

IESA RETURN-TO-PLAY



VOLLEYBALL

This document is intended to provide guidance for schools for the 2020-21 Volleyball 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 volleyball 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

IESA Terms and Conditions: https://www.iesa.org/documents/terms/IESA-Terms_GVB.pdf

<p>Season Dates</p> <p><u>State series is currently tentative.</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Practice May Start: January 11 ▪ Withdrawal Date: January 8 ▪ Contests May Start: TBD ▪ 7th Regionals: March 6, 8-11 ▪ 7th Sectional: March 17 ▪ 8th Regional: March 12, 13, 15, 16 ▪ 8th Sectional: March 18 ▪ Season Must End: March 19 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Regular season meets should be limited to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 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. 3. All contests must be conducted with opponents at a mitigation level that allows contests to be played.
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<p>Eligibility</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Students must be meeting all eligibility requirements (grades, age, residency, etc.) ▪ Students must have a current physical on file prior to practice. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ E-learning students may be eligible provided the local district allows their participation. ▪ Athletes must participate in seven practices prior to participating in competition.
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Team Limitations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Schools limited to a maximum of 15 contests for the season. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Schools must meet the 3-contest minimum to be eligible for the state series. TENTATIVE
State Series	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Only Regional and Sectional play will be conducted. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Regional and Sectional Champions will be able to order a championship plaque from the IESA Office. ▪ For state series play, the cost of the officials will be split by each team competing in a contest.
Spectators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Spectator and group gatherings subject to IDPH guidelines in place at the time. ▪ Contest hosts should work with their local health departments to consider whether spectators will be allowed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 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.

Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 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. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ All equipment should be sanitized prior to the contest. ▪ Contest host should sanitize the scoring/reporting table prior to the game and between sets. Sanitizer should be provided by the host team at the scorer's table
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Face Coverings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ ATHLETES: Face coverings must be worn at all times. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Players should bring multiple masks to replace sweat soaked masks. ▪ COACHES: Face coverings must be worn at all times. ▪ SPECTATORS: Face coverings must be worn. ▪ GAME PERSONNEL: Table personnel and officials are required to wear face coverings. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 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 they 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. ▪ Face coverings may also be removed while eating or drinking but must be immediately replaced.
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Officials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Officials are REQUIRED to wear face coverings. ▪ Officials are REQUIRED to use regular whistles (with a cover) or electronic whistles. ▪ Officials are allowed to wear gloves and long sleeves. ▪ Upon arrival at the contest site and throughout the contest, officials should wash and sanitize their hands frequently. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Maintain social distancing while performing all pregame responsibilities. ▪ Officials should maintain social distancing of six feet while in the locker room and/or on the court. ▪ Officials should not share uniforms, towels, apparel, and equipment. ▪ Officials should bring their own water bottles and/or sports drinks.
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Officials ARE NOT responsible for monitoring social distancing guidelines on the team benches, sidelines, in the bleachers, or anywhere outside the boundaries of the court. Coaches and school personnel are responsible for monitoring their own teams.

Equipment- Volleyballs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Prior to a contest, it is recommended that the game ball(s) should be sanitized according to instructions from the ball manufacturer, set aside, and placed on top of the scorer's table. The game ball(s) must not be used for warm-ups. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The host school should ensure that the ball is sanitized during time-outs and between sets.
Equipment- Scorer's Table	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 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.) should be allowed at the officials table. 	<p>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.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Sanitizer should be provided by the host team at the table.
Equipment- Team Benches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ If possible, place team benches opposite the spectator seating. ▪ Consider limiting the number of bench personnel to observe social distancing of 6 feet or greater. ▪ Additional chairs or rows may be added to allow bench personnel (coaches and players) to observe social distancing of 6 feet or greater. This may require benches to extend into the bleachers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Suspend the protocol of teams switching benches between sets. In the event there is a clear and distinct disadvantage, teams may switch sides, observing all social distancing protocols. Officials will determine if a disadvantage is present.

Rule Modifications	<p>Pre-game:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Suspend the use of the coin toss to determine serve/receive. The visiting team will serve first in set 1 and alternate first serve for the remaining non-deciding sets. ▪ Limit attendees at the pregame conference to 1st and 2nd referee and the head coach from each team with one coach and one referee positioned on each side of the net, all 4 individuals shall maintain social distance. 	<p>Deciding Set Procedures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Move the location of the deciding set coin toss to center court with team captains and the second referee maintaining the appropriate social distance of 6 feet. A coin toss, called by the home team, will decide serve/receive. ▪ Suspend the protocol of teams switching benches before a deciding set. In the event there is a clear and
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Suspend roster submission at the pre-match conference. Rosters are submitted directly to the officials' table before the 10-minute mark.▪ Officials should demonstrate their electronic whistle sounds to coaches and captains since the tones from different whistles might vary. <p>Timeouts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ During time outs and between sets, players and coaches should maintain social distance.	<p>distinct disadvantage, teams may switch sides, observing all social distancing protocols. Officials will determine if a disadvantage is present.</p> <p>Substitution Procedures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Maintain social distancing of 6 feet between the second referee and the player and substitute by encouraging substitutions to occur within the substitution zone closer to the attack line.
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