



## Coaches attitudes about returning to play in youth and varsity sports post- COVID-19

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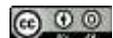
### Abstract

**BACKGROUND:** One industry affected by the COVID-19 mandated social distancing policies is sport. In the wake of pressures to return to some normalcy, sport leagues have begun a return to play, many of which include regulations additional to the typical athlete and fan experience. Youth, Middle School, and High School sport leagues are of specific interest in America given the currently inconclusive national plan for returning to face-to-face instruction of students at schools. **PURPOSE:** The current goal is to identify the perceptions and experiences of current sport professionals throughout the country regarding a return to play. **METHODS:** The participants of this study were 181 Youth and High School Sport Coaches of various sports. The sample contained males ( $n = 123$ ) and females ( $n = 58$ ). The age of respondents ranged from 20 or more years of age. A return to play questionnaire was created and used to collect data for this study. The survey consisted of 12 yes or no questions regarding a return to play during the pandemic, with an opportunity for an open-ended explanation for each. Statistical methods employed to conduct data analysis included frequencies to determine percentages. A crosstabs analysis and Pearson Chi-Square tests of association were utilized to identify statistical significance within the variables. **FINDING:** No statistically significant association was found at the  $p \leq .05$  level between age or years of coaching experience and any response to a yes/no question. Percentages for high school coaches who responded "Yes" to each question are presented. Due to the wide variety of responses in these open-ended explanations, statistical expressions were not conducted, and an inclusive list of explanations for each question is provided. **CONCLUSION:** While the research result is unclear, the information obtained from coaches in the current study presents a small illustration of the current perceptions of athletic leaders in this region regarding the return to play of youth sport coaches and their respective schools' policies.

**Keywords:** COVID-19; Return to Play; Coaching; Sport; Sports.

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## Introduction

In the early months of the year 2020, COVID-19, or the disease that results from infection of the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2), became widespread throughout the world (Liu et al., 2020). Many countries have adopted policies in order to protect their citizens from the increased spread of the disease. A common adaptation for countries is social distancing (Balkhair, 2020). Citizens are to stay at home as much as possible to reduce the number of transmissions between people in public spaces.

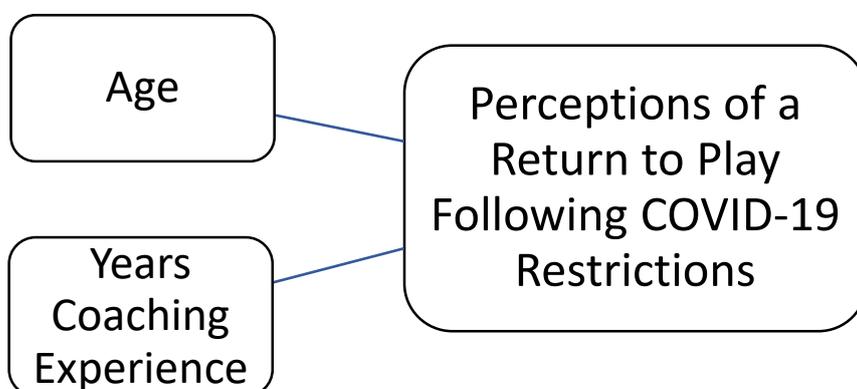
One industry affected by the COVID-19 mandated social distancing policies is sport. Sporting leagues of all levels throughout the world, from minor youth sports to multi-billion-dollar professional leagues, have experienced a disruption to game and practice schedules. Even the 2020 Olympics was postponed for a year. In addition, these leagues' governing bodies have been faced with pressures to make decisions regarding a return to play amidst a deadly pandemic for a disease that medical experts still do not have a complete understanding of. While these organizations may have safety guidelines in place, few had guidelines for a pandemic (Fitzgerald & Deutsch, 2016).

In the wake of pressures to return to some normalcy, sport leagues have begun a return to play, many of which include regulations additional to the typical athlete and fan experience. These regulations may include limitations in spectator seating, team travel, season length, and many other aspects of the athlete-fan experience. Additionally, given the limited understanding of COVID-19 transmission and symptoms, the individuals involved with competing, working, and spectating at these first sporting events may be putting themselves in additional danger compared to recommended social distancing practices.

Youth, middle school, and high school sport leagues are of specific interest in America given the currently inconclusive national plan for returning to face-to-face instruction of students at schools. In early August, U.S. education chief Betsy DeVos encouraged local community governments to reopen schools back to a five-days-a-week, in-person format for the fall of 2020 (Bredemeier, 2020). However, current reports indicate governors and state officials from most states (37 out of 50) have not mandated any order for the opening or closing of schools, leaving these decisions about conducting school instruction and sport to the local education and public health leaders ("Map: Where has COVID-19 closed schools?", 2020). While school sport participation promotes the kids' physical and mental health (Physical Activity Guidelines for Americans, 2018), inherent risks of COVID-19 transmission would be taken on if sport were to be conducted without some regulation. The current CDC recommendation is to have a phased re-emergence of sport participation, following all CDC social distancing recommendations within the sport experience (Children's Mercy, 2020). This leaves to question what to do with sports that do not promote social distancing of the athletes (football, soccer, wrestling, etc.) and also puts an extra strain on schools to have personnel at sporting events to monitor the adherence of spectators to social distancing, sanitation, mask-wearing, etc.

Although not directly in charge of policymaking, school sport coaches are of those who take on increased risk with a return to sport. School sport coaches and teachers, many of whom wear both hats, will be surrounded by masses of children in atmospheres where social distancing is neither common nor achievable (Christofferson & Deutsch, 2017). For example, imagine the difficulty of following social distance (6 feet apart) guidelines in a modern-day classroom with 40 students or a wrestling practice. Thus, one could argue that the decisions for a return to play of school sports should be made regarding these school teachers' and sport coaches' thoughts. Therefore, the current study's goal is to identify the attitudes, comfort level, and experiences of current sport professionals throughout the country in regards to a return to play. Also, coaches' age and years of coaching experience will be analyzed in order to identify any relationships between responses. The proposed model for this research hypothesis is displayed in Figure 1.

**Figure 1**  
***Proposed Research Model***



## Method

### Participants

As shown in Table 1, the participants of this study were 181 Youth and High School Sport Coaches of a variety of sports. The sample contained males ( $n = 123$ ) and females ( $n = 58$ ). The age of respondents ranged from 20 or more years of age. If a coach indicated they coached a high school sport, they were considered a high school coach for this study, regardless of their coaching participation at the younger level. A small percentage (8.3%) of the sample consisted of exclusively coaching professionals at the middle school or youth levels. Years of coaching experience varied with respondents reporting experience of 1-5 years ( $n = 32$ ), 5-10 years ( $n = 34$ ), 10-15 years ( $n = 35$ ), 15-20 years ( $n = 22$ ), and more than 20 years ( $n = 58$ ).

**Table 1**  
***Demographic Data***

Variable	<i>N</i>	%
<b>Gender</b>		
Male	123	68
Female	58	32
<b>Age</b>		
20-30 years	35	19.3
30-40 years	43	23.8
40-50 years	45	24.9
50-60 years	43	23.8
Over 60 years	15	8.3
<b>Grade Level</b>		
Youth	1	0.7
Middle School	14	7.7
High School	165	91.2

Years Coaching Experience		
1-5 years	32	17.7
5-10 years	34	18.8
10-15 years	35	19.3
15-20 years	22	12.2
More than 20 years	58	32

## Measures

A return to play questionnaire was created and used to collect data for this study. The survey consisted of 12 yes or no questions regarding a return to play during the pandemic. School sport coaches were asked to respond honestly to the statements indicating yes or no to each. They were instructed to leave questions blank that made them uncomfortable or didn't apply to their coaching experiences. A reliability assessment of the questionnaire items (where observed score = true score + errors of measurement) indicated an acceptable reliability score for the questions used (Cronbach's  $\alpha = .74$ )

## Procedure

Contact information for high school athletic activities associations representing the upper Midwest was obtained online. Each of the directors was contacted via email, asking if they would be willing to send the project survey to coaches in their respective associations. Upon agreement, each director was emailed a consent message web link to access the survey on Qualtrics. The director then sent the consent message and survey link to sport coaches in their respective associations. This study was approved by the University Institutional Review Board (IRB). All subjects were asked to read and acknowledge their willingness to participate on an electronic consent form that the IRB approved. All individuals who were surveyed were at least 18 years of age.

## Analysis of Data

Completed surveys were collected via Qualtrics and converted to an Excel spreadsheet. The data on the spreadsheet were entered into the IBM SPSS 26 Statistical Software for analysis. Statistical methods employed to conduct data analysis included frequencies to determine percentages. For further analysis, the question responses were combined into two categories: yes and no. A crosstabs analysis and Pearson Chi-Square tests of association were utilized to identify statistical significance within the variables.

## Results

Percentages for high school coaches who responded "Yes" to each question are presented in Tables 2, 3, 4, & 5. Pearson chi-square tests of association were conducted for age, years of coaching experience, and grade level regarding the given yes/no response for each question. No statistically significant association was found at the  $p \leq .05$  level between age or years of coaching experience and any response to a yes/no question. In other words, there seemed to be no association between a person's age or coaching experience and whether the individual answered yes or no to a particular question. After each yes/no question, coaches were invited to provide an open-ended explanation to their answer. Due to the wide variety of responses in these open-ended explanations, statistical expressions were not conducted, and an inclusive list of responses for each question is provided in Appendix A.

### Coaches Perceptions of a Return-to-Play

The number of coaches who responded "Yes" to each question regarding their thoughts of a return-to-play are shown in Table 2. Among respondents, the question that had the highest percentage of "Yes" answers was "Do you think a return to play policy should include alterations to the sporting season as compared to normal?". A similar percentage of individuals agreed they

were "concerned about the mental aspects of the children returning to play." Fewer respondents reported "having concerns with returning to play of youth and high school sports after Covid-19 mandated cancellations and restrictions".

