRACE POLICY – PROCEDURES FOR CASES OF COVID-19

Prior to the start of any practice/game play, team rosters with parent/guardian contact information must be received by the CYO office one week prior to play. Any roster that is not submitted, incomplete or missing information, will be returned and any/all games will be cancelled until received.

The following policy has been developed to ensure the health and well-being of all the CYO community:

Parents/guardians are responsible to monitor the health of their child, including a temperature check and observation for symptoms prior to arriving at the facility of play. All CYO staff, coaches, volunteers, officials and attendees will complete a screening questionnaire prior to each event. A sample questionnaire is available on our website.

In the event a player or parent, guardian, coach, volunteer develops symptoms or tests positive for COVID-19 within 72 hours following participation in a game, practice, or any CYO team activity, the parent/guardian MUST report this positive result to both the coach and the catholic or public school principal. A copy of the positive test must be provided to the coach and school principal. The coach will inform the Parish Coordinator, who will advise the CYO office via the County Director/Basketball Commissioners.

The following will then be notified of the positive case:

The principal of each school that the participating children attend.

The pastor of both parishes of the teams that played;

The parish coordinator and the coach of the opposing team;

The parents/guardians of all players on BOTH teams;

The game officials & assignor of officials;

The COVID positive individual, and all close contacts on the team, will need to comply with CDC and NYS and County Health Guidance. They cannot return to play or practice until cleared of and procedures and cannot return to play until cleared of any quarantine that is imposed.

All notifications will be coordinated by the CYO Central Office and if applicable by the COVID Response Team of the Superintendent of Schools. Pastors, Parish and CYO Staff, Parish



Coordinators, Coaches, Volunteers and Principals will be required to assist with the information gathering so appropriate notifications can be made to health officials and families in a timely way.

The COVID positive individual, and all close contacts on the team, who are students of a Diocesan Catholic School, will need to follow all protocols and procedures of the CDC, NYS and County Health officials in coordination with the Office of the Superintendent-COVID Task Force. They cannot return to play or practice until cleared of any quarantine that is imposed and for individuals have a note of medical clearance clearing them to return to normal activities including athletics.

If the COVID positive player, or any close contacts on the team, are students of a public school or a private or other school, they will need to follow any additional protocols and procedures, over and above those required by the Office of the Superintendent-COVID Task Force, that may be required by their school, and cannot return to play until cleared of any quarantine that is imposed and for individuals have a note of medical clearance clearing them to return to normal activities including

In accordance with HIPAA law, at no time should the identity of an individual who is COVID-19 positive be revealed.

Guiding Resources

- NYSDOH guidance ([Interim COVID-19 Guidance for Sports and Recreation](#))
- CDC, Considerations for youth sports: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>
- NYSPHSAA Return to Interscholastic Athletics: <http://nysphsaa.org/COVID-19-Info>
- New York Forward: <https://forward.ny.gov/>
- NYSDOH facility ([Guidance for Cleaning and Disinfection of Public and Private Facilities for COVID-19](#))

All information in the above is based on current and anticipated conditions and is subject to change depending on governmental guidance/mandates.

This document is for informational purposes only and is not intended to replace, change or supplement any of the state issued guidance. Participants should always follow and refer to the state issued Interim COVID-19 Guidance for Sports and Recreation (August 15, 2020) and the Interim COVID-19 Guidance for Schools (August 26, 2020) as well as federal, state and local health guidance for any specific questions.



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