

COVID-19 Protocols-Supervised Athletics Activities

These protocols have been guided by the NCAA's "Sport Science Institute's Resocialization of Collegiate Sport: Developing Standards for Practice and Competition"¹ in conjunction with Keystone College's [Reopening Plan](#), recommendations from State and Federal Guidelines, the CDC, and the Department of Health. This document is intended to supplement the policies, procedures, and protocols identified in the College's reopening plan, which includes protocols for [quarantine](#), [isolation](#), and testing requirements for symptomatic [resident](#) and [commuter](#) students. It is expected that all team activities will follow these guidelines, at minimum, to ensure the health and safety of Keystone College student-athletes, coaches, athletic trainers, and other athletics staff. The College will continue to monitor these protocols and make updates as more information and/or resources become available.

Mitigating Risk-Testing

- In order to monitor student populations with a higher likelihood of community spread and maintain compliance with the CSAC's protocols for return to play, Keystone College will require resident students and in-season student-athletes to participate in surveillance testing. This strategy will allow for 25% of Keystone College's resident students and student-athletes to be tested each week, with 100% of these populations tested every 4 weeks. Additionally, these protocols will create an opportunity for in-season low and medium risk sports teams to compete.
- Click [here](#) for additional details about Keystone College's surveillance testing plan.

Mitigating Risk-Daily Self-Health Checks

- As part of Keystone College's reopening plan, all student-athletes, coaches, athletic trainers, and other athletics staff will [conduct daily wellness checks](#) to verify that an individual is not experiencing an

¹ <http://www.ncaa.org/sport-science-institute/resocialization-collegiate-sport-developing-standards-practice-and-competition>

elevated temperature of 100 degrees or more, any new symptoms that may be COVID-19 symptoms or reports that they are feeling unwell.

- In addition to the daily wellness checks, daily screenings of student-athletes will be conducted prior to any team activity or training. These screenings will verify that a player is not experiencing an elevated temperature of 100 degrees or more, any new symptoms that may be COVID-19 symptoms or reports that they are feeling unwell.
- As described in the College's [reopening plan](#), [commuter students](#) who are experiencing symptoms or signs of COVID-19 should remain home or will be asked to return home and schedule an appointment with their primary care provider. [Resident students](#) should contact the Wellness Coordinator and/or designee at (570) 945-8255 or Campus Safety (570) 945-8989 to get in contact with the Wellness Coordinator and/or designee after hours to arrange for testing and be assigned to isolation housing while they wait to receive test results.

Mitigating Risk-Face Coverings

- Once an athletic trainer has cleared the student-athletes, they may begin socially distanced practice or training, which must be supervised by a coach and/or athletic trainer at all times.
- Throughout practices and training activities, student-athletes, coaches, athletic trainers, and other athletics staff must wear face masks/coverings and maintain 6 ft of social distancing whenever possible.
- **UPDATE:** Student-athletes actively participating in the contest do not have to wear masks or face coverings. The mask-wearing exception is also applicable to the warm-up period immediately preceding the contest. The Board shall support any student-athlete who chooses to wear a mask during warm-ups and / or during active competition. (Effective March 22, 2021 – Per CSAC).

Mitigating Risk-Sanitation and Good Hygiene

- Student-athletes, coaches, athletic trainers, and other athletics staff will practice good hygiene by incorporating consistent hand sanitization and cough/sneeze etiquette into their daily lives.

- Student-athletes, coaches, athletic trainers, and other athletics staff will frequently sanitize any equipment that is used.
- Coaches, athletic trainers, and other athletics staff should consider implementing equipment that is available to help reduce the potential spread of COVID-19. For example, using electronic whistles instead of traditional whistles is recommended.

Mitigating Risk-Social Distancing

- Coaches should consider the establishment of “functional units” as a strategy to minimize the potential spread of COVID-19. A functional unit may be composed of five to 10 individuals, all members of the same team, who consistently work out and participate in activities together.
- When at all possible, outdoor training should be used to mitigate the risk of COVID-19.
- Gym workouts must also be conducted in small groups that meet the criteria needed for social distancing guidelines and be supervised by a coach and/or athletic trainer at all times.
- Meetings will be conducted virtually, with the exception of meetings that can take place outdoors and follow social distancing protocols (i.e. before practice / after practice, etc.).
- When in-person meetings must occur between student-athletes, coaches, athletic trainers, and other athletics staff, appointments will be by appointment only until further notice.
- All student-athletes, coaches, athletic trainers, and other athletics staff should understand that COVID-19 risk mitigation practices should be observed at ALL times, including non-athletic-related activities.
- Student-athletes should strive to be leaders on campus by consistently following mitigation (social distancing), hygiene (handwashing, cough/sneeze etiquette), and sanitation protocols in their daily lives.

Spectator Policy

- Attendance will be limited to local spectators, including current Keystone students, employees, and family members of competing Keystone student-athletes. **There are no visiting team spectators allowed.**
- Students, employees, and family members will be required to maintain Keystone's masking and distancing standards throughout the event. **There will be no concessions and no tailgating allowed.**
- Capacity for each event is based on facility size. At outdoor athletics events, spectators are expected to sit in designated areas and in small groups. Family members must sit or stand together, socially distanced from other individuals/family groups.
- Six-foot social distancing must be maintained between individuals/family groups. No congregating before or after practices or games is permitted. Spectators must wear face coverings at all times.
- Spectators are reminded that mitigation strategies, such as maintaining a distance of 6 feet from others, will ensure students are not named as a "close contact" in the event a fellow spectator becomes COVID-19 positive.

By Venue:

Softball - Edmunds Field

- Spectators and fans can cheer on the Giants along the left-field fence, behind center field (no windscreen), and along the first base/right-field fence. No fans will be permitted near each teams' dugouts or behind home plate by the gameday crew (stats, announcing, stream).
- Fans are encouraged to bring their own seating (camping chairs)
- No tailgating permitted in between or after games.
- All spectators in attendance at any home athletic event this spring are required to remain socially distanced of at least six feet apart (a family unit may sit or stand together) and wear masks at all times.

- Spectators are strongly encouraged not to interact with players, coaches, or staff members in close contact before, during, or after the contest.

Baseball Field (Christy Mathewson Field)

- Spectators and fans can cheer on the Giants from the grass area along the third baseline, from the sidewalk, or on the bridge near the road. No fans will be permitted near each teams' dugouts or behind home plate by the gameday crew (stats, announcing, stream).
- Fans are encouraged to bring their own seating (camping chairs)
- No tailgating permitted in between or after games.
- All spectators in attendance at any home athletic event this spring are required to remain socially distanced of at least six feet apart (a family unit may sit or stand together) and wear masks at all times.
- Spectators are strongly encouraged not to interact with players, coaches, or staff members in close contact before, during, or after the contest.

Lacrosse/Outdoor Track & Field (Turf Complex)

- Spectators and fans can cheer on the Giants from the fence outside the turf, alongside the fence on the sidewalk, or in bleachers but must be socially distanced and masked. No fans will be permitted in front of the press box area due to gameday staff working areas.
- Fans are encouraged to bring their own seating (camping chairs)
- No tailgating permitted in between or after games.
- All spectators in attendance at any home athletic event this spring are required to remain socially distanced of at least six feet apart (a family unit may sit or stand together) and wear masks at all times.
- Spectators are strongly encouraged not to interact with players, coaches, or staff members in close contact before, during, or after the contest.