**Table 2**  
*Percentage of Sport Coaches who answered "Yes" to each question.*

<i>Question</i>	<i>%</i>
Do you have concerns with returning to play of youth and high school sports after Covid-19 mandated cancellations and restrictions?	38.7
Do you think a return to play policy should include alterations to the sporting season as compared to normal?	56.9
Are you concerned about the mental aspects of the children returning to play?	54.1

### **Athletes and Parents Perceptions of a Return-to-Play**

Coaches were asked whether or not athletes and parents had expressed concerns about a return-to-play. Less than a quarter of the respondents had been contacted by either an athlete or parent with concerns (Table 3).

**Table 3**  
*Percentage of Sport Coaches who answered "Yes" to each question.*

<i>Question</i>	<i>%</i>
Have any athletes reached out to you about concerns regarding a return to play?	19.9
Have any parents reached out to you about concerns regarding a return to play?	21.5

### **Coaches Perceptions of a Return-to-Play Policy**

When asked about their opinion on a return-to-play policy (Table 4), a similar number of coaches thought alterations should be made to game schedules and practice schedules compared to normal. More than three-quarters of the coaches believed that a return-to-play policy should include modifications to seating and attendance as compared to normal. Besides these changes, a quarter of the coaches thought additional alterations were necessary.

**Table 4**  
*Percentage of Sport Coaches who answered "Yes" to each question.*

<i>Question</i>	<i>%</i>
Should a return to play policy include alterations to practice schedules as compared to normal?	46.4
Should a return to play policy include alterations to game schedules as compared to normal?	45.9
Should a return to play policy include alterations to seating/attendance as compared to normal?	78.5
Should a return to play policy include alterations to any other aspect of the sport experience?	24.9

### **School Policies Regarding a Return-to-Play**

Most coaches reported their school having a policy set for a return-to-play, with a majority of the coaches whose school has a policy set agreed that they are satisfied with the policy (Table 5). While over half of the coaches who reported their school having a policy said it included alterations to the game schedule. For those answering the policy, the question with the most "Yes" answers was, "Does the policy include alterations to seating/attendance compared to normal?". Less than half of the coaches reported needing anything additional for their administrators.

**Table 5**  
***Percentage of Sport Coaches who answered "Yes" to each question.***

<i>Question</i>	<i>%</i>
Has your school set a policy for returning to play? If yes, answer the following.	83.4
Does the policy include alterations to game schedules as compared to normal?	56.4
Does the policy include alterations to seating/attendance as compared to normal?	75.1
Does the policy include alterations to any other aspect of the sport experience?	48.1
Are you satisfied with the policy your school set for a return to play?	72.9
Do you need anything from administrators to aid with this return to play?	40.9

## Discussion

### Coaches Perceptions of a Return-to-Play

Over half of the coaches in this sample thought alterations to the sporting season were necessary amid this pandemic (56.9%); however, only a small fraction of these coaches reported concerns about a return to play (38.7%). Common explanations for lack of concern by the coaches included a lack of worry about the virus, the belief that young people are less affected by the virus, the notion that they have not had any outbreaks yet, and that current school policies will render them safe from concern. These explanations demonstrate an outlook of the necessity for a return to play, especially when protocols have been put in place already. While the perspective of individuals who reported concerns commonly cited explanations like the health and safety of the kids and their families, the potential contribution to rising case numbers, and the unknowns of the virus.

Perhaps the lack of concerns for returning to play was due to the coaches' perspectives regarding the importance of a return to play. When asked, "Are you concerned about the mental aspects of the children returning to play?" a large number of participant explanations stated concern for mental aspects of children if they could not return to play. Results from a meta-analysis indicate there has been limited research regarding psychological and motor effects children might experience from pandemic-necessitated confinement (Cachón-Zagalaz et al., 2020). However, one investigation indicates anxiety levels of individuals over 18 years old are elevated by the pandemic, with 80% of respondents being preoccupied with thoughts of COVID-19 (Roy et al., 2020). So, the mental aspects of these children may be similar in regards to COVID-induced stress. This stress may be compounded with their lack of sport participation and physical activity to potentiate children's unsafe mental state as sport participation has been shown to be positively associated with psychological, psychosocial, and social domains (Eime et al., 2013). It is also well known that physical activity and sport participation are related to reducing obesity and health problems for children (Jago et al., 2019), and that sedentary behavior negatively impacts their cognitive performance (Biddle & Asare, 2011). Thus, the common concern for children's mental aspects resulting from not participating in sport may be warranted.

### Athletes and Parents Perceptions of a Return-to-Play

Of the coaches in this sample who had said yes to being contacted by a parent (21.5%), their reports indicated that parents reached out with safety concerns with the return to play. Still, there were reports of parents expressing how they support a return to play and do not want their child to lose a season. As the risk for severe illness with COVID-19 increases with age (Center for Disease Control and Prevention [CDC], 2020), it may not be surprising that parents reached out to coaches with concerns about health and safety. However, some parents are still concerned about

their child not having the opportunity to return to play. Prioritizing youth sport is firmly engrained in family schedules and lifestyles, with a significant amount of time and money devoted to their child's participation (Sanderson & Brown, 2020; Christofferson & Deutsch, 2018). When health is a concern or organized sport has not returned, parents may not have the ability to provide their child with adequate accommodations to continue the sport-specific practice. This may be difficult for parents to accept. Many see sports as a gateway to a college scholarship and have some identity fulfillment from their children's sport participation and performance (Meân & Kassing, 2008; Sanderson & Brown, 2020).

Respondents from this study explained that when athletes reached out to them with concerns (19.9%), they generally expressed concerns about their desire for a total return to play. However, some answers also indicate that athletes were concerned about the health of themselves and their family members with a return to play. A key factor contributing to youth's positive development is the physical and psychological safety of their environment (Kelly et al., 2020). The safety of the youth sport setting is compensated due to the pandemic, in a way we've never experienced before. Athletes' mental and psychological aspects are also being tested like never before, where both the effects of participating (ex. fear, stress) and abstaining (ex. social isolation) from sport activities are unsafe (Kelly et al., 2020). Nonetheless, despite an unclear idea of how safe the sport environment will be, only a slight majority of the coaches from this study were confronted by athletes with concerns about their return to play.

### **Coaches Perceptions of a Return-to-Play Policy**

The coaches in this study were most supportive of an alteration to attendance and seating compared to normal (78.5%), with over  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the sample indicating it should be incorporated into a return to play. Whereas less than half of the sample answered yes to the questions opting for alterations of practice (46.4%) and game (45.9%) scheduled as compared to normal. This is in alignment with paralleled research investigation of a national audience of 10,539 people that represents the landscape of youth sports, reported limiting contact between players, no spectators above 65 years old, and social distancing as "must-be" factors for a return to sport participation (Pierce et al., 2020). Explanations of the coaches who supported alterations in attendance and seating in the current study somewhat align with that investigation, calling for attendance vouchers, social distance, and limited spectators.

Specific explanations of coaches who answered "yes" to changes in practices as compared to normal tended to describe social distancing and limiting group sizes as alterations that should be included. For games, coaches explained keeping play more local as a desired alteration, where tournaments are not scheduled, and non-conference play is limited during the regular season. Finally, few coaches from this sample (24.9%) reported additional alterations that were necessary beyond those outlined by the questions in this study.

### **School Policies Regarding a Return-to-Play**

A majority (83.4%) of the sport coaches reported their school having set a policy for a return to play during the pandemic. At the beginning of June 2020, 41 states were permitting sport teams to practice, 29 of which were preparing to play games by the end of the month; while nine states had no plans to reopen practices and 21 states had no plans to start playing games (Pierce et al., 2020). The explanations of coaches who answered "Yes" to questions regarding their school policy often included statements about the requirements of fewer games and travel, more masks and social distancing at games with vouchers for attendance, and altered spacing of benches and bus seating for the athletes. While this survey was filled out during the Fall sport season, indoor winter sports now pose an added concern given the increased difficulty of social distancing. Some schools have pushed back winter sport start dates to February, whereas many Southern states began winter seasons as usual (Coronavirus High School Sports Information, 2021).

## Limitations

This research project contains limitations to consider within its implications. One consideration is the assumption that participants were answering questions reliably and honestly. Some coaches may have felt pressure to answer questions correctly, disregarding their perspective on the matter. Additionally, the coaches surveyed in this study are from a specific region of the US where COVID-19 had different prevalence rates at the time of the survey than other states and other state-mandated protocols for sport. Therefore, national-level inferences based on the results of this study should be brought forth with caution.

## Conclusion

This coaching sample is representative of the Midwest portion of the US. The coaches surveyed in this study had a wide variety in age and years of coaching experience, but neither of these factors influenced their answers to a statistically significant degree. Overall, only about half the sample indicated concerns about a return to play or thought a return to play should include any alterations to the regular sport season. A smaller percentage of coaches had been contacted by parents or athletes with concerns given a return to play. As for the coach's thoughts regarding a return to play policy, the only question that a majority of coaches answered "Yes" to was, "Should a return to play policy include alterations to seating/attendance as compared to normal?". Less of the coaches answered "Yes" to support alterations of practices and games compared to normal. Finally, a majority of respondents reported their school having policies for a return to play, and a substantial portion of the respondents also answered "Yes" to being satisfied with their school's policy.

