

Notre Dame Junior-Senior High School
Athletic Department
Participation Waiver for Communicable Diseases Including COVID-19

The COVID-19 pandemic has presented athletics across the world with a myriad of challenges concerning this highly contagious illness that primarily attacks the upper respiratory system. Some severe outcomes have been reported in children, and a child with a mild or even asymptomatic case of COVID-19 can spread the infection to others who may be far more vulnerable.

While it is not possible to eliminate all risk of furthering the spread of COVID-19, NDHS will take necessary precautions and comply with guidelines from the federal, state, and local governments, CDC, PA DOH, as well as the NFHS, PIAA, and the Diocese of Scranton to reduce the risks to students, coaches, and their families. As knowledge regarding COVID-19 is constantly changing, NDHS reserves the right to adjust and implement precautionary methods as necessary to decrease the risk of exposure for our staff, students, and spectators. Some precautionary methods in the NDHS Resocialization of Sports Recommendations include but may not be limited to:

1. Health/temperature screenings prior to any practice, event, or team meeting with participation in the activities being limited and/or prohibited where an individual displays positive responses or symptoms.
2. Encourage social distancing and promote healthy hygiene practices such as hand washing, using hand sanitizer, personal towels, etc.
3. Intensify cleaning, disinfection, and ventilation in all facilities.
4. Educate Athletes, Coaches, and Staff on health and safety protocols.
5. Require Athletes and Coaches to provide their own water bottle for hydration.

By signing this form, the undersigned voluntarily agrees to the following Waiver and release of liability. The undersigned agrees to release and discharge all claims for ourselves, our heirs, and as a parent or legal guardian for the Student named below, against the Diocese of Scranton, Notre Dame Junior-Senior High School, its officers, agents, employees, and volunteers and will hold them harmless from any and all liability or demands for personal injury, psychological injury, sickness, death, or claims resulting from personal injury or property damage, of any nature whatsoever which may be incurred by the Student or the undersigned relating to or as a result of the Student's participation in athletic programs, events, and activities during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The undersigned acknowledges that participating in athletic programs, events, and activities may include a possible exposure to a communicable disease including but not limited to MRSA, influenza, and COVID-19. The undersigned further acknowledges that he/she is aware of the risks associated with COVID-19 and that certain vulnerable individuals may have greater health risks associated with exposure to COVID-19, including individuals with serious underlying health conditions such as, but not limited to: high blood pressure, chronic lung disease, diabetes, asthma, and those whose immune systems that are compromised by chemotherapy for cancer, and other conditions requiring such therapy. While particular recommendations and personal discipline may reduce the risks associated with participating in athletics during the COVID-19 pandemic, the risk of serious illness, medical complications and possible death does exist.

We knowingly and freely assume all such risks, both known and unknown, even if arising from the negligence of others, and assume full responsibility for Student's participation in athletics during the COVID-19 pandemic. We willingly agree to comply with the stated recommendations put forth by Notre Dame Junior-Senior High School to limit the exposure and spread of COVID-19 and other communicable diseases. We certify that the Student is in good physical condition or believe the Student to be in good physical condition and allow the Student's participation in this sport at our own risk.

Sport: _____ Print Family Surname: _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian: _____ Date: _____

Signature of Student-Athlete: _____ Date: _____

*Parents/Guardians may request a full copy of the NDHS Resocialization of Sports Recommendations. Contact Jeffrey Lyons, Principal at principal@ndhigh.org or Roger Barren, A.D. at barrenr@ndhigh.org.