

WCHSA Volleyball Covid-19 Response

In light of the regulations and mandates associated with Covid-19, the WCHSA board, and especially our coaches have worked tirelessly at finding a way to have a volleyball season and are committed to providing our girls with meaningful and safe volleyball opportunities.

We have listened to how other home-schooled athletics in WI and IL are responding, read the government mandates and FAQs, listened to the input of people in the medical profession and taken into account what our and other athletic rental facilities are doing. Our coaches also have a unified strong opinion that playing in masks is UNHEALTHY.

WCHSA's plan for this season is based on the desire to keep our girls SAFE AND HEALTHY.

*additional court time and splitting grade school into two teams to allow for greater distancing

*sanitizing equipment before and after our time on the courts (in addition to Adversity's cleaning protocols)

*pumping hand sanitizer on and off the court

*wearing masks from the point of entering and throughout the building, on the sidelines and in huddles

*face coverings may be lowered/removed during active drills and play

Note: parameters for face coverings is based on the request of Adversity:

"In addition to the precautions we have in place, we would like to ask anyone entering ATC to wear a mask into the locker room, in the hallways and into the gym. If you feel comfortable wearing a mask during exercise and sports, that is totally your choice. If you feel wearing a mask while moving and exerting energy will inhibit your performance or create an additional health concern, I would encourage you to leave it on the sidelines. All participants need to honor everyone's beliefs and respect their decision (athletes and coaches alike). Any parents or spectators dropping off the girls already trust in our training and should utilize the room 4 media lounge that has 8 tables and 48 chairs, wi-fi and more. If you want to peak in the gym and watch various segments of our training, please pull out a chair as they are folded up to support social distancing and various other precautions."

WCHSA will purchase neck gators for each girl, or an 'easy breathing' mask style face covering. The gators can be pulled down around the neck when on the court, and very easily pulled up at the edges/sides when girls are gathering or off court. If there are teams that we end up playing this season that require a face covering during play, the coaches are most comfortable with the breathability of these fabrics.

Note: We do have a number of girls with conditions that would preclude them from necessarily wearing a mask at all. The following excerpts may bring some clarity for those who haven't read the mask mandate. If there are players that prefer to wear a mask throughout practices and games, the coaches will respect that and trust the girls will self-monitor their personal safety during exertion.

As stated in the governor's mandate and FAQ sheet:

**"Face covering" means a piece of cloth or other material that is worn to cover the nose and mouth completely. A "face covering" includes but is not limited to a bandana, a cloth face mask, a disposable or paper mask, a neck gaiter, or a religious face covering. A "face covering" does not include face shields, mesh masks, masks with holes or openings, or masks with vents"

**Exemptions include: "Individuals who have trouble breathing"

**Q: What do I do if I see someone not wearing a mask, even though they should be?

A: Nothing. Some people have conditions or circumstances that would make wearing a cloth face covering difficult or dangerous. Just wear your mask and stay six feet away.

**Q: I have a medical condition that prevents me from wearing a face covering. Do I need documentation to prove that I don't need to wear a face covering in public?

A: No. You are not required to carry documentation to prove that you do not need to wear a face covering in public