

Last Updated:
10/6/2020

2020-21 UIL Basketball Calendar



All Schools 1A through 6A:

October 10

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

November 11

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

December 12

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

January 01

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

February 02

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

March 03

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

YELLOW – GBB Scrimmages PINK – GBB games begin/certification GRAY – BBB Scrimmages GREEN – BBB games begin/certification BLUE – State Championships

Regular Season	October 21 – Girls practice start
	October 31 – Girls scrimmages allowed (max 2)
	November 6 – Girls interschool games
	February 9 – GIRLS DISTRICT CERTIFICATION – 17 weeks
	October 28 – Boys practice start
	November 7 – Boys scrimmages allowed (max 2)
	November 13 – Boys interschool games
February 16 – BOYS DISTRICT CERTIFICATION – 17 weeks	

Post Season (Same # of qualifiers to postseason, 3 for 1A, 4 for 2A-6A)	February 11-13 - Bi-District (GBB)
	February 15-16 – Area (GBB)
	February 18-20 – Quarterfinals (GBB)
	February 22-23 - Regional Semi-finals (GBB)
	February 25-27 – Regional Finals (GBB)
	March 4-6 – GIRLS STATE TOURNAMENT
	February 18-20 - Bi-District (BBB)
	February 22-23 – Area (BBB)
	February 25-27 – Quarterfinals (BBB)
	March 1-2 - Regional Semi-finals (BBB)
	March 4-6 – Regional Finals (BBB)
March 11-13 – BOYS STATE TOURNAMENT	



2020 UIL Basketball Season Update



General Operational Guidelines

TEA requires all school systems to develop a plan for mitigating COVID-19 spread in schools. These UIL guidelines require schools to include UIL activities for the 2020-2021 school year as part of this plan and carefully plan for mitigating risk of spread as students and staff participate in them. Schools must post these plans on the homepage of the school website or other easily accessible area of the school website. These plans do not require UIL or TEA approval. All 2020-2021 UIL COVID-19 Risk Mitigation Guidelines can be found at [HERE](#).

Face Coverings- Executive Order GA-29

For the purposes of summer workouts, schools must require students, staff, and visitors to wear face coverings when entering and exiting facilities and practice areas, and when not actively exercising. Schools may, for example, allow students who are actively exercising to remove face coverings as long as they maintain at least six feet of distance from other students and staff who are not wearing face coverings. However, schools must require students and staff to wear face coverings as they get into positions that allow them to maintain safe distancing.

1. Exceptions to the wearing of face coverings or face shields include:
 - a. Any person with a medical condition or disability that prevents wearing a face covering;
 - b. While a person is consuming food or drink;
 - c. While the person is in a pool, lake, or similar body of water.
 - d. When a congregating group of persons maintains at least 6 feet of social distancing; or
 - e. Any other reason or circumstance indicated under [Executive Order GA-29](#).

***Competitive drills involving one or more students on offense against one or more students on defense may be conducted. While conducting these drills, schools must require all students not actively exercising and staff to wear face coverings as described above.**

Staff – Required Screening before attending or participating in activities:

Schools must follow TEA screening requirements and screen staff members before allowing staff to participate in UIL activities. Schools may consider screening students for COVID-19 as well. These protocols mirror the guidelines issued by TEA for school operations.

If a student or staff member has been screened by the school for purposes of participating in instruction, there is no reason to screen separately before allowing the staff or student to participate in UIL activities. Please see the TEA website for the most current screening guidance. [TEA website](#)

Remote Learning

Students participating in remote learning offered by their school district, whether synchronous or asynchronous (as defined by TEA), may participate in UIL activities if they meet all other UIL eligibility requirements. Students must be enrolled in remote learning options through the school the student will represent. Schools may develop local policies with additional requirements for participation. You can find more information related to the full-time student rule in the [UIL Constitution and Contest Rules](#).

Academic Eligibility-Credit Requirements

For the 2020-2021 school year, UIL eligibility requirements for the first six weeks of school have been modified to allow a student to be eligible for the first six weeks if they accumulated at least two and a half credits since the start of the 2019-2020 school year. Schools may impose additional requirements.

