



## 2021 Track & Field Calendar

### All Schools (1A through 6A):

<b>April 10</b>	District Certification Deadline
<b>April 17</b>	Area Certification Deadline
<b>April 23-24</b>	Regional Meet Certification Deadline
<b>May 7-8</b>	State Meet (Tentative)

### **Deadlines for filing entry forms to appropriate director:**

<b>District:</b>	Five days prior to District meet
<b>Area:</b>	Five days prior to Area meet
<b>Regionals:</b>	Immediately following Area meet. Please review regional director's specified deadline.
<b>State:</b>	Regional results will be sent to the state office by the regional director. The school does not send an entry form or fees to the UIL office.

- **Invitational Meets may have no more than eight total schools (to include both boys & girls) with only one level of competitors (Var/JV/9<sup>th</sup>) on site at a given time. Invitational meets could allow schools to bring both Varsity & JV athletes, but would be limited to four total schools in that scenario.**
  - Each school shall be allowed a maximum of three contestants in each individual event. Only one relay team per school may be entered.
  - There may also be an additional two schools added to the 8 schools allowed if those two schools have no more than six participants.
  - **NOTE: Meets which are limited to three or fewer schools do not count as a meet for participants, provided there is no loss of school time.**
- **District Meets with more than five schools may only have one level of competitors (boys & girls) participating on site at a given time. Example: if Varsity Boys/Girls are running, JV would not be allowed on site with the varsity athletes. District Meets may exceed the eight school limit if their district has more than eight schools.**
  - **Districts with five or fewer schools may have both Varsity & JV divisions compete together on site.**
- **Additional information will be released at a later time concerning Regional and State Meets.**

# 2021 UIL Track & Field Post Season Structure

District sites, meet directors, required fees, entry procedures, awards and meet schedules are to be determined by the District Executive Committee. Schools should contact the DEC Chair for district information.

The District Executive Committee will set the date and time scheduled for the district meet. The following applies:

- Entries shall be submitted to the director at least five days before the first day of the meet unless district rules stipulate otherwise.
- Each member school may enter one boys' team and one girls' team in the district meet.
- Each school may enter up to and no more than three contestants in each individual event for the district meet.
- Each school may enter only one relay team. In relay events, qualification is by school and not by the individual.
- Scratches are permitted due to illness or academic ineligibility. If a qualified contestant cannot enter the next higher meet, then the alternate (4th place or next eligible finisher) is eligible to participate. If this occurs, the district director notifies the next qualifier and then contacts the regional director.
- Only the individuals qualifying through the district, area, and/or regional meet are eligible to advance to the state meet.

## District Meets

**District Deadline.** April 10, 2021

- District Meets with more than five schools may only have one level of competitors (boys & girls) participating on site at a given time. Example: if Varsity Boys/Girls are running, JV would not be allowed on site with the varsity athletes. District Meets may exceed the eight school limit if their district has more than eight schools.
  - Districts with five or fewer schools may have both Varsity & JV divisions compete together on site.
- Districts may qualify up to **FOUR** qualifiers in each event from the District Meet to the Area Meet.
- In the event there is no Area Meet between corresponding districts, each district will certify **ONE** qualifier in each event from the District Meet to the Regional Meet.

## Area Meets

**Area Deadline.** April 17, 2021

Area sites will be facilitated by mutual agreement between the two designated districts. Unless mutually agreed otherwise, the area meet will rotate from one district to the other in a given alignment. Schools should contact the DEC chair for district information.

- Unless mutually agreed otherwise (corresponding districts getting one vote each), districts located more than 150 miles apart may conduct a vote between all schools involved to cancel the area meet.
  - Distance shall be calculated by using the furthest school