

HEMPFIELD AREA ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: *Sporting Event Spectator Guidance - Spring Season*

From: Brandon Rapp, Director of Athletics

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The Hempfield Area School District has released its spectator guidance for the spring athletic season based on current gathering limitations. Our objective remains to provide a safe environment for our student-athletes to compete and provide an opportunity for as many parents to witness those competitions in person as possible. Our efforts with regards to spectators continue to focus on permitting parents/guardians the opportunity to view their children's events while reducing the risk of exposure for those in attendance. The following parameters outline how we intend to maximize those opportunities to the extent we are permitted. Should the current guidelines be adjusted, the Hempfield Area School District will revise the information below if necessary. Additionally, all events held in Spartan Fieldhouse and Spartan Stadium are available through streaming by visiting the athletic website at www.hempfieldareaathletics.com and selecting "View All Videos" on the main page.

General: For those family members permitted to attend an event, please be aware that all spectators will be required to follow all CDC guidelines, including following the mask order and adhering to social distancing guidelines at all times.

Away Contests: For those events held at other school districts where Hempfield Area teams are a guest, the guidelines may differ on a case by case basis. As a result, information received from the host school will be provided to each head coach as soon as it is available. Additionally, information will be provided on the athletic website for each day's slate of games.

Baseball (Varsity/JV/9th Grade/7th & 8th Grade): Home contests will be limited to four (4) family members per participating Hempfield Area student; and two (2) family members per participating visiting student. It is important that when attending the competition, spectators sit in an area away from the teams in an effort to allow participants the ability to social distance. Spectators should not sit in the dugout vicinity and are encouraged to sit around the perimeter of the outfield fence.

Boys & Girls Lacrosse (Varsity/JV): Home contests will have no spectator limitation (home and away teams). At this time, given the current capacity limitations, it is not anticipated that crowds will exceed the allowable number of spectators. Should this change, or crowds become too large, additional information will be issued.

Softball (Varsity/JV): Home contests will be limited to four (4) family members per participating Hempfield Area student; and two (2) family members per participating visiting student. It is important that when attending the competition, spectators sit in an area away from the teams in an effort to allow participants the ability to social distance. Spectators should not sit in the dugout vicinity and are encouraged to sit around the perimeter of the outfield fence.

Boys Tennis (Varsity/JV): Home contests will have no spectator limitation (home and away teams). At this time, given the current capacity limitations, it is not anticipated that crowds will exceed the allowable number of spectators. Should this change, or crowds become too large, additional information will be issued. It is important that when attending the competition, spectators sit in an area away from the teams in an effort to allow participants the ability to social distance.

Boys & Girls Track & Field (Varsity/7th & 8th Grade): Home contests will be limited to four (4) family members per participating Hempfield Area student; and two (2) family members per participating visiting student. It is important that when attending the competition, spectators remain in the bleachers (track events) in an area away from the teams (field events) in an effort to allow participants the ability to social distance.

Boys Volleyball (Varsity/JV): Home contests will be limited to four (4) family members per participating Hempfield Area student; and two (2) family members per participating visiting student.

Boys Volleyball (7th & 8th Grade): Home contests will be limited to two (2) family members per participating Hempfield Area student. Spectators will be required to check in with the event manager upon arriving so that proper adherence to the new occupancy limits can be maintained. Visiting schools will not be permitted any spectators - only members of the teams approved traveling party will be admitted.

In an effort to keep the above listed guidelines in place, we are asking that all spectators respectfully adhere to the information above. Failure to do so may require additional limitations to be implemented. While we recognize that we have not yet returned to a "normal" environment and we regret that we cannot offer additional spectators the opportunity to attend, we are hopeful that this is a step in the right direction and are thankful for the ability to begin allowing some spectators to join us. We will continue to monitor any additional changes and communicate as appropriate.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation as we continue to navigate through this difficult time.

GO SPARTANS!