As many states have policies that include restrictions on the youth sport experience, the future of youth sport is still unknown (Miller & Deutsch, 2020). The information obtained from coaches in the current study presents a small illustration of the current perceptions of athletic leaders in this region regarding the return to play of youth sport coaches and their respective schools' policies. The coaches in this study reside in states that allowed for the full participation of Fall and Winter sport leagues, with some modifications to practice, travel, and games; while, other states in the country postponed fall and winter sport schedules to the Spring and are just now beginning a return to competitions (Coronavirus High School Sports Information, 2021). Therefore, their perceptions are likely to be somewhat different than coaches from other regions of the country who were not required to prepare for a competitive season as early.

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**Appendix A** (Comments are listed exactly as they were recorded –no editing done)  
***Do you have concerns with returning to play of youth and high school sports after Covid-19 mandated cancellations and restrictions?***

Explanations to “Yes” answers

My concerns mostly are with keeping the athletes safe and healthy.
Safety of players and their families
Athletes being smart about avoiding mass gatherings.
I fear that we may overload our health care system with cases.
No thank you.
Questions still are unanswered about the long term effects of the virus. Are we putting our children and coaches in harm's way without knowing the full consequences? On the other hand, people need a purpose and sports can provide that. Mental health may be an issue if we continued to sit out.
Infection rates going up
They need to be able to play
There is fear in our community with Covid 19. That may not be everywhere, but it is here. I think we overlook that and put kids in the middle of that decision.
I don't want the virus to spread, but we should also be allowed to play our seasons.
Yes have basic concerns but feel we should be playing with some restrictions.
Concerns with the possibility of spreading COVID. People need to be safe/smart
I worry about the safety of players and coaches but see it as important we resume play
I am glad to be playing again, but also worry about players and coaches health.
I am concerned that schools, athletes, families, and communities will not get a season that they deserve.
I think safety should be above sports, and with the election year this year... that is not the case
Just the unknown is hard to deal with
General concerns related to people being brought together in close contact.
i feel there a degree of anxiety and also the fear of a season getting shut down early. Those two factors can be demoralizing.
The uncertainty of whether there will be another stoppage.
While I love sports and activities, and I think they are an integral part of the high school experience, I do believe that activities right now are what I'd consider unnecessary contact.
The safety of our athletes and consistency in our guidelines
If sports get cancelled it makes it hard to train and prepare for the future.
Mostly concern with the amount of schools that are so different from each other as far as masks, social distancing, amount of spectators, etc.
Lack of rules
only because of my age
There are so many variables to take into account. You can control yourself and what your student-athletes need to behave like at practice but you cannot control what others choose to do outside of practice.
Students will have gone through a lot of wildly varying experiences and may be emotionally and physically out of practice.
Covid-19 has added additional stressors to both coaches and athletes
its a pandemic - people are dying -- there should be concern
Concerns of the health of the participants and staff overwhelm me.
My biggest concern is the mentality of players because they are literally playing day by day.
mixed emotions with the need for students to play but worried about the risks

We don't know how this is going to effect our kids and members of our community.

Any logical person should have concerns. That doesn't mean we live in fear.

We're going to spread the virus having returned to play

We stayed home in March with no cases, we are now back to school and participating with high amounts of Covid cases in our region and state- doesn't make sense

I'm more worried with basketball being close contact, and flu season.

The mental health aspect for students and coaches

My concern isn't with the athletes or the practices/competitions, it's with the parents that choose to not follow the guidelines put in place to keep us competing and in school.

Just the fear people are having with the Virus.

Yes. It doesn't make sense to jeopardize the health and safety of children over sports. Most COVID 19 syptoms are asymptomatic. So even though you take temperature and screen individuals before games...they still could have the virus and not even know it. Thus spreading it to others. Again, it seems that most states including ND that are pushing sports during this time are seeing it as "losing money" for their town and state. Sporting events have a huge impact on the states economy. So having sports has more to do with money rather than safety.

how can I be my best coaching self without the physical contact?

The fact that young people don't always realize the seriousness of their actions as not wearing masks or social distancing.

I think our school cold have stronger guidelines for our students and athletes.

My own families safety is my biggest concern.

Quarantine first contacts hard to find all. Students say this person was in contact with me and get that athlete into quarantine and it was not true

We now have girls hesitant to tell us they do not feel good because they do not want to miss practice/games or be the reason for someone having to quarantine.

Not being able to finish a season would be detrimental, not only to coaches, but athletes.

Nervous about catching it myself. Wishing kids would be more careful.

Yes it's a day to day situation.. I believe we have to take our precaution yet this virus seems to effect them hardly at all or like a form of strep or influenza... I feel like our whole world is changing to this virus and it shouldn't be unless u have an at risk athlete...

Minimal concerns directly towards interacting with visiting teams, therefore individuals from another area or region.

Will everyone want to return? Will some be behind because of none participation? What effect will it have on others - as far as being around others.

The fact that I may get sick and have an underlying diagnosis

I think cancellations and restrictions have had a negative impact on our athletes.

Concerns that the season may be too quickly cancelled.

Concerned with the ability of this virus to spread rapidly and for the health of my athletes

Keeping athletes and coaches safe and healthy

Thenover all health of athletes and coaches. But more importantly, the student athletes not getting ever great opportunity that participating in extra curricular activities can bring them.

For contact sports I worry about the spread and increase in cases.

My concerns are that the restrictions will not allow competitions to happen this year.

I hope the paranoia doesn't outweigh the reality.

#### Explanations to "No" answers

I think that we need to live with covid-19 not run and hide from it

We already have returned to play for 8 weeks.

I feel that our youth missing out on peer interaction and exercise is not good in the long run.

If precautions are taken and followed through, there should be no issues.

little to no risk in transfer from what i have seen

it has been shown that COVID is not as fatal as earlier thought and especially not fatal in youth

We played baseball all summer, across states, zero covid.

I truly believe that we can keep everyone safe by just doing the right things.

Kids need to play their sports...It is good for their mental health.

Let them play

I have no concerns. I do not believe the risks out weigh the learning and growing that happens in extra curricular activities. People that want to stay away, should do that, and watch from home.

Our children need sports and the positives far outweigh the negatives.

Our school has protocols in place.

Kids need to play sports and be in school full time in my opinion. I understand the risks of Covid, but the risks of not allowing kids to be kids and to continue interactive participation in school and sports are essential for their health and development both mentally and physically.

Students need their activities.

I think Covid is completely overblown. I think the restrictions are unnecessary

We should treat COVID-19 as the common Flu.

we are taking all the necessary precautions as set by the CDC

In cross country, the athletes are able to continue training without team or staff.

The kids need it for their own emotional needs

The threat is overblown

I think that it is better for the physical and mental well being of our youth to return to play.

Risk is over emphasized.

COVID is not going away and we need to get to a point where we are able to weigh and accept the risks in a safe way.

I believe the youth can bounce back stronger than older people. Also they need social interaction more than population to develop both socially and mentally.

We keep our athletes ready to go at all times.

I believe we should eb concerned about the elderly, not the healthy youth

We have made a number of modifications, many are probably overly tideous, but as a Head Coach I'm going to take as precautions as we need to in order to continue playing!!

Take the necessary precautions and keep your physical distance before and after events

We have to continue living our lives as normal as possible and plow thru any situation.

If the cancellations of games, or restrictions are in place to keep all youth safe from Covid 19 they MUST be followed.

I am ready to get back. I believe our athletes deserve to play their seasons.

I think by taking the proper steps, we will be fine.

I believe that getting back to sports and providing the opportunities is healthy. Our youth are struggling mentally during this time and need this for their own mental well being. We provide a structured environment in the school setting that is much safer than having the kids do this with an outside organization.

Kids need to be active.

We will do what we can to lower the risk and then make the best of the situation.

I think the powers that be are doing a great job of making sure coaches and athletes are taking all the precautions they need to safely return to play.

In our sport we can implement the necessary precautions to keep athletes and coaches safe.

This is hurting our Athletes

Don't really believe in it because all the CDC, clinics, testing sites all have different ways of doing things and don't make any sense. We really have to start looking at the mental aspect of our student/athletes instead of them being locked in the house without being sick.

I believe the benefits are way better than the risks for our youth.

I believe in using common sense & feel some of the restrictions were too harsh & that the 'cure' is worse than the virus. I believe strongly that it has affected the kids mentally in a negative way.

Our kids need activities. Their anxiety is off the charts

We as a team have done everything we can in hopes we stay healthy. We have followed every guideline we have been given and have taken additional steps to protect our team.

I am in a district with active fall sports.

We are taking precautions

Small school, all of the team has been hanging out together before the start of volleyball.

We are already in the midst of our season and even upon starting I wasn't concerned with all of the protocols in place.

***Do you think a return to play policy should include alterations to the sporting season as compared to normal?***

Explanations to "Yes" answers

certain restrictions are ok, but cancellation is unacceptable.

Safety should be the main concern

Limited spectators and testing if possible.

We should play a minimum number of games; practices should be shortened for all; playoffs should still be held, but with minimum travel

Amateur sports, which involve us coaching someone's children, need to be taking at least as many precautions as professional leagues are taking with grown adults.

Less travel - less games. I think this season should have a focus on skill building rather than cramming in as many games as possible.

Scheduling of certain events like jamborees, tournaments, etc

Should always take the safety of our athletes into consideration when making decisions

If we can play the sports and take all precautions and make as safe as possible to help with the anxiety by moving or changing the season than we absolutely should. IT about the kids.

Certain restrictions are ok, but cancellation is unacceptable.

With adjustments made by our state association and our school.

Any reasonable safety measures should be used

I feel we will be learning new things that we haven't experienced before.

I think less competitions and more evenly spaced seasons should be in place

Yes, sports need to be altered just like they are (fan attendance, number of opponents, etc.)

We need to do what we can to insure that seasons can be played without risk

Anything that would give a greater possibility of the season happening and finishing.

