



Concord Carlisle High School

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Athletics COVID FAQ September 10, 2020

What sports are being offered at CCHS in the fall season?

The Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association (MIAA) approved Golf, Cross-Country, Soccer, Field Hockey and Girls Volleyball for the fall season. The MIAA moved Football and Cheerleading into the “Fall 2” season to be held February 22nd - April 25th, 2021. The Dual County League (DCL), of which CCHS is a member, voted to move Girls Volleyball to the “Fall 2” season based on lack of gym availability and safety concerns about indoor sports. Therefore, CCHS is offering **Golf, Cross-Country, Soccer and Field Hockey in the fall season.**

When does the season begin and where can I find the practice and game schedules?

Tryouts and practices will begin on September 21st after school at 3:30pm. A full schedule for the first days can be found [here](#). Once tryouts are completed, coaches will provide more detailed practice schedules. Game schedules are not available yet because some schools in the DCL have not finalized their plans for fall sports. Game schedules will be posted [here](#) immediately when available. Our plan is to compete approved sports versus DCL opponents only to reduce possible contact with students outside the Greater Concord area. Non-league games and competitions will not be scheduled this fall.

In a given week, we will compete against one school only, starting the week of September 28th. For example, week 1 could be against Acton-Boxboro. Varsity Soccer and Field Hockey will play on Wednesday, September 30th and Saturday, October 3rd in a home and home matchup. Cross-Country will race once per week - likely on Saturday, October 3rd in week 1. Golf will play 2 matches per week in a home and home format weekdays depending on course availability.

All sub-varsity soccer and field hockey teams will play an intrasquad game on Tuesdays at CCHS and will have Wednesday afternoon as a scheduled day off. These games will be timed and officiated to replicate the feel of a competitive game.

What is the daily plan for students to prepare for practice and games?

For safety reasons, the locker rooms will be closed for the fall. Students should be prepared to either attend classes in athletic clothing or to keep a change of clothes in their backpacks or cars. School bathrooms and the Doug White Field (CC upper turf) restrooms will be accessible to change. The soccer, field hockey and cross-country teams will each have a

locked outdoor storage pod at their fields to keep equipment that is oversized and to store backpacks during practice.

Practices will start at 3:30 instead of the traditional 3:15 to allow students learning remotely time to travel to campus. Students should report directly to their practice site in athletic clothing with all equipment, including a face mask, water bottle and hand sanitizer. Coaches may require additional supplies once the season begins. If students are learning on campus, they are expected to change and head to the practice site to warm up rather than stay in the building.

What safety measures are in place during practices and games?

Coaches are responsible for ensuring social distancing between students as much as possible. This includes additional spacing while stretching, warming up, changing drills, etc. Practices will be conducted in pods of 5-10 students, with the same 5-10 students training together daily. This ensures more limited exposure if someone develops an infection. Attendance records will be maintained each day in the event contact tracing is required.

Students participating in athletics are required to wear cloth face coverings/masks per EEA guidelines. Gaiters are not acceptable at CCHS at this time. Face coverings consisting of multiple layers and a tighter weave are more effective and preferred.

The default expectation is that students will wear a mask at all times during practice and competitions. Students may momentarily take mask breaks during play when they are 10ft away from others. Students and parents should reference sport-specific guidelines for mask breaks. Students with mouthpieces should prepare to have extra masks available. Caution should be exercised when replacing a mask if hands are soiled or dirty. Individuals that are unable to wear a mask due to a medical condition or disability must have documentation on file with the school nurse and athletic director.

It is the responsibility of the head coach to monitor and ensure that all players not on the playing field are wearing masks. An assistant coach, athletic director, game administrator or other designee will also assist in monitoring proper mask use.

Coaches and officials are required to wear masks. Coaches and officials may remove their mask briefly for a break at any point during play when they are socially distanced. Spectators, workers, and others are required to wear masks and follow social distancing guidelines.

The MIAA has sport modifications for the fall season you can review for more information on its [COVID Task Force website](#).

How will transportation be handled for away games?

Concord Public Schools buses can safely seat approximately 25 students per bus. Since only varsity teams will be traveling during the week, we will ensure that students can socially distance appropriately. When the number of students approaches 25, Athletics will schedule an additional bus so that students can more safely spread out.

For all weekend events held at opposing schools, a bus will be scheduled from CCHS if needed. However, the expectation is that a parent will elect to drive to the game, similar to youth

and club sports. Coaches will communicate with athletes and parents each week prior to games to coordinate transportation details with the athletic department and transportation manager.

As always, parents can take students home with them from away games provided they have emailed the coach and athletic director at least 24 hours in advance to request permission. At this time, we are not allowing students to drive to away games without a parent present.

What are the attendance procedures for spectators at games?

Massachusetts rules dictate that crowd size cannot exceed 50 people at an outdoor event - CCHS and the DCL will abide by that directive. Each student-athlete will be given 1 lanyard that grants admission to 1 person for games and meets at home and away. We are working with the WIQH, our student radio station, to broadcast as many games as possible. Some teams video games as well and student-athletes will be able to share video with family and friends. Unfortunately, student spectators will not be allowed to attend interscholastic competitions at this time. We recognize that a crucial part of high school athletics is the fan experience, but state mandates require that we remain below 50 attendees.

Will the MIAA run a postseason tournament?

The MIAA will not run a postseason tournament for any fall sport. However, the DCL is working to create league championships in every sport to be held in early November. More information will be available regarding postseason play soon.

What is the CCHS policy on out of season contact by coaches since the MIAA waived Rule 40 for this school year?

The priority for CCHS is starting the school year and the fall season smoothly. At this time, the athletic department is collaborating with head coaches to determine the most appropriate out of season coaching plan to meet student needs. Additional guidance will be provided by late September. Thank you for your patience.

[MIAA communication on Rule 40](#)

I have additional questions. Who should I contact?

Please feel free to contact Aaron Joncas, Athletic Director, at (978) 341-2904 or ajoncas@concordcarlisle.org