

WINCHESTER BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION
COVID-19 SAFETY POLICY
Revised November 16, 2021

The Winchester Basketball Association (“WBA”) is committed to providing a safe environment for our players and coaches. In developing this policy, we have reviewed guidelines from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control, various Commonwealth of Massachusetts offices, the Winchester Board of Health, and the Winchester Public Schools.

- The Winchester Board of Health “Mask Mandate” can be [found here](#) .
- The Winchester Public Schools “COVID-19 Protocols” for 2021-22 can be [found here](#).

WBA will have a zero-tolerance approach towards non-compliance with this policy. If you cannot or will not comply with this policy, your child should not participate as a player and/or you should not participate as a coach.

The WBA requires the following:

- A player or coach must not attend a WBA practice or game (“basketball event”) if they have any of the following symptoms within 24 hours of the event:
 - Fever (temperature of 100.0 F or above), felt feverish, or had chills
 - Cough not due to other known cause, such as chronic cough
 - Difficulty breathing or shortness of breath
 - New loss of taste or smell
 - Sore throat
 - Headache when in combination with other symptoms
 - Muscle or body aches
 - Nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea
 - Fatigue when in combination with other symptoms
 - Nasal congestion or runny nose (not due to other known causes, such as allergies) when in combination with other symptoms
- If any player or coach has experienced any flu-like symptoms recently, s/he must be symptom-free for 10 days prior to a basketball event in order to attend, unless s/he tests negative for COVID-19 through a PCR test or is released from quarantine in accordance with health authority guidelines.
- If your player or anyone in your household is awaiting the results of a COVID test, or is deemed to be a close contact at school, you should keep your player at home until your player receives a negative COVID test result. Close contacts and positive cases must quarantine in accordance with Winchester Public Schools guidelines [found here](#) .

- If a player (or coach) is not eligible to participate for any of the reasons above, the player's parent (or the coach) must immediately notify the team's (other) coaches and WBA's COVID Manager, Luke McInnis. [Click to email Luke](#)
- If a player or coach tests positive for COVID, activities for that person will be suspended. WBA will coordinate with the Winchester Board of Health and the Metrowest League to determine timing of resumption of activities for any individuals.
- If necessary, activities for any particular team may be suspended based upon consultations with the Winchester Board of Health.
- Players and coaches are required to wear masks at all basketball events, including practices and games, unless a medical exemption applies. The Town of Winchester continues to enforce a mask requirement indoors at all public facilities, including the schools where the WBA practices and plays games.
- In terms of non-Winchester basketball facilities, the Metrowest League will provide additional information about those venues, including whether parents and family members will be allowed to attend and the Covid-19 protocols (namely, mask requirements) inside those buildings.
- Players and coaches should bring extra masks in case a mask breaks or becomes too wet.
- Players should bring their own hand sanitizer to basketball events. Players and coaches should sanitize their hands before and after events.
- Handshakes and high-fives are suspended at all events.
- Coaches will maximize physical distancing for players to the extent possible, especially when masks are off for drinking or mask breaks.
- Parents and family members of players are not permitted to attend practices.

If you have any questions about this policy, please do not hesitate to contact Luke McInnis, WBA's COVID Manager. [Click to email Luke](#)