We cannot continue to treat this situation like it is a typical season. There are definite steps that should be taken to minimize contact between athletes

Practice social distancing as much as we are able

We have to come up with a way to still play without total cancellation.

We need to take every precaution we can. It's about optics. We have to look like we are doing what we can.

Audience at games should be limited, all individuals should have to wear a mask into and out of the venue, if outdoors social distancing guidelines must be met.

It's hard to say, since my sport is in spring--a lot could change by then, but I don't foresee us being able to just jump right into a season.

see above

The health and well being of the student athletes is paramount.

more precautions need to be taken

Reason would dictate this is a must. Modifications must be made to ensure as safe a return to play as possible

flexibility in scheduling, rules, officiating, etc.

I think large gatherings held in spaces that won't allow for social distancing should not take place.

Yes, but common sense used. Some sports an athlete can not compete well with a mask on. Parents and athletes need to realize that not all people will adhere to the rules and must choose if they want to continue at their own risk. The hope is people will want to do right by other people and follow the safety rules on COVID-19..

You have to be flexible and allow for teams that are down due to Covid restrictions.

Things aren't normal anymore

No but treat it like a concussion monitor them and make sure they r healthy enough to come back..

I believe that alterations made to my sport were appropriate. The use of hand sanitizer is appropriate & elimination of hand shakes was appropriate.

On region/conference games should be played

Limiting contact and exposure when able

In order to follow CDC and state health dept guidelines we have no choice but to make changes.

Shorter season, less spectators, no out-of-State competitions, only conference schedule

Some common sense changes should take place as needed

Amount of time spent in locker rooms

Each situation is different. Population of higher cases can deter participation which I turn changes rules and gathering regulations

We follow cdc guidelines as best we can.

Our school district has been very pro-cautionary. We are not allowing fans at any sporting event.

Situations should dictate schedule changes.

the more we learn, the more we should adjust

We are already altering things and they are for the best.

Locker room separation, space between players, masks

Wear masks when necessary and use individual water bottles, etc. But sports should continue no matter what, even if a member of the team has positive cases. We are going too far.

Return but with safety precautions

Just simple things like don't come to practice if you are not feeling well

Do whatever is necessary to avoid shutdown/quarantine to give kids a chance to compete

Social distancing, locker room time restrictions, masks, etc.

We need to take necessary precautions if possible so we can finish our athletic seasons.

Inclusion of masks, make up games, or no contest if can't be made up

More testing needs to be done. If a player is positive, that player quarantines. Negative contact tracing should plays.

There has to be, because we have never been in this situation.

This is a very fluid situation and we must be able to make adjustments according to the health and safety of the youth.

Typical COVID protocol, maybe less bussing, smaller groups together in practice

We need to follow the guidelines

I think because of Covid, there needs to be alterations because it is a whole different situation.

I agree with those implemented by the USGA and NDHSAA

I think so because of how unknown this virus is to not only our nation, but also globally.

It isn't advisable to host track meets with hundreds of athletes that can not easily social distance. Establishing standards that limit participants to limit interactions makes sense.

Attendance should be lessened to a small degree.

There can be minimal alterations, but canceling an entire season or not allowing kids to play the game the way it should be isn't acceptable. This isn't a yes/no question, too many variables

Keep people safe without going crazy with restrictions.

A pandemic is something none of us have dealt with previously, so precautions need to be in place to maintain safety of coaches and players.

I think tournaments, or places where you sit in one location for a long time should be altered.

In ND we have many protocols to follow regarding covid. Although at first they seem like a nuisance, they are easy additions and necessary to keep our athletes healthy and continue our season.

Be mindful of interactions between schools... what's necessary and what's not, etc.

If there is an increase in Covid exposures, we must also alter the season to minimize exposures among the athletes.

#### Explanations to "No" answers

The mental health of students is important and I feel the ability to play sports with some sort of normalcy is important for them.

Seasons should be able to stay. If you move seasons around, you are affecting other activities/sports

I think there is sufficient evidence to show that the impact of this virus is not directed at young age groups. They aren't being hindered by it or laid up in hospitals. We need to allow them to live their full lives and also protect those at high risk. High risk individuals should not be in attendance and should isolate themselves when possible. The students and their families have a right to choose what they want to do, to gauge their level of risk, and to participate in activities.

I don't have any suggestions what alterations might be implemented

Important to give a sense of normal

I think for the most part, we know who is at the most risk and we need to protect those people.

Because the season might overlap other sporting seasons that an individual is interested in.

This would force a child to choose between two sports they might really like.

I think you should be able to return to play as normal.

Areas have different cases so individual schools should decide.

People like the normal and want to know what is going on.

COVID is not that fatal to youth

Just let the kids play.

If procedures are in place, if teams are healthy, they should play a normal schedule.

It should be the same as usual.

Our athletes need to compete. We need to get back to normal for them!!

The disease does not seem to affect the younger population- a bad influenza causes more harm to the young population

Keep going and address it again if it needs to be addressed

I feel we should play the full season

Any alterations, if made, should be made permanent, if they cannot be made permanent, if that is not possible then we should not do it. Like I said above, COVID is likely a new safety consideration we will need to make going forward and life with. Just like the flu.

if your at risk you know you are, so take care of yourself and stay home

We did, cut out our non-conference season which in FB & in 3A that was only 2 games. I was more apprehensive about not doing anything FB wise all summer. We lifted & sprinted all summer, but not camps or such as usual.

I don't believe we should move season as i could affect other sports that traditionally play during that season.

Let ride it out and see what happens.

I don't believe that alterations are needed. Schedules should proceed as normal.

See above

***Are you concerned about the mental aspects of the children returning to play?***

Explanations to "Yes" answers

I am more concerned with it if we do not return. Those Athletes will miss out on important life skill lessons. Some students also need coaches to be a proper role model.

They want to bring it home to their parents

No comment.

Playing relieves much stress

I think sport helps the mental state of our students and provides an outlet for enjoyment, acceptance and expression

Students have to perform at a high level while worrying about covid, it may be an unnecessary stressor on the students

It is hard on everyone! The uncertainty

I'm concerned about their mental aspects if sports seasons don't come back.

I want them to participate without the fear or expectation that our season could end anytime

There is an added element of worry with every move kids make. One wrong move paired with a positive test result could result in the suspension of the sport for the whole team.

Fear

Yes, with young children I could see many being very scared of returning due to COVID-19

Mostly just with balancing everything. School is weird right now as are many of their home lives. Being a student athlete is already challenging, and this year will be tougher.

there is fear and apprehension

kids need a release

I am concerned about the extremely negative impact NOT playing has on our student-athletes.

My concern is without returning to play. I have witnessed kids from the spring until now who are typically high energy, positive type kids turn to almost a depressed state without social interaction and activity with their peers.

There is stress while dealing with this for all athletes.

Are they going to get it or not

Yes, because I have gils who have tested positive and their team had to quarantine because of it. Missing games and practice. They are feeling every upset with themselves because of it.

It is very overwhelming

I'm concerned about support for students. I think it's important for them to have sports, but I'm also sensitive to the situation we're in.

Can't perform to their capabilities

Fear of the unexpected

Some are hesitant some are ready to go

They need this social interaction as it is important to their growth.

but for very few of them ... more concerned about those not getting to play for potentially no reason

Because they have been away from it for too long

Playing sports are essential for their mental health, not playing is extremely detrimental to their mental health.

It will be better for them mentally

kids need social interaction and a bit or normalcy

I think it is better for our athlete's mental health to return to play.

We are physically prepared and mentally prepared strategy wise, but the athletes might not be confident at first

Some players will be honest about their symptoms and other will not be, therefore there is a huge risk to all athletes, coaches, parents, referees, family members, community members, and administrators. Plus the athlete who might have it, could get bullied by other team members.

It is my #1 concern. Many kids are really struggling right now with this and the effects mentally with that age group are far worse than what they are experiencing with the Virus itself.

Has to be in the back of their mind - But most will play for the chance to play

I am more worried about the mental aspect of my athletes if we DON'T have our season again.

They need the social, physical and emotional stability that sports can provide

I believe identifying athletes/parents concerns and honoring them will be important. I am confident we will be able to do both well.

Yes and no. I do believe that people need other human contact to stay healthy. Without activity, I believe one's mental health decreases and other issues arise.

They lost a lot this summer, so to give them a season and then spontaneously take it away would be detrimental to their mental health.

I would be concerned if the season we are currently in abruptly stopped.

There might be a few athletes who have underlying health conditions which could make them worse if they get in contact with Covid.

I feel some athletes may be anxious about returning to play, worried about exposing loved ones to the virus.

If children choose not to play because of COVID I have a concern. The mental health aspect of physical activity/sports is enormous. Not having opportunities to do these activities is harmful.

My only concern is that they have been taught to fear normal activity and have been presented with wild stories that cause fear and confusion. They need to be told the truth, and be taught courage and level headedness by leaders and government officials in their lives.

In addition to normal stressors, there is the added thoughts of remaining healthy as well as dealing with any stress added for "will we complete the season after all my hard work" or "will there be regional and state competitions?"

Explained above.

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Need

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If we don't return, there will be negative mental ramifications.

No...the kids just want to play and are eager to get out of the house to mingle with teammates. That's why it is important for parents to make the right safety decisions for children. Safety should come first.

Most just want to play even if they have a chance of catching it. Want it to be a normal year. Just seeing how they respond to the work ethic and mentally ready to participate.

I am constantly on their case about safety protocols and masks...I come across as the mask police.

The children have been at home for so long without human interaction, that is always hard on mental health.

They need to interact with their peers and they need to compete.  
kids need to play. Especially for their physical well being

Students need activities and athletics, studies show that. I am concerned if they cancel these once again that we could see plenty of mental health issues on the rise.