District Executive Committee/Scheduling District Games

- DEC's will need to meet to confirm Fall Sport (FB, VB, Team Tennis, XC) schedules, playoff qualifiers, and safety protocols concerning the 2020-2021 school year.
- The District Executive Committee shall arrange a schedule to determine district representatives prior to the posted district certification date.
- The DEC shall determine the place and/or time of district games in case of disagreement between two schools for both the regular season, games postponed due to weather, or disruptions in scheduled games due to COVID-19. The DEC should give strong consideration for schedules that allow for disruptions and a method for certifying district representatives in the event games cannot be made up.
- DEC's need to prepare tie-breaker protocols as well as protocols to address certifying the district with the potential for incomplete seasons. A district executive committee may authorize a single elimination game or tournament to resolve district ties. A one-game play-off could break a two-way tie. A single elimination tournament could resolve a tie between three or more schools.

NOTE: *These games must be completed by the district certification deadline and will not count against the allowable games if not previously scheduled. Tie-breakers must be held in compliance with calendar week and school week restrictions. If the district executive committee schedules any other games or tournaments as part of their method for determining play-off representatives, the games played must count in the season limitation.*

- NOTE: Districts may want to be creative with their schedules to ensure district contests get played prior to District Certification.

Scrimmage, Tournament & Game Scheduling

- Allowable game limit – 27 games
- 2 scrimmages - **no more than 4 schools** may meet for scrimmage purposes at one site. For sites that are used to having multiple groups of 4 at a scrimmage fest, that is **not allowed** for the 2021 basketball season.
- 3 games may be played in a calendar week. If school is in session, the 2nd and 3rd game must be played after the end of the school week.
- **No** tournaments or showcases, including regional tournament

NOTE: Showcases – meeting of multiple (more than 4) teams at one site to play a matched game.

Practice Regulations

• Summer Activities

Conference 1A-4A

- Schools may allow students to continue strength and conditioning and sport specific instruction until the first day of instruction, whether in-person or remote, or the first day of in-season activities, whichever is earlier. Students who have not started in-season activities may continue summer workouts until the first day of instruction.

Conference 5A-6A

- For football and volleyball, schools may allow students to continue strength and conditioning and sport specific instruction through September 4, 2020, whether or not the instructional school year has started.
- For activities other than football and volleyball, students who have not started in-season activities may continue summer workouts until the first day of instruction.
- Beginning August 3, the time for sport specific activities will increase from sixty minutes per day to two hours per day.
- If the school year begins prior to September 7, 2020, students may continue to engage in sport specific instruction for two hours per day. The time in the athletic period counts as part of that two hour total.

• Offseason Activities During the School Year

- Athletics periods may not exceed 60 minutes per day, or 300 minutes per week. Local school policy will determine the students who may attend.

- Schools utilizing an instructional model other than a traditional in-person model may hold the athletics period any time during the day. The athletics period is ***not*** required to be held during normal school hours.
- For the 2020-2021 school year only, students may participate in a maximum of 60 minutes per day of strength and conditioning activities outside the school day. Local school policy will determine the students who may attend.
- **In-Season Activities During the School Year**
 - Schools may have athletics periods as described above plus a maximum of eight hours of practice outside the school day during the school week.
 - Schools utilizing an instructional model other than a traditional in-person model may hold the athletics period any time during the day. The athletics period is ***not*** required to be held during normal school hours.

Sport Specific Protocols

Face Coverings

Face coverings do not have to be worn while actively competing on the court. Face coverings must be worn by all team personnel (coaches, managers, players not in the match) while on the bench or not actively participating in game or warm-ups.

NFHS Rules Considerations

In support of the Guidance for Opening Up High School Athletics and Activities, the NFHS Basketball Rules Committee offers guidance on how state associations can consider modifications to the NFHS Basketball Rules Book. The modifications outlined in this document are meant to decrease potential exposure to respiratory droplets by encouraging social distancing, limiting participation in administrative tasks to essential personnel and allowing for appropriate protective equipment.

