

# IESA RETURN-TO-PLAY



## BASKETBALL

This document is intended to provide guidance for schools for the 2020-21 Basketball season. This is not an exhaustive list and school officials may take additional measures based on requirements set forth by their school district and/or local health officials. Please understand that even with this guidance, there is still risk of transmitting illness at events such as basketball games. Additionally, with the changing nature of the circumstances surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic, these guidelines may change.

Additional information may be found at:

[https://www.iesa.org/documents/health/WinterAllSports\\_RestoreIllinois.pdf](https://www.iesa.org/documents/health/WinterAllSports_RestoreIllinois.pdf)

IESA Terms and Conditions: [https://www.iesa.org/documents/terms/IESA-Terms\\_BK.pdf](https://www.iesa.org/documents/terms/IESA-Terms_BK.pdf)

Season Dates- Boys	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Practice May Start: January 4</li> <li>▪ Withdrawal Date: January 8</li> <li>▪ 7<sup>th</sup> Regionals: None</li> <li>▪ 7<sup>th</sup> Sectional: None</li> <li>▪ 8<sup>th</sup> Regional: None</li> <li>▪ 8<sup>th</sup> Sectional: None</li> <li>▪ Season Must End: March 12</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Regular season games should be limited to:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Teams at Play Level 3 may play against an opponent from a different EMS region as long as that opponent is in their conference.</li> <li>2. Teams at Play Level 3 may play against non-conference opponents, including opponents from other EMS regions, if the opponent is located within a 30-mile radius and also plays at Level 3 or 4.</li> <li>3. All contests must be conducted with opponents at a mitigation level that allows contests to be played.</li> </ol> </li> </ul>
Season Dates- Girls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Practice May Start: March 8</li> <li>▪ Withdrawal Date: February 19</li> <li>▪ Contests May Start: March 20</li> <li>▪ Season Must End: May 9</li> </ul>	

Eligibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Students must be meeting all eligibility requirements (grades, age, residency, etc.)</li> <li>▪ Students must have a current physical on file prior to practice.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ E-learning students may be eligible provided the local district allows their participation.</li> <li>▪ Athletes must participate in seven practices prior to participating in competition.</li> </ul>
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Team Limitations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Schools limited to a maximum of 15 contests for the season.</li> </ul>	
State Series	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ There will be no state series for basketball.</li> </ul>	

Spectators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Spectator and group gatherings subject to IDPH guidelines in place at the time.</li> <li>▪ Contest hosts should work with their local health departments to consider whether spectators will be allowed or not.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ If fans will be allowed to attend any game, they should be seated opposite the bench area at least 12' from the playing floor. If fans are allowed but, because of the layout of the facility, cannot be seated opposite the bench area, they shall be at least 12' away from the bench area.</li> </ul>

Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ If an Illinois COVID Region or County is placed in mitigations, all sports for schools in that Region or County will be subject to the mitigation restrictions in place.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ All equipment should be sanitized prior to the contest.</li> <li>▪ Contest host should sanitize the scoring/reporting table prior to the game and at half time. Sanitizer should be provided by the host team at the scorer's table.</li> </ul>

Face Coverings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ ATHLETES: Face coverings are required. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Players should bring multiple masks to replace sweat soaked masks through games and practices.</li> <li>○ Players not in the game must wear a mask and be socially distant in the bench area.</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ COACHES: Face coverings must be worn at all times.</li> <li>▪ SPECTATORS: Face coverings must be worn.</li> <li>▪ GAME PERSONNEL: Table personnel and officials are required to wear face coverings.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ It is recommended that programs require physicians notes for individuals who have a medical contraindication to wearing a face covering. Face coverings must fully cover the mouth and nose, and that the must fit snugly against the sides of the face with no gaps. Reusable face coverings should be machine washed or washed by hand and allowed to dry completely after each use.</li> <li>▪ Face coverings may also be removed while eating or drinking but must be immediately replaced.</li> </ul>