If kids are NOT able to play, I worry about their mental health

Yes - them being back helps with their social-emotional & mental health.

Concerned with a delay and the mental impact that could have.

Yes, but we have remained positive & upbeat the whole time about controlling what we can. Cleaning, masking, physical distancing, etc.

I'm worried that these kids may feel like they can't be as physical as they usually would on the court thinking they could contract the Covid.

Obviously, there will be concerns that students are feeling due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Uncertainty, is hard for people especially teenagers.

If our athletes are not able to participate in sport, I fear that they will embrace other forms of recreation that are not healthy.

If we get shut down, my athletes will be devastated.

Children sometimes seem to be questioning if they are jeopardizing the season when they come back after being sick or in quarantine. The isolation is also negatively impacting their mental health.

They need it and some futures are in jeopardy

We dwell on the negatives which drags them down.

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Explanations to "No" answers

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Players want good leadership and if we lead and explain why, they will follow

I really think kids will be more mentally distraught if they AREN'T allowed to play. Actually, I know they will be, because I saw it last spring. And then a month later, we started summer baseball, and the kids acted like Covid never existed all summer long.

If anything, I think children will benefit mentally from returning to play.

I don't think kids are forced to play. So if they choose to play they get their mind off of things. It's the kids that play but don't want to.

I feel the athletes are very happy and supportive to be playing.

I think as long as they are allowed to compete they are ok

no concerns

Students are ready to play and want to play. They are not as worried as I am.

I am more concerned about the mental aspects of not being able to return.

I think it's good for kids overall

They need this

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None

Most are very excited about returning

More concerned with their development as young adults, missing a year of social development is not healthy for teenage kids.

Benefits are better than the risks

I am concerned about them NOT returning to play

NA

I am more concerned about their mental state if we had not returned. These students need athletics and extra curricular activities.

I think returning to play is beneficial for their mental health!

I am more concerned with the mental aspect of kids not returning to play!

I am concerned about their mental aspects if they are not allowed to play.

I am concerned about the mental aspects of kids when they have activities taken away from them.

Mentally they have to compete and get back to normal!!

I think they need to play....because of their mental aspects

I am concerned about the mental aspects if they are not allowed to play, i have seen zero concerns of kids that have returned to play. Not playing i believe is life and health threatening

I worry more about the mental health of not playing and not being in school.

I am only concerned with the mental aspects of not being able to play.

***Have any athletes reached out to you about concerns regarding a return to play?***

Explanations to "Yes" answers

Some have asked to leave practice or not to participate in some drills they just want to play. Getting sick is a risk they are willing to take

They want to know what they need to do to be able to play again

Just wanted to know how things will look and what will happen if somebody is positive

Many of our athletes have vulnerable family members or are themselves vulnerable due to underlying health conditions. They realize the seriousness of this virus and choose to wear a mask, socially distance, and not ride the bus.

The say "do you think we will even have wrestling this year"

No concern over getting Covid, but many are struggling with the uncertainty of school and sport seasons.

Concerns with staying healthy and concerns about other teams in the area doing their part. see above

Write a better question.

Concerns of the health of family members

at risk parents

They want to play

Most concerns centered around the possibility of not getting to play.

Just fear of bringing the Virus home to their Grandparents.

There have been some players on teams that are telling other players not to report their symptoms of Covid 19, because they want to have their seasons. And peer pressure is a powerful thing in high school sports. This is probably happening all over the country.

Here at our school, we are still not allowed to have practices/gatherings/or use any facilities. Children are starting to transfer to other schools because their school is allowing such things to happen. This is diminishing our programs. Others don't want to play because of fear of contracting the virus. In ND...our school is the only class A school that is not holding any

sports, practices, or off-season work. Because of this, it will be difficult for us to compete when we get back to normal. However, I'm in total agreement with our choice not to have sports.

I have seniors that are nervous that we aren't going to have a season once again for the 2nd year in a row due to Covid.

My athletes wish our school required masks in school while we are face to face.

I meet kids in the weight room in the fall. One had indicated she doesn't feel comfortable coming because she has a large family and doesn't want to bring it home.

They don't want to be the one who is positive

Our spring season was canceled and this was felt throughout our team & alot of questions were asked as to what they could do so we can get back on the field.

Many, but more so on the not returning than the returning.

One freshman was nervous about playing, then quit after a week of practice. But then comes to school and is around many kids anyway.

some have quit due to fact not wanting to get their grandparents sick

Wondering if we would have to wear masks and such.

Wrestlers want to know if we will be able to have a wrestling season.

Asked if the season is still on

#### Explanations to "No" answers

Kids have been told over and over that they're basically immune to Covid, and half their parents think it's all a hoax, so of course they aren't worried.

Kids usually don't think about the long-term consequences. They want things to go back to normal. Ultimately we need to make sure they're in a safe environment.

NA

Have not reached out - but some have not come out and played.

They want to play.

None

Everyone wants to play

No athletes have had issues playing during these times

None

They all want to compete. Get busy Livin!!

they want to play, no hesitation

kids dont seem to be concerned at practice but use mask inschool

n/a

They are happy to be oplaying and sick of being alone and not being able to do much

I think the athletes want to play no matter what.

All of our athletes want to return play. Our kids have no reservations at all about returning to play.

I coach in the spring and I believe athletes have taken a wait-and-see approach for how the fall/winter sports progress.

I think it was a relief of the the precautions we are taking daily. To know that we are going to preach safety the way we have been.

They are in quaratine or they have played

All want to play.

Athletes want to be competing again. They don't want to have seasons or competitions canceled.

They want to compete

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NA

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***Have any parents reached out to you about concerns regarding a return to play?***

Explanations to “Yes” answers

Some have wondered about the mask policy, specifically when and where they need to wear them.

Just wondering what I thought

just wondering what my feelings are towards certain precautions vs mandates

I have had a few emails regarding my own teams policies.

Lots of what -if questions

a parent wanted to know what the covid safety guidelines would be

A number are not happy about masks.

Concerned with any overnight situations.

Parents with concern about practice and bussing procedures.

One parent concerned about kids not wearing masks on the field

Biggest concerns have been the use of masks. On both sides of that divide.

They want us to follow policy but don't seem to be on board for also advocating to their kid the importance of not sharing water bottles, etc.

They wanted to know what precautions we were taking to keep kids safe at practice, on the bus, at games.

Concerns of the health of their child and to see what procedures we have in place.

They just asked questions as to how we would keep their kids healthy.

Some are scared

some parents are just concerned about the spread of covid.

Parents have inquired about our contact policies

Safety of their children along with the number of fans that would be able to watch games live.

They want to know how their students safety is being taken into account and what restrictions will be enforced

Parents seem equally concerned that their kids may contract the virus.

The say “I hope we have wrestling this year”

Write a better question.

Same. Health concerns of vulnerable family members.

Most concerns centered around the possibility of not getting to play.

Same concern as above. Would if an athlete is asymptomatic and brings it home to their family members.

Some are concerned for safety of athletes, some believe we are being overly cautious.

Parent of above child.

getting family members sick

Not knowing which households have COVID-19 and if their player will bring it to the team

Parents want to know if we will have a wrestling season.

Same-asked if there will be a season

Explanations to “No” answers

I haven't had any conversations yet with parents. Football and volleyball are sort of the test dummies for sports right now this fall.

NA

They want us in the gym. END OF STORY.

See previous answer.
Most want their children to play.
None
Smart parents understand that their kids should be playing no matter the risks
I have not heard anything from parents about playing.
None
They want sports and a normal school year!!
nothing
n/a
I think the parents want their athletes to play no matter what.
Our parents want their kids to return to play.
I coach in the spring and I believe parents have taken a wait-and-see approach for how the fall/winter sports progress.
I think it was a relief of the the precautions we are taking daily. To know that we are going to preach safety the way we have been.
They want sports season to run as normal.
N/A
Parents want their kids to participate and compete.
almost all are over it
Yes..I know some parents have a lot of concerns about their childs safety...other parents don't really care. They want their child to play despite the risk. These are the parents that have top athletes on the team. They are willing to risk their childs health over sports and transfer their child to schools that are allowing sports to take place.

***Should a return to play policy include alterations to practice schedules as compared to normal?***

Explanations to "Yes" answers

We have altered practice schedules to mediate the amount of kids around one another at a time.
If necessary for the health and safety of athletes.
Do whatever is necessary
Smaller numbers of participants together
We have separate practices for 7th and 8th grade.
Tell athletes to stay home if they are sick.
I think the number of participants in one place should be reduced. That may mean shorter practices to accommodate gym space but I think it is the best option.
Limiting locker room interactions, keeping less people in the gym at one time, etc.
Whatever we need to do to keep people safe 1st.
Usually girls and boys that share a facility are practicing one after another. There should be a gap of time to prepare the facility for the next group.
Space and time for disinfectant
We have added sanitezer and maintaining distancing when possible.
To keep student/athletes socially distanced.
If necessary to ensure acceptable athlete numbers and space.
just follow CDC guidelines

same as above, have to take every precaution we can so it looks like we are doing everything possible
bus trips we have been keeping kids to seperate on seating
just need to ne flexible
Just taking precautions regarding equipment, space, etc.
More practice time before competition.
maintaining physical distance and limiting time indoors
once again more precautions need to be taken by coaches as the students don't seem concerned
safety precautions
For physical distancing, who is in what group, drill, etc. Controlling everything we can.
If the sport requires close contact, then yes.
That automatically happens with numbers allowed in a building at a time. That makes for 2 separate practices, sometimes 3 practice times.
Only to maintain a safe situation
Try to avoid contact
Like I said above
Our program has done so much already, I do not believe any additional alterations can be made for our team.
Practice should be scheduled at normal but may include more precautions such as sanitizing/cleaning.
We have to space out our practices in order to eliminate as much cross over between groups as possible. That way, if there is a positive case it doesn't affect the whole program.
limiting contacts and exposures
Trying to keep the teams within the sport separate.
If necessary. Certain locations around the state are getting hit by the virus harder than others. Some changes necessary especially dressing rooms before and after in addition to spreading out and changing how we design practice.
We stagger Varsity and JV practice to limit contact between teams
Again, we must be flexible.
Any contact sport should not be having practice. It will spread the virus (Football, Basketball, Hockey, Wrestling, ect.)
They should allow us to be more flexible with out practice schedules.
Return to play policies should limit indoor group sizes for practice which will impact the sports I coach.
Masks in close group. Cleaning equipment
when we learn something we share and adjust
Need to kind of be perpared for the unknown!
Keep kids in groups as possible
More space and separate kids
Practices should be limited and monitored for all. All teams need to adhere to the policies - we owe it to our players, their parents, and our opponents.
Staggered starts and reducing interactions between teams
Again, we need to modify practices in a way that reduce close contacts. We need to minimize the impact of a positive case if one arises. Working in smaller groups makes more sense.
Not sure
If COVID is aerosol born, we will seriously need to have to improve air quality.

