

Athletic Event Spectator Procedures/Considerations

Information below is subject to change

The [Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association](http://www.piaa.org) (PIAA) governs the rules of competition for all athletic events. The PIAA provided clarification regarding school athletic events in its Return to Competition document (http://www.piaa.org/assets/web/documents/Return_to_Competition.pdf)

PIAA stated the following regarding spectators at events:

PIAA has received many inquiries regarding the ability of spectators to attend school athletic events. This is not a PIAA decision. PIAA is following the sports guidance put out by the Governor's Office. To view this public document that illustrates the guidance for Pre-K to 12 School Sports, please click here: <https://www.governor.pa.gov/covid-19/sports-guidance/>

In an effort to develop consistent procedures for athletic events across the ELCO school district that are in compliance with the PIAA rules governing competition and the Governor's recommendations, the following guidelines are in place with regard to what parents/spectators may experience during their student-athlete's contest during the 2020 Fall sports season:

- There is a 25-person limit to all indoor events. As such, girls volleyball is the only indoor competition to be held. Unfortunately, due to the number of participants, coaches, referees, game officials and linespersons, the 25-person limit is met WITHOUT the ability for spectators to attend. As such, **neither home nor visiting spectators will be permitted.**
- Outdoor events are limited to 250 people. This applies to events held within and outside of the gated fields/stadium.
 - Football, by the very nature of the number of participants (players, coaches, referees, band members, cheerleaders, and game officials), will require limitations on spectators. In order to ensure that the home team families can watch their child participate, **visiting spectators will NOT be permitted.** It will be up to the home team to determine protocol for allowing home spectators to attend the contests (to include parents, staff, photographers, press/media, etc.).
 - For other competitions held within the stadium (girls soccer, boys soccer, etc.), spectators will be permitted, with each student-athlete (both home and away teams) being given two vouchers per contest.
- Everyone attending a sporting event on school property, including coaches, officials, athletes on the sidelines, staff, and spectators, age 2 and older are required to wear face coverings (masks or face shields). Attendance at any event is subject to appropriate behavior and adherence to our health and safety plans. Anyone who refuses to adhere to our guidelines will be asked to leave.
- The District is working to ensure that as many events as possible will be live-streamed to the general public.
- Concession stands will NOT be open.
- There will be NO charge to enter the outdoor event if the Governor's Plan for Phased Reopening maintains 250 or fewer people attending an outdoor event.

PLEASE NOTE: Other school districts may have other rules in place. Please be sure you understand the rules at other school districts' events should you choose to be a spectator at an away event, when permitted.

These procedures are subject to change as updated guidance from state officials becomes available.