- ***Pregame Protocol (2019-2020 NFHS Officials Manual, page 16, 1.8; NFHS Basketball Rule Book – 3-4-5)***
 - Limit attendees to the referee and the head coach from each team with each coach standing on the center circle on each side of the division line.
 - All individuals maintain a social distance of 6 feet or greater at the center circle.
 - Suspend handshakes prior to and following the Pregame Conference.
- ***Team Benches (1-13-1)***
 - ***Social distancing should be practiced when possible. Below are some suggestions.***
 - Limit the number of bench personnel to observe social distancing of 6 feet or greater.
 - Place team benches opposite the spectator seating.
 - Additional chairs or rows may be added to allow bench personnel to observe social distancing of 6 feet or greater.
 - Create separation between the team bench and spectator seating behind the bench.
 - Limit contact between players when substituting.
 - Personnel not in the game should adhere to any required local/state face covering requirements.
- ***Officials Table (2-1-3)***
 - The host should sanitize the table before the game and at half time.
 - Place officials table sufficiently away from the sideline to allow for additional space for substitutes.
 - Limit seats at the table to essential personnel which includes home team scorer and timer with a recommend distance of 6 feet or greater between individuals. Other personnel (visiting scorer, statisticians, media, etc.) may not be deemed essential personnel and consider an alternate location for them.
 - Table personnel should adhere to any required local/state face covering requirements.

Pre and Post Game Ceremony

- Suspend the pregame introduction handshakes.
- Suspend post game protocol of shaking hands.

Basketball Rules Interpretations

○ **Rule 4-1 EQUIPMENT AND ACCESSORIES**

- Basketball
 - Ball given to officials in the locker room, where it is sanitized as recommended by the ball manufacturer and not used for warm-ups.
 - The host school should ensure that the ball is sanitized during time-outs and between quarters.
 - Sanitizer should be provided by the host team at the table.
 - Cloth face coverings are permissible for players.
 - Consider requiring coaching staff and other bench personnel to wear face coverings while on the bench.

○ **Rule 5-3 Officials Uniform and Equipment**

- By state association adoption, long-sleeved shirts are permissible. (5-1-3)
- Officials should not be required to wear jackets during pre-game court/player observation.
- Electronic whistles are permissible (supplies are limited).
 - Choose a whistle whose tone will carry inside.
 - Check the market for choices
- Cloth face coverings are permissible.
- Gloves are permissible.

Other Considerations

○ **Throw-in**

- Official may stand 6 feet or greater away from player making the throw-in and bounce the ball to that player on a front court throw-in.

○ **Free Throw Administration**

- The lead official shall stand on the end line and bounce the ball to the free thrower.

Performance Areas, Locker Rooms and Other Congregate Settings

- Schools should make hand sanitizer, disinfecting wipes, soap and water, or similar disinfectant readily available in these areas.
- All congregate areas should be regularly and frequently cleaned and disinfected including all frequently touched surfaces such as doorknobs, tables, chairs, lockers, and restrooms.
- Any equipment that will be kept in student lockers and/or in these areas should be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected each day prior to students accessing these areas. Schools should develop a plan for managing the storage, cleaning and disinfecting, and redistribution of student equipment.
- Schools should consider identifying staff to monitor locker rooms and other areas where students may congregate to ensure effective use of school protocols. When possible, schools should open windows and/or doors or otherwise work to improve air flow by allowing outside air to circulate in these areas.
- Schools must require staff and students to wear face coverings while inside locker rooms, meeting rooms, training rooms, band halls and other areas where students may congregate other than shower facilities.
- As part of their overall plan, schools should develop a plan for mitigating risk of spreading COVID-19 when disinfecting, cleaning, and laundering items such as towels, practice clothes, and uniforms. This plan should include protocols for redistributing these items to students. Involved staff should be trained specifically on these protocols.

Practice Activities

In addition to the above general guidelines and rules in the UIL Constitution and Contest Rules and UIL manuals and handbooks, the following applies to practice activities during the 2020-2021 school year.