If necessary. I am not the expert, but would remain open to change  
 More precautions, spreading kids out, sanitizing more often, being creative to get things done but mitigate risk.  
 To stop the spread of Covid 19. and disinfected all areas. Will school have the money to do this?  
 make it safe  
 If that will allow us to have a season then yes.  
 Split groups, split practices, spread out more

#### Explanations to “No” answers

N/A  
 Practice schedules should proceed as normal. There is no reason to limit the number of participants or to mandate a bunch of screening questions.  
 coaches shouldnt wear masks  
 Normal practice is fine, just social distancing and masks need to be enforced more  
 Either we are playing and practicing or it isn't safe enough to do so  
 Small school, so practices are pretty much normal to non-COVID-19 affected seasons.  
 Coach has the leeway to do this as needed.  
 If we are going to return to play we should be all in.  
 It should be the same as usual.  
 Practice everyday. Have individual water bottles and make coaches wear masks. Those are good enough precautions.  
 Need to be able to practice the same time for conditioning/safety  
 Same amount of practices, just changes to the actual practice routine to be safe.  
 All young people have to get back to normal.  
 I believe we need to keep everything as normal as possible.  
 No recommendations for return to practice - Track and Field practices can accommodate social distancing and transportation to events should follow the same protocols established for fall sports.

#### ***Should a return to play policy include alterations to game schedules as compared to normal?***

#### Explanations to “Yes” answers

Depends on the sport. Is it indoors or outdoors?  
 Arrival and departure, limiting non-essential contact between teams  
 Maybe not as many opponents, limit to conference play.  
 Depending if your team or other team have COVID cases or suspected cases  
 I undertand the concern over tournaments with so many people attending.  
 Lack of tournaments (because of the number of people there) should give teams opportunities to play more regular games  
 large tournaments where there would be a large amount of athletes and fans in small spaces should be avoided in order to decrease risk of spread  
 We did a different schedule for the season due to Covid.  
 The only thing I would support is perhaps a contraction of the playoff schedule to allow the season to wrap up earlier in the year.  
 cut down on the number in the room per game.  
 This year we are not participating in any weekend tournaments  
 No tournaments.

If necessary for the health and safety of athletes.
As needed
Less travel. The less we travel into other communities with large groups of kids, the better chance we have of not spreading the virus.
We've tried to space out games a bit more to allow people to social distance better.
All teams should not play on same night. In season tournaments and gatherings should not be allowed. Fans should not be allowed.
Same as previous answer.
Limit spectator
We have made adjustments to our facilities for game days.
If we feel that will keep the season going and will keep the athletes/coaches safe.
If necessary to ensure acceptable athlete numbers and space.
try to play in your same demographic region
just need to ne flexible
Avoiding missing class time as much as possible.
llimit the exposure by limiting the number of activities
Keeping players, coaches and spectators safe should be a consideration.
No large tournaments
Above answer
More even game spacing.
Too much mixing of students from different cities/places could potentially result in an increase of cases.
Limit/exclude non conference matches/tournaments to help keep our season going and contacts limited.
accommodate for teams in quarantine when applicable
We canceled all volleyball tournaments, but filled those open dates with games.
For regular season: having no out of conference games so we can quarantine more effectively
Any contact sport should not be having games. It will spread the virus (Football, Basketball, Hockey, Wrestling, ect.)
Only play district games
See above. Limit the number of teams/competitors.
14 days for first close contact. And 10 days for positive. You might not have a team for 2 weeks
but each school should have a voice locally NOT from a state policy or mandate
Smaller XC meets probably are preferable
As addressed before, we need to limit the number of games played
Metro-area competition should be the primary competitive source. Reduce mixing and mingling between counties and cities
Not sure
Large gatherings in indoor facilities is not currently feasible.
Same answer
I think we can shorten the number of games played to help us play longer into the season.
To stop the spread. Athletes lives are more important then any sport.
safety
If that will allow us to have a season then yes.
Shorter season, later season, conference only

Explanations to “No” answers

See above

It should be the same as usual.

Play every game, a game lost is a great experience lost.

Pushing schedules around will affect other sports/activities

Be smart and continue as always!!

Keep things as normal as possible.

No recommendations for altering competition schedules.

If a player test positive that player quarantines, but the program show move up another to replace that player.

Contests should proceed.

We either assume it is safe to play or it isn't

Tournies are already cancelled so I guess they have altered them.

Only if there are large amount of quarantine issues with a team.

I think we should give as much opportunity as possible. If it makes sense to cancel longer trips and play more local, so be it.

***Should a return to play policy include alterations to seating/attendance as compared to normal?***

Explanations to “Yes” answers

Lessen the amount of spectators

limiting fans, possibly mandatory masks indoors

Limit numbers, but spread them out in the stadium.

Allow only parents -- or two family adults

Gyms with small seating options might need to limit attendance

Attendance is capped as it should be.

Assigned seats on the bus, and in the classroom. Seating for fans should have distance built in.

We have limited our attendance this year. Limiting tickets per player and asking them to wear masks and sit in their groups

I'm more concerned with student-athletes being able to play

Social Distancing for those who are not usually around each other. But teams should be okay to sit closely together.

If necessary for the health and safety of athletes.

As needed

I truly think we should have no fans indoors until we see how school and sports are affected this fall.

Social distancing, masks and live streaming as many events as possible.

No fans or minimal fans.

School policies on social distancing and mask wearing should be followed.

Limit spectators

We sit in different areas of the field and gymnasium.

social distancing

Anything that would ensure that the season could take place. Up to no fans, if necessary.

social distancing, masks, etc.

just need to ne flexible

Depending on cases in the area, distancing and mask requirements.

Additional spacing.

Attendees should be more spaced out at events. I do think that spectators should still be able to attend.

social distance recommendations

Spectators should have to social distance in the stands when outside rather than all sitting next to each other

Keep it at a low attendance, but still let people come watch

Limited/no attendance based on the recommendations of experts. Because ours is an outdoor sport mostly, I personally think limited number of fans should be allowed based on current data.

6 feet a part

Social distance is key!

More spacing, keep home/away crowds separate, maintain distance

Social distancing and mask requirements need to be in place and (most importantly) enforced.

Masks should be MANDATORY, not suggested. People need to understand that this is the single most important thing we can do right now to keep the virus under control. Limited capacity should also be considered.

Maybe a percentage of capacity

Large gatherings in indoor facilities is not currently feasible.

The science is in on this. 6 feet.

Limit the number of people coming to limit the number of possible cases.

Distancing six feet apart and wearing masks. People have to buy into this to keep themselves safe and others, they have to wear a mask and realize it is not a political thing. OR they do not attend the game if they do not want to wear a mask.

social distancing

If that will allow us to have a season then yes.

Spacing to keep the sport going. It is for the kids. So let's help them

Social distancing and wearing masks should highly be recommended by the schools.

Keeping 'pods' separated, so there isn't a spread and we can keep playing!

Spacing of fans if needed

If they want to social distance or give our tickets to family only that would probably be best.

Maintain social distancing

Social distancing is important for spectators.

Less fans/parents...this should be for the kids.

Wear masks, social distancing is virtually impossible. But fill stadiums, at the most require masks. Otherwise people attend at their own risk.

Masks, physical and social distancing, cleanliness all need to be monitored

Less crowd gathering especially with at risk populations

when indoors limit fans and seating should be further apart

Distancing

Need to distance for now

Try to social distance

I'd expect similar policies to fall and winter sporting events

Schools should use all areas available for people to use for seating for outdoor events.

Limiting the number of participants limits the amount/opportunity of close contact while not affecting the contest itself

Maybe o my allow so many spectators to view or make wearing a mask mandatory for all spectators

6ft social distancing and wearing a mask.

This is one area that needs to be looked at seriously. Masking up and social distancing is a major concern for the people in attendance.

Go by our schools policy

Masks if still in this mess.

Already in place.

Follow the guidelines

Keep distancing

Social distancing with towns staying within their own towns

Limit attendance

Keep fans spread out

Social distance seating

Vouchers and social distancing should do the trick

keep the fans away from the teams

spread out more, limited attendance, X amount of vouchers for each athlete and coach

Need to maintain social distancing.

We have less if a crowd. Asking them to social distance.

Physical distancing.

Limited spectators to provide social distancing.

just follow CDC guidelines and use your common sense

giving more space

limit attendance to match the ability to physical distance

safety

Yes, masks & physical distancing in my opinion

I think based on the data the answer to this would change more. I like the voucher system in place currently.

Time and distance matter with Covid, 50% or less makes sense.

