

The following directives apply to physical education, physical activity, organized sports, extra-curricular, intramural and interscholastic. The Department recognizes the essential role sport and movement play in the academic, social and emotional development of students.

Physical Education

- It is recommended that physical education classes take place in a safe outdoor space as much as possible, weather permitting. Gymnasiums or alternate indoor spaces may also be used as long as health and safety measures are applied (e.g., physical distancing, hand and respiratory hygiene, enhanced cleaning and disinfection). Schools are to contact district facilities staff when considering alternate indoor areas to determine suitability of the space.
- Shared equipment should be cleaned and disinfected after each use by students, under the supervision of the teacher or a physical education teacher. If this is not possible, the material in question should not be made available for common use.
- Students in Kindergarten to Grade 8 will participate in physical education class within their class groupings and maintain a two (2) metre physical distance from other groupings. Physical distancing within their class grouping is not required, and materials may be shared within the grouping. Proper hand sanitization is required prior to entering the gymnasium and upon exit.
- Students in Grades 9 to 12 will maintain a physical distance of one (1) metre while participating in physical education class or other physical activities. The sharing of equipment is permitted, given that all health and safety measures are met (proper sanitization). Proper hand sanitization is required prior to entering the gymnasium and upon exit.
- The use of changing rooms is acceptable during physical education class and all health and safety measures apply. Schools will reduce the number of students in changing rooms at any one time.
 - Students in Kindergarten to Grade 8 must stay within their class groupings while using the changing room.
 - Students in Grades 9 to 12 must maintain a physical distance of one (1) metre while using the changing room.
- Changing rooms will be cleaned and disinfected frequently (at least three times a day).
- A curtain divider may be used for physical distancing purposes if two or more groups of students are using the common space (gymnasium) at the same time.
- In Grades 9 to 12 the use of markings are recommended (e.g., floor tape, hula hoops, cones etc.) and general signage to indicate where students can sit/stand/participate according to physical distancing guidelines.

Intramural Activities

- While the province remains in the yellow phase, sporting opportunities will be offered, based on Public Health advice and/or provincial phase. In the event that a zone or the province returns to orange or red, all such activities will be suspended. In the event of an outbreak in a school, Regional Public Health will provide direction to the school for participation intramural activities.
- Students in Kindergarten to Grade 8 may participate in intramural activities within their class grouping and maintain a two (2) metre physical distance from other groupings. Sporting equipment may be shared within the class grouping. Proper hand sanitization is required prior to entering the gymnasium and upon exit.
- Students in Grades 9 to 12 will maintain a physical distance of one (1) metre while participating in intramural activities. The sharing of equipment is permitted, given that all health and safety measures are met (proper sanitization). Proper hand sanitization is required prior to entering the gymnasium and upon exit.

Interscholastic and Extra-Curricular Sport Activities (all grade levels)

While the province remains in the yellow phase, sporting opportunities will be offered, based on Public Health advice and/or provincial phase. In the event that a zone or the province returns to orange or red, all such events will be suspended. In the event of an outbreak in a school, Regional Public Health will provide direction to the school for participation and hosting sports or sporting events.

- In cases where any organized sports have a Provincial Sport Organization governing body (e.g. Hockey New Brunswick, Soccer New Brunswick, etc.), the level of play and associated modified rules will comply with the operational plans developed by that body.
- If there is no governing body, the sport must have a province wide operational plan that complies with the standards outlined in the Return to School Plan: Direction for School District and Schools and includes any additional measures in place to ensure health and safety. The department will coordinate with school districts in the development of the provincial operational plans.
- Kindergarten to Grade 8 competitive sporting events should be limited subdivisions of a school district or a small region to avoid unnecessary travel and limit contact across regions.
- Schools are required to include any sporting event into their COVID-19 Operational Plan (e.g. hosting of a sporting competition) that is not otherwise detailed within the pre-existing school plan.
- Screening for COVID-19 symptoms is required for all students, coaches and volunteers prior to any travel and/or participating in any intramural, interscholastic, extra-curricular sport activities (for all grade levels).
- Team rosters should be held to a reasonable number (guided by NBIAA or respective provincial organization governing body) including coaches to facilitate potential contact tracing. Attendance must be taken at each practice and game for

contact tracing (coach, players, volunteers, etc.). The collected information must be stored in a secure location and made available upon request.

- If a school host an event, a master list of all names and contact information of coaches, players, volunteers etc. must be kept at the school.
- Transportation to and from events should follow the transportation directives outlined in *Appendix D – Transportation Directives*. Parents should transport students as much as possible.
- Participants should arrive ready to participate and already wearing necessary equipment as changing rooms may not be available for use.
- The use of changing rooms is not permitted for extra-curricular activities scheduled outside of the regular hours of operation of a school, unless outlined in the school's COVID-19 operational plan. The plan must allow for appropriate cleaning and disinfection procedures.
- Unnecessary physical contact (high fives, handshakes, fist bumps, or hugs, etc.) is prohibited. End of game handshakes are to be replaced by another mechanism, demonstrating good sportsmanship and respect of one another for a good game (e.g. baseball players line up on the 1st base and 3rd base line and tip their hat to their opponent).
- Coaches and volunteers will be required to maintain two (2) metre physical distancing from each other at all times. If this is not possible than a community mask is required.
- Team and coach meetings should be conducted virtually and must follow health and safety requirements of distancing and mask use when in person.
- Verbal recognition of awards is encouraged post-competition, but no physical awards are to be presented (could be delivered at a later time).

High School Sports Additional Consideration

- If the sport has reached the level of multi-team play, competitive team play can occur. Established New Brunswick Interscholastic Athlete Association (NBIAA) conferences may allow play yet limit potential contact at the high school level.
- Students will not be permitted to participate in more than one interscholastic sport at a time. Students should only be part of one NBIAA sport at a time. This will enable the number of contacts to be limited to a degree, thus minimizing some additional risk of potential transmission.
- The updated list of approved NBIAA sports can be found at <https://www.nbiaa-asinb.org/en/>. All schools may use this as a guideline to acceptable sports to be practiced for intramural and extracurricular sports.

Spectators

- At this time, there will be no spectators at indoor sporting events.
- Events occurring outdoors will be limited to a maximum of 50 people, while ensuring physical distancing of two (2) metres. It should be encouraged to limit parent attendance to one per player.
- Physical distancing, self-screening, hygiene etiquette and any relevant health and safety measures will be respected by all in attendance.
- Events occurring in municipal or community-controlled facility will follow the facility's guidelines included spectator attendance as approved by Public Health.
- The host school must keep a record documenting the contact information of all in attendance at the event (both practice and game play). This is to facilitate contact tracing. This collected information must be stored in a secure location and available upon request by Regional Public Health.