1. All surfaces in practice areas should be thoroughly disinfected throughout and at the end of each day.
2. Any equipment should be regularly disinfected before, during, and after practice sessions.
3. Schools may provide food, water or other drinks. If they provide these items, schools should do so in a manner that ensures students are not sharing these items.

Game, Contest, and Event Management

In addition to the above guidelines and rules in the UIL Constitution and Contest Rules and UIL manuals and handbooks, the following applies to games, scrimmages, and events:

Teams and Participants

1. If the school is planning to offer transportation for students, schools should follow [TEA guidance](#) related to such transportation.
2. Teams and participants are required to wear face coverings as described in [Executive Order GA-29](#).
3. The host site should designate a cleaned and disinfected area for teams to unload and load buses separate from fans, spectators, and other individuals not essential to the team or group.
4. Visiting team /group locker rooms should be cleaned and sanitized by the host site before the visiting team arrives. Visiting teams/groups are responsible for cleaning and disinfecting equipment once it is unloaded. Schools should limit access to these facilities to only students and staff essential for the game, contest, or event.
5. Before each game, contest, or event, schools should follow the screening protocols described above to screen all staff members, contractors, volunteers, sports officials, contest judges, and any individuals otherwise involved in working the event. These individuals should also self-screen as described in these screening protocols.
6. Fan and spectator areas including bleachers, stands, walkways, and other spectator areas should be at least six feet from team /group areas such as team benches or performance areas. Where distancing is not feasible, other methods should be utilized to slow the spread of COVID-19, such as face coverings, implementing engineered controls such as physical barriers, or other risk mitigation efforts the school deems appropriate.
7. As previously indicated, water or other drinks and/or food may be provided. Schools or host sites should consider doing so in a manner that ensures students are not sharing these items.
8. Other areas used by participants, such as press box areas, should be cleaned and disinfected prior to and after use. Sites should develop plans for providing access to these areas that limit or remove potential contact between participants and non-participants.
9. The host site should provide sports and contest officials an area to enter and exit separate from fans when possible. Officials should be provided a dressing and meeting area, if applicable, that has been cleaned and disinfected prior to their arrival.
10. Pregame or pre-event meetings between teams and/or sports and contest officials should be planned to allow appropriate distancing between individuals.
11. Pregame and post-game gestures of sportsmanship should be conducted between teams and sports and contest officials in ways planned to help reduce the risk of spread of COVID-19.
12. All participants should be provided with entry and exit plans for contest areas that maintain separation from non-participants and fans. Individuals not essential to the team or group should not be given access to contest areas, performance areas, courts, or fields at all before, during, or after contests and events.
13. The pregame officials/head coach conference will take place on the field where social distancing of 6 feet can be maintained. This conference should be 1 hour to 1.5 hours before the scheduled game time
14. For the coin toss, limit attendees to the referee, umpire and one designated representative from each team (head coach or 1 captain). All remaining team members must remain in the team area. Coin toss should take place in the center of the field with designated individuals maintaining social distancing of 6 feet.
15. The ball should be cleaned and sanitized throughout the contest as recommended by the ball manufacturer.
16. There shall be NO postgame handshake between teams following the game

Student Groups not directly involved in the game or contest

Student groups such as marching bands, cheerleaders, drill teams, and other groups approved by the school district may attend and perform at games or contests in which they are not competing. Schools should consider limiting the number of participants to those essential to the performance.

1. These student groups should remain separate from the game or contest participants at all times. These student groups should avoid mixing with fans or non-group members throughout the game or contest.
2. Student groups are required to wear face coverings as described in [Executive Order GA-29](#).
3. Schools should consider limiting the number of students and staff given access to the playing areas and ensure protocols for entering and exiting the playing areas are in place.

4. Fans and spectators should be located to provide at least 10 feet of distance from bands playing wind instruments from the stands.
5. These students should maintain appropriate distancing from game or contest participants at all times, including when on the sideline.

NFHS BB Considerations – Updates Coming

In support of the guidance to opening up high school athletics the NFHS basketball rules committee will be creating considerations for state associations to consider whether any possible rules could be altered for the 2020-21 basketball season. The considerations will be posted at a later time.