Keep towns separated

Venue seating and ability to distance teams and spectators

For fan safety

#### Explanations to "No" answers

I think the audience can choose if they would like to view the game face to face or not.

Communities tend to sit together.

People should be able to make their own choices/decisions when making ANY decision

Let people decide

It should be the same as usual.

We have stayed by guidelines and reduce attendance numbers but people still don't practice social distancing.

If people are worried about attending an event due to COVID 19, they should stay home. Those who are healthy or those who are willing to take a risk in order to watch their children, grandchildren, or great grand children compete shouldn't be denied that opportunity.

Parents and fans have to take into account their own well being and attend as they feel safe.

There are lots of opportunities to watch online if they do not want to physically attend

If someone is at high risk, they shouldn't be there. Let people decide for themselves.

If your at risk dont come and take care of yourself, all in attendance know the risk  
It's up to the fans who they sit by or don't. If they're not comfortable then don't come.  
Parents want to come watch their child play. Wearing masks can help.

Wear mask at all events

***Should a return to play policy include alterations to any other aspect of the sport experience?***

Explanations to "Yes" answers

bussing/travel policies

Hopefully the importance of washing your hands, Notice your Environment, and situations  
If necessary for the health and safety of athletes.

Only as needed

Changes to travel logistics to ensure more space for athletes on trips.

Whatever medical professionals recommend.

The selling of concessions, etc.

Sanitizing the balls/hand sanitizer/masks allowed

every life experience has been altered, sports is not excluded from this

Having the fans to wear masks if they're within 6ft of each other.

just the ones already made == no spectators

Provide streaming for all HS sporting events

wear masks

Not sure

Hygiene practices need to be reviewed with participants.

Not sure on specifics.

What ever it takes to keep our athletes, coaches and every person involved in the sport safe.  
Athletes and coaches need to be aware of their surroundings and use caution when necessary.  
Exercise the recommendations given by the Health Dept.t.

No contact with other teams. No handshakes

just use common sense - if sick stay home

Yes, do what you have to do to play.

Maybe for others school but I do feels our school has done and is doing everything we  
possibly can.

Basic precaution: sanitizing shared space, masks, temp checks, limiting dress time before and  
after to 10 minutes.

Within reason. Altering things that don't need to happen

Masks on sidelines

People should be encouraged to practice good hand cleaning/sanitizing and social distance  
when possible. If it's not possible, those who are upset about it can watch online.

Explanations to "No" answers

Seems to hit everything else.

nothing

n/a

NA

I think your questions cover it all.

Sports are necessary for American children.

Sports need to be sports as much as they can to feel normal.

No recommendations

It should be the same as usual.

So far we have kept things as normal as possible and things are going very well.

N/A

***Does the policy include alterations to game schedules as compared to normal?***

Explanations to "Yes" answers

Possible cancellations due to COVID

For some sports, but not all. Volleyball, no multie team events.

Fewer Games

Only conference matches, including no tournaments until post season.

accommodations for teams that are out

Due to being a winter sport, we have not had any guidance on how the season will be different this year.

shortened schedule

No tournaments for volleyball and staggered starts in xc

Bye week. Shortened season

No tournaments

follow CDC guideline and use common sense

No non-conference games, byes weeks 3 & 6.

Shorter trips, fewer games

Changing game times to allow schools to clear out before traveling team arrives

Conference only.

When we arrive at games

Only conference opponents.

Some games may be postponed

Added some extra regular season games to make up for lost tournaments

dropped all weekend tournaments

Depends on the sport.

No Tournaments

Tournaments were canceled.

already explained

altered schedules, no non-conference games?

No non conference games.

we've had to make several changes to the schedule due to other schools

no invitational tournaments

No in-season tournaments like there usually are.

New games in place of canceled tournaments

No out of conference games

For basketball...they are thinking of cutting the season in half. The season starts mid November...ends March. The season would now start in January. This is the plan.

It addresses fall sports. Competitions only against conference opponents. Nothing has been released about spring sports yet.

Reschedule in 2 weeks

Other schools/states policies have affected our schedules.

Limited to in town games for the middle school; game totals cut from 7 to 5

We are only competing within our conference until we absolutely must compete state-wide.

No tournaments

only conference games

No tournaments

No regular season tournaments

Middle school sports are not having any games, just in house competition.

Less games

Cross Country can only attend Class B meets, not allowed in to Class A meets this year

No cross state games

There have been Covid related cancellations of events for fall sports

Postpone if necessary.

No tournaments

As of now no out of state travel. No East vs West games.

Perhaps playing more games throughout the week could lower attendance, and less fans at big games

Limit of 3 teams at each cross country meet, no more than 24 kids on the start line at one time

Limited travel and number of contest.

games were limited to just in conference games

No tourneys

May have to cancel games.

We are not going to any large tournaments during the regular season so far.

Tournaments before the preseason have been canceled.

No Tournament play for VB, don't change sides

We lost matches because other schools backed out.

no tournaments

Postpone or Reschedule if possible

#### Explanations to "No" answers

The policy itself doesn't but we have had cancellations or postponements.

Schedule has remained the same other than a few postponements due to 2 week quarantine.

nothing

Coaches wear masks, that is it.

We are currently playing a normal schedule of games

No independent tournaments

just precautions

It should be the same as usual.

#### ***Does the policy include alterations to seating/attendance as compared to normal?***

##### Explanations to "Yes" answers

Less spectators

Some allow nobody to attend, some are allowing parents or two tickets per family

More spacing in the stands and less people eligible to attend.

2 Spectator/athlete (and coaches)

Limited number of tickets sold. Athletes are given a certain number of vouchers which allow you in to purchase a ticket. No voucher=no entrance

limited or no fans depending on school

People can only attend if they have a voucher
limited number and keep 6 feet apart, wear masks
6 feet
Limited seating depending on the venue
same as above
Physical distancing, 500 total individuals at a outdoor FB game.
Currently 40%
Asking fans makes up and to distance as well as providing a buffer between fans and athletes
Every other row
Capped attendance, limited access for college kids at times
Each sport is different and uses a different policy.
There is a limit for the number of fans that can attend (although that number is higher than we usually have at games anyway)
ideally 6' apart and fans wear a mask
Limited on the number of people allowed in.
the fans are asked to sit in their groups six feet away from the other families
Limited number of fans
players allowed 2 passes to away games, within the region games.
already explained
school policies dictate social distancing and the like
Half the normal attendance.
limited seating as per NDDOH guidelines
Spectators need vouchers for sophomore to varsity matches. Freshman spectators are encouraged to social distance and wear masks.
Mask must be worn into venue, when outside and social distancing guidelines are met spectators can remove their masks
Limited number of vouchers are given to athletes to give to others.
Only 2 tickets passes for family only
Limited spectators for field/gym sports
Trying to limit number in attendance, distancing, and mask usage.
Limited to two spectators per athlete (for cross country)
Limited attendance
'Pods' separated
Immediate family only and students in grades 7-12
High school game attendance has been dramatically cut. Each player get 2 vouchers for family member to attend.
Masks required at indoor events and spread out of seating
Attendance is limited to two individuals per athlete
Spots are marked
Limited tickets sold-masks in hallway
Limits how many can attend and where they can sit
Vouchers per student athlete are being used
Limited attendance requiring vouchers to secure tickets.
closed seating to provide social distancing opportunities
40% capacity
Social distancing in the stands and along the sideline.

We are following the guidelines recommended for seating.
We are currently at 75% seating capacity.
only 2 fans per athlete
75% and masks
social distance seating
social distancing and 2 to a family or vouchers
Limited seating.
2 tickets per athlete is all that is allowed to attend.
Social distancing and masks
I believe no spectators are welcome.
We have three tiers that limit the number of spectators based on community spread.
Attendees are asked to distance. Limits on number of attendees
Our district has made the decision that all games will be streamed and no fans will be allowed at games.
Vouchers to attend
sit in different areas
have to wear masks
Spacing and mask
Each player is allowed 2 tickets to give out to keep the attendance numbers manageable
Limit of 500 attendees (400 home, 100 away), Social distancing required. Exit immediately following contest. No handshakes post-game
Percentage of people allowed to spectate.
Social distancing, use of different entrances and exits, different restrooms, etc.
% of seating/ 6 ft. distance
Right now only 2 adults for each player and coach.
Certain people need to sit in certain sections for contact tracing purposes. Parents sit in a spot, students sit in a spot, teachers and community sit in a spot and visitors sit in a spot.
Only 3 spectators per athlete allowed to attend matches. Required to maintain social distancing.
Social distancing
Each student and coach receive 2 vouchers for every game. People who attend with a voucher must still pay at the door, wear a mask, and sit with families and stay six feet apart.
limits number of attendees
It should be the same as usual.
Attendance is limited to half
Follow cdc recommendations for our county
masks are recommended and social distance for seating
Mask recommended and placement of visiting teams away from home fans.
Limited seating
Assigned seating on busses
Only 2 passes per athlete to the games
1 parent is allowed to attend , if that.
Limited fans and mask requirements
Fewer spectators. No student section. Additional spacing. No mingling post game.
75% capacity
<u>Explanations to “No” answers</u>
Not that I know of

We have measured out distances of 6 feet, but we cannot force people to sit in them.

Has been capped at 500

***Does the policy include alterations to any other aspect of the sport experience?***

Explanations to "Yes" answers

Locker Room restrictions, hotel & restaurant restrictions

Masks on the Bench - When not playing - social distancing

Mask wearing during travel.

Practices

Sanitizing balls/equipment, wearing masks, electric whistles

Travel to and from with parents is encouraged

Many

When and how many can practice

Lots of little changes

Masks, no handshakes, etc.

same as above

Maybe some camaraderie things, ie shaking hands after school

Locker room restrictions, no shared water, split up team into smaller groups during practices.

