



MCPS ATHLETICS

RETURN to R.A.I.S.E.

Spectator Guidelines - Fall Season

Following are spectator guidelines and operating procedures for the fall season for Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) athletic events. All protocol and procedures will comply with the [Return to R.A.I.S.E. Strategic Plan](#), the guiding document for MCPS Athletics during the COVID-19 pandemic and comply with the [Montgomery County Board of Health Regulation](#). These guidelines have been approved by the Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services and the Office of Emergency Management and Homeland Security, along with the COVID-19 Task Force for MCPS Athletics.

Rationale

MCPS Athletics is committed to providing the safest, greatest experience possible for student-athletes, including providing opportunities for parents/guardians/guests to support them as they compete and perform.

Timeline

Approved spectators as defined below will be allowed for athletic events following spring break, beginning April 6, 2021.

Communication

Guidelines will be shared through the weekly Return to R.A.I.S.E. communication, posted on the COVID-19 Athletics Information website, and sent directly to parents through ParentVue.

Approved Spectators

Per the Montgomery County letter of approval process regarding gathering limits and spectators, two (2) parents/guardians/guests of each student-athlete may attend home and away contests, **as long as the facility will accommodate the physical distancing requirement of six feet of separation between each spectator pair**. In instances where limits may be reduced, schools will communicate revised procedures with the appropriate personnel from the opposing school.

Spectators under 18 years of age must be accompanied by an adult (each individual counts as one spectator, so one child may accompany one adult, which together would be the two approved spectators).

Process - Stadium & Gym Events

1. No admission will be charged for the fall season.
2. Student-athletes will complete the [MCPS Athletics Spectator Roster Form](#) for the contest with the head coach prior to each contest. A maximum of two parents/guardians/guests will be admitted per student-athlete.
3. The roster form will be left at the gate for the contest and serve as the official list for spectator admittance. This list will also be used for contact tracing purposes, if needed.
4. Upon arrival, spectators will identify the name of the student-athlete for which they are supporting and present identification. Only two spectators per student-athlete will be admitted.
5. Spectators will not be admitted to the facility more than 30 minutes prior to the contest and must enter the facility by halftime.
6. Spectators shall exit the facility immediately following the conclusion of the contest. Spectators may not gather outside of the stadium and should proceed directly to vehicles.
7. Under no circumstances will walk-up spectators be allowed or admission to the general public.

Seating Location & Logistics

The athletics specialist, in coordination with appropriate school personnel, will coordinate the local school spectator plan. Schools will coordinate spectator logistics and seating locations with opposing teams in advance of each contest. Spectators must wear masks and maintain a minimum of six feet of social distance at all times. During the contest:

- Spectators must sit in designated locations only, maintaining a minimum of six feet social distance at all times (family members may sit together).
- Approved spectators may serve as scorekeepers and announcers, with the approval of the athletics specialist.
- Spectators may participate in senior night activities, while complying with all social distancing expectations and wearing masks.
- Spectators are expected to comply with all MCPS sportsmanship and event expectations.
- Spectators not complying with expectations will be asked to leave the premises.

Bocce, Cross Country & Golf

- Student-athletes will identify their two parents/guardians/guests prior to the event.
- Spectators are expected to comply with the policy of only two per student-athlete.
- Golf and many cross country meets are conducted at non-MCPS facilities, in which permits have been approved under the premises that MCPS will comply with Montgomery County COVID-19 regulations. Failure to do so may result in future permits being rescinded.

MCPS Athletics is excited to welcome our parents/guardians/guests of our student-athletes back to our events. We will rely on the collective cooperation of many to continue the successful start to in-person programming.

Together, We RAISE!