Officials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Officials are <b>REQUIRED</b> to use regular whistles (with a cover) or electronic whistles.</li> <li>▪ Officials are <b>REQUIRED</b> to wear face coverings at all times.</li> <li>▪ Officials are allowed to wear gloves and long sleeves. Officials who choose to wear gloves must wear clear or black gloves. If officials wear long sleeves under a short-sleeved official's shirt, the long sleeves must be black.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Officials should maintain social distancing of six feet while in the locker room and/or on the court.</li> <li>▪ Maintain social distancing while performing all pregame responsibilities.</li> <li>▪ Officials should not share uniforms, towels, apparel, and equipment.</li> <li>▪ Officials should bring their own water bottles and/or sports drinks.</li> <li>▪ Upon arrival at the contest site and throughout the contest, officials should wash and sanitize their hands frequently.</li> </ul>
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Equipment- Basketballs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Prior to a contest, it is recommended that two (2) game balls should be sanitized according to instructions from the ball manufacturer, set aside, and placed on top of the scorer's table. The game balls must not be used for warm-ups.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The host school should switch balls during full time-outs and between quarters and sanitize the ball taken out of play. If only one ball is available, the ball should be sanitized between quarters and during full time-outs.</li> </ul>
Equipment- Scorer's Table	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Limit seats at the table to essential personnel which includes home team scorer and timer with a recommended distance of 6 feet or greater between individuals. Other personnel that can be distanced at least 6' apart (visiting scorer, statisticians, media, etc.) may be allowed at the officials table. However, these other personnel are not considered essential personnel, and an alternate location for them should be considered if spacing guidelines cannot be met at the official's table.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The host should sanitize the table before the game and at half time.</li> <li>▪ Sanitizer should be provided by the host team at the table.</li> </ul>
Equipment- Team Benches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ If possible, place team benches opposite the spectator seating.</li> <li>▪ Additional chairs or rows may be added to allow bench personnel to observe social distancing of 6 feet or greater between bench personnel (coaches and players).</li> <li>▪ This may require benches to extend into the bleachers. Benches may extend beyond the baseline if space allows.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Encourage substitutes to maintain social distancing from other substitutes after checking in with the official scorer.</li> <li>▪ Consider limiting the number of bench personnel to observe social distancing of 6 feet or greater.</li> </ul>

<p>Rule Modifications</p>	<p><b>Timeouts:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ During full time outs, players and coaches should maintain social distance.</li> <li>▪ During 30 second time outs, only those players in the game and coaches may stand and be involved in the huddle while maintaining social distance. (NOTE: a manager distributing water bottles may also stand to fulfill his/her role. He/she must maintain social distance during this time.).</li> <li>▪ Due to players wearing masks during contests, a media time-out will be taken each quarter at the first dead ball after the 3-minute mark to give players an opportunity to catch their breath. This should be treated like a 90 second media timeout with the first warning at 75 seconds.</li> </ul> <p><b>Jump Ball</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Eliminate the jump ball and award the ball to the visiting team for the first possession of the game. The alternating possession arrow will then be set after the initial throw-in.</li> <li>▪ To start an overtime period or for a game being played on a neutral site, use a coin toss to determine which team is awarded the ball to start the game (neutral site contest) or overtime. For overtime contests, the referee shall have the head coaches come to the center circle and allow the visiting team coach to make the call on the flip. On the flip, the referee shall indicate both sides of the coin before flipping, ask for the visiting team's choice before flipping, and catch the coin in the air and open the palm of the hand which caught the coin to display which side is shown. If the coach calling the flip is correct, his/her team shall begin the game/overtime period with the basketball. If the coach calling the flip is incorrect, the opposing team will begin the game/overtime period with the ball.</li> <li>▪ The throw-in to being a game or overtime period shall be made at the division line opposite the scorer's table.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Pre-game:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Limit attendees to the referee and the head coach from each team with each coach standing on the center circle on each side of the division line.</li> <li>▪ All individuals maintain a social distance of 6 feet or greater at the center circle.</li> <li>▪ Officials and coaches should not shake hands or bump fists prior to or following the pregame conference.</li> <li>▪ Officials should demonstrate their electronic whistle sounds to coaches since the tones from different whistles might vary.</li> </ul> <p><b>Throw-in:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Official may stand 6 feet or greater away from player making the throw-in and bounce the ball to that player on any throw-in.</li> </ul> <p><b>Free Throw Administration:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The lead official shall stand on the end line and bounce the ball to the player making the try.</li> </ul>