



ST. THOMAS AQUINAS HIGH SCHOOL & MIDDLE SCHOOL

Grades 6 - 12

2121 Reno Dr., Louisville, OH, 44641 | (330) 875-1631 | AquinasKnights.org

St. Thomas Aquinas High School & Middle School Athletic Game Day COVID-19 Protocols

St. Thomas Aquinas High School and Middle School is committed to the health and safety of our student-athletes and staff while celebrating the talents of our student-athletes. We are utilizing the mandates and recommendations set forth by the Governor, the Ohio Department of Health, the Ohio High School Athletic Association and the Diocese of Youngstown to create policies and procedures to ensure we are able to have interscholastic athletic contests this year. Students and parents/guardians are expected to follow these guidelines. In order to have spectators at events everyone must follow these protocols.

Failure to comply with the mandates set forth by the Governor and the Ohio Department of Health can result in consequences such as stoppage of the game, forfeiture of the game and/or season and cancelation of the season. Spectators who do not follow safety guidelines can be denied entry or asked to leave the facility.

Additionally, we are in an extremely fluid situation; policies and procedures could change per local, Diocesan, or state orders. We will inform our families right away of updates or changes. Thank you for your patience.

*****ALL POLICIES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE AT ANY TIME*****

SCREENING PROCEDURES:

1. All participants, coaches, game day staff, and spectators should conduct a temperature check and COVID-19 symptom check before arriving.
 - a. Temperature check and recorded
 - b. Complete Covid-19 Symptom check and record
 - c. Hand sanitizer will be available on site, throughout the facility. Sanitize hands when entering the facility. Athletes will also have hand sanitizer available and are asked to sanitize their hands frequently.
 - d. Turn in record log to home school game administrator
2. Our Game Day Athletic Protocols should be reviewed before each event. They can be found online at AquinasKnights.org under “Announcements.”

SPECTATORS:

1. All spectators will be subject to Covid-19 screening including:
 - a. Temperature check
 - b. Will be asked if they have any Covid-19 Symptoms
 - c. Sanitize hands when entering the facility
2. The number of spectators permitted will be based on the Governors and the State Department of Health mandate that we stay under 15% of the fixed seating capacity.
 - a. **Sirpilla Stadium:** Total Capacity – 2000; tickets limited to 300 total spectators
 - b. **Gym:** Total Capacity – 1000; tickets limited to 150 total spectators
3. Every spectator **MUST** have a ticket.
4. Football: To control the number of spectators in attendance St. Thomas Aquinas High School will utilize an **online ticketing program**.
 - a. An access code will be provided to St. Thomas Aquinas fans on Sunday night with ticket availability at 200 tickets.
 - b. An access code will be provided to the visiting team’s fans on Sunday night with ticket availability at 100 tickets.
 - c. These access codes will close on Wednesday night.
 - d. Thursday a code will activate with any remaining tickets available.
 - e. All tickets are \$7.00. All fans, including students, must have a ticket.
 - f. **No tickets will be available at the gate.**
5. Soccer:
 - a. Tickets will be sold at the gate on a first-come, first-serve basis until the ticket allotment of 300 is sold out.
 - b. Social distancing rules must be followed at all times, including in the ticket line. Please adhere to our social distancing cues in the facility.
6. Volleyball
 - a. Tickets will be sold at the doors on a first-come, first-serve basis until the ticket allotment of 150 is sold out.

- b. Social distancing rules must be followed at all times, including in the ticket line. Please adhere to our social distancing cues in the facility.
7. Golf, Cross Country, and Tennis
 - a. These sports do not compete on St. Thomas Aquinas school grounds; our teams should adhere to the COVID-19 safety guidelines that the host school or facility has created.
8. Spectators will not be permitted to exit and re-enter the facility. There will be **NO REENTRY**.
 - a. Exception - delay due to inclement weather
9. There are to be no spectators congregating on school property before or after the games, i.e. **NO TAILGATING**.
10. Facility Opening
 - a. The football stadium gates will open 30 minutes prior to kickoff.
 - b. The gym will be open 30 minutes prior to the start time
11. Only designated game personnel will be permitted on the field or sidelines and must have a pass.
12. Seating will be marked off with tape to indicate areas that should not be used and to maintain social distancing.
13. Family groups are expected to sit together. Social distancing between separate families must be maintained at all times.
14. Spectators are not permitted to stand along the fence in the end zone at Sirpilla Stadium. Spectators are permitted to stand along the fence near the track, on the home side, located in front of concessions. Standing spectators must remain socially distanced 6 feet.
15. Students must be in the student section and sit in the designated seats marked with tape in order to maintain social distancing.
16. All Spectators in the Gym must be seated.
17. **All Spectators must wear a mask at all times. Spectators not wearing a mask will not be permitted entry. Spectators inside the stadium or gym not wearing a mask will be asked to leave. All spectators must maintain proper social distancing at all time.**
18. Announcements will be made through-out the event to remind fans to wear masks, maintain social distancing, to hand sanitize frequently, and the proper exiting procedures. Signs will be posted to help direct fans.
19. Spectators must exit the stadium or gym immediately after the game ends. There is to be no congregating near the locker room waiting for players to exit.