Eliminating handshakes and spacing bench areas

Masks

masks on all school transportation

Recommending masks for fans and players/coaches on the benches

no hand shake with opposing team, captains meeting remain 6' apart, recommend wearing masks on the bench

Must wear a mask when not in the water.

seating chart on the bus

We can only have half the athletes on a bus and must have a travel partner that stays the same throughout the whole season.

concessions - mask and gloves for everyone in their

Teams stick to their own net for practice, no mixing. There is also more sanitizing that takes place before, after and during practice.

Masks required unless athletes are actively participating.

Staggered locker room usage, more sanitation, among other things.

Sanitize everything

Recommendations for mask wearing and use of electronic whistles for referees and officials

limits crowds

where the teams sit on the sideline, field/equipment usage

Can't shake hands at the end of the game.

Players no longer shake hands after a match, concessions are limited, and admission is less personal with a plexi glass divider in place.

limited locker room use

Masks, Temp checks, question protocol.

Disinfecting more often with equipment and facilities.

Mask use on the floor during actual game play.

See above for practice.

Locker room space at home games is limited due to not being able to keep them clean

---

Masks while in attendance

---

Spray tennis balls with lysol, wipe score cards with disinfectant wipes, use hand sanitizer, no shaking hands with opponents.

---

masks are strongly recommended

---

It should be the same as usual.

---

Sign seats on the bus

---

Sanitizing equipment after each practice/game is required

---

bench postioning - space between others

---

Masks required

---

Time periods of close contact during practice are reduced

---

Kids are required to have on masks all the time unless competing

---

Spaced out seating and arrangements dung practice and games

---

No hand shakes. Bench is spaced out farther, which I see could negatively effect comradery of the team.

---

Cleaning balls regularly

---

Minor adjustments during game... no switching sides, shaking hands, etc.

---

We are not changing sides, seats are spread further apart for the team.

---

Coaches wear masks, and we have individual water bottles, and individual seats on buses, so now we take two buses.

---

Like everyone else, coaches and players are asked to mask up when not on the court.

---

Explanations to "No" answers

---

I'm not sure.

---

Activities are being played without any changes.

---

nothing

---

Not that I know of

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***Are you satisfied with the policy your school set for return to play?***

Explanations to "Yes" answers

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Attendance limited to 2 adults, COVID positives the entire team sits (2 weeks or 14 days) testing upon returning to play

---

We are doing everything possible to protect our program and ensure our athletes get to have a full season.

---

same as above

---

We are playing & competing!!

---

Yes they came up with a three phase plan in June. We made it through summer camps. One month into fall sports all are still competing so hopefully that continues.

---

Haha I hope so I developed the plan as I am also the athletic director.

---

It is responsible

---

We are willing to make compromises with the guidelines in order to be able to play games.

---

I think are school district spent time and addressed the situation to its best of its ability.

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NA

---

All precautions have been covered, I believe.

---

The policies seem to be effective.

---

I am but am not at the same time. I think there are some things that are unnecessary to have in the plan.

---

In my opinion maybe overdone but better than not enough.

---

They are trying to keep the student athletes safe.

I think our school has done the best I can to keep things as normal as possible during Covid.

im glad we get to play, however i believe there are to many restrictions

Mostly. We get to play, a lot of places don't. Some things could be handled differently but we get the opportunity to play.

Precautions have been adequately put in place for fans and athletes to compete at a high level.

So far but I feel it will be constantly changing

At least they get to play.

We are playing and it is important and must remain this way.

I'd like more masking enforcement, but besides that the distancing is good.

I feel like our school and public health did a good job getting us ready for the season. we are taking precautions but just happy we are back in the gym allowing the kids to participate

We've done the right things and it's going well

They did a good job with it.

Although, they haven't set one for the sport I coach so it it premature for me to answer this.

Less attendance less chance of passing it on

It follows guidelines from CDC but not overly restrictive.

I feel our school district is doing the best they can based upon the data available.

I am happy we get to play at the very least.

lets kids play

Well thought out.

Our policies allow our kids to continue to return to play and everything is going very well so far.

Fair and enforced

I would rather overreact than underreact!

Yes, it our schedule is moving along well this time.

working as hard as they can to make sure we can play our seasons, and do it safely

i think it is too restrictive but others have the right to their opinion also

I understand they are trying to keep the seasons and school going and in session and rules need to be set and followed.

We are putting academics and safety first. We are the only class A school that cancelled all fall sports. We are attending class virtually for the first 6 weeks. We will re-evaluate in October.

#### Explanations to "No" answers

I'm not a fan of the mandatory mask wearing

I don't think we should have to do screening questions or have tiers of attendance.

It should be the same as usual.

I believe that the student body as a whole, especially the juniors and seniors should be allowed to watch and cheer on their peers as they always have without trying to limit the numbers.

School pride, and sportsmanship is paramount to the experience.

They don't enforce the attendance policy, so everyone should just be allowed to attend

If you ask me, all students should be distance learning and there should be no sports.

Not excited about potentially having to coach with a mask on.

I think we could let more fans attend.

#### ***Do you need anything from administrators to aid with this return to play?***

#### Explanations to "Yes" answers

Clear expectations and regulations to follow, Cleaning supplies, and training about Covid.

I still think we need X amount of precautions in place, and that needs to be administered from the top down. Coaches don't want to be implementing these things themselves and taking the brunt of whatever criticism arises from that. We just want to coach safely and expect some insulation from the angry masses, so a unified front is essential.

Clear guidelines for all coaches to follow.

Simple school guidelines

support

responsibility - accountability?

The opportunity to play our sport by following the guidelines set into place.

Embrace the idea that to improve we must continue to practice and compete.

Logical and reasonable guidelines

Their blessing & support, we have had some close contact issues where players had to be out for a period of time. Administrators helped with the ground rules of everything.

As an administrator I am providing my coaches with resources on tracing and protocols for helping Mitigate or reducing spread

Support

Clear communication and guidance

Just lots of communication regarding guidelines and changes as they happen.

Support, communication, hand sanitizer, cleaning supplies

Strong guidelines.

Letting us as coaches know what other schools are doing in regard to COVID-19

Rigid guidelines about coach and team expectations. What should all coaches be doing to be consistent between programs? What specific steps should we be taking to reduce the chance of contracting the virus? (I will add, my AD has done an awesome job of clarifying this already)

Direction

Clear communication on policies if any changes occur. Adequate coaching staff to handle the amount of athletes that will be competing

It's their job and it's normal that administrators are involved

Just support and an ear to listen.

Proper precautions need to happen from administration. Masks/water bottles/sanitization needs, etc.

Guidance on what happens with positive tests or close contact to a person with a positive test.

leadership and a consistent strategy for return to play

If requiring kids to wear masks all the time, spend the money to provide them with one

Guidance on expectations and isolation/quarantining

A good return to play plan if a breakout happens

Just support and understanding. Being flexible with some regulations and schedules.

Contact tracing sheets for busses, communicate if we have a player get COvid or come in contact with a person with Covid.

Support. Willingness to

Support of sudden change in schedules and crowd size

Our admin has been good about supplying extra things to help us adapt to CDC guidelines.

the go ahead

Their constant support and check ins have been wonderful. Keeping parents and fans at the games properly following guidelines since they are on school grounds.

Support and guidance

I understand they are under pressure to make the correct decision and will not always make it. Whatever it decided, we just need it to be explain, justified, and done in a timely manner. We are very fluid with what we are doing, but if a policy is going to be done, the sooner we know the better.

cleaning materials, disinfectant, rules and procedures

support and guidelines

Need them to keep us updated on the protocal

We need necessary guidelines to follow and we need their support.

Support and a willingness to “hold the line.” Things will likely get worse and there may be a surge throughout the season, but we need to make sure we don’t cancel prematurely.

We need administrators to make strong decisions. Having unease or unknowns makes it tough. They need to stick to their decisions and make the right decision even if it is hard.

Just further direction for certain situations that are all new to us all.

disinfectant, etc.

Guidance on current school policies regarding positive tests

A clear expectation of what is to be done in certain situations regarding COVID.

The rules needed to follow to be able to have a season.

We live in a rural area. All of our indoor/outdoor sporting facilities are ran by the local school system. Schools will not let us use these facilities. We are still on virtual classroom. Schools say they cannot justify sports until they justify face to facee academics.

They keep us open, safe, and able to play.

The policy shouldn't be complicated.

Support.

Their usual full support of all extra curricular activities.

Full Support.

Support for our Athletes

Teamwork

I look to the administrators to help understand what is safe and what is needed to return.

Strict policies to follow set out by medical professionals about Covid 19, about reporting symptoms and following rules concerning behavior that are obeyed.

make sure we have the ability to keep and stay clean

Backing of rules

Ability to watch/support ALL varsity teams of other supports without the use of vouchers.

support and understanding that sports play an important role in the lives of players and coaches

Only to make.sure that I am following the guidelines set forth by others

#### Explanations to “No” answers

Our AD was proactive informing of us of alterations and accommdations.

Our district has been proactive, they are doing the best they can given circumstances to providr opportunity.

The have been very supportive through out the season.

Deutsch, J. & Waldera, R. (2021). Coaches attitudes about returning to play in youth and varsity sports post- COVID-19. *Journal of Human Sciences, 18*(2), 292-330. doi:[10.14687/jhs.v18i2.6147](https://doi.org/10.14687/jhs.v18i2.6147)

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n/a

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NA

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Administrators need to support the return to play for everyone nationwide.

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N/A

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None

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i can and do use my own research

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Our administration has jumped through all the hoops to keep us safe!!

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Consistency with school policy and how we will deal with positive cases when they hit our school district

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