COMPLIANCE PERSONNEL

1. We will have compliance personnel at home football, soccer, and volleyball games.
2. Compliance personnel will help ensure the state guidelines are being met and will monitor and remind spectators to follow the mandates and guidelines.
3. Louisville Police Department will provide security at the gate to assist with spectator control.

GAME DAY FACE COVERINGS

1. Masks and face coverings will be worn by all athletes and coaches when traveling to and from the designated team facilities.
2. Masks and face coverings will be worn by all athletes, coaches, and game day personnel while on the sidelines/benches.
3. Masks may not be shared.

CLEANING AND DISINFECTING

1. A designated staff member will continually disinfect high touch areas of the facility. Bathrooms will also be disinfected continually during the event.

COACHING STAFF

1. A designated coach will do temperature checks and symptom evaluations on each athlete before practices and on game days.
2. All coaches have been educated on COVID-19 symptoms and training for working with athletes in the midst of COVID-19 will be provided by the school nurse.

ATHLETIC TRAINERS

1. All athletes must tape at their own facility.
2. The St. Thomas Aquinas trainer will only treat their St. Thomas athletes unless there is an emergency.
3. Teams must bring their own ice and water.

ARRIVAL TIMES FOR VISITING TEAMS

1. Soccer: 45 minutes prior to the start time
 - a. No visitor locker rooms available
2. Volleyball: 45 minutes prior to the start time
 - a. No visitor locker rooms available

3. Football: 90 minutes prior to the start time
 - a. Football teams should arrive dressed in bottom pads
 - b. Locker rooms available for HS football only
 - c. Once dressed, varsity only in the locker room, everyone else outside
 - d. No showering after the game, shower at your home facility
4. Teams must bring their own ice and water

HALFTIME

1. Teams will not be permitted to use the locker rooms during halftime
2. Beyond the Southeast end zone - St. Thomas Aquinas will have a halftime station
3. Beyond the Northwest end zone - Visiting team will have a halftime station

BAND AND CHEERLEADERS

1. Marching Bands and Cheerleaders will not be traveling to away games.
2. Halftime will only be 10 minutes
3. Cheerleaders must be wearing a mask at all times and practicing social distancing.
4. Band members must be wearing a mask at all times unless performing at halftime and maintain social distancing.

CONCESSIONS

1. Concessions will be provided under the guidelines set forth by Responsible RestartOhio Guidance for Bars & Restaurants:
<https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/static/responsible/Restaurants-and-Bars.pdf>
2. Padre's Pavilion will be closed
3. Pre-packaged foods and beverages
 - a. Chips
 - b. Candy
 - c. Snacks
 - d. Water
 - e. Soda
 - f. Sports Drinks

OHSAA AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT INSPECTORS PROGRAMS

1. The OHSAA is launching an “Inspectors program” where designated individuals will attend contests throughout the state to ensure mandates are being followed. Those inspectors will be asked to make contact with the school’s compliance personnel prior to the contest. The inspectors will show an OHSAA pass to get in. Inspectors will be filing reports with the OHSAA. Those schools not following the mandates face consequences such as stoppage of the game, forfeiture of the game and/or season and cancelation of the season.

GAME CONCLUSION

1. At the conclusion of the game all parents, fans, teams and coaches must exit the facility immediately. No team gatherings or parents waiting for students inside the facility.
2. Stadium exits: Visiting team fans must exit through the gates immediately to the right of their exit from the field, near the end zone. Home fans should exit through the main gates, between the concession stand and the restrooms.
3. Gym exits: Visiting team fans should exit through the doors on the visitor’s side. Home fans should exit through doors on the home side stands.
4. Please maintain social distancing as exiting the facility.
5. No re-entry into any facility.
6. Signs will be posted and announcements read over the PA.

INCLEMENT WEATHER

1. In the case of inclement weather teams and coaches should return to their locker room area and spectators should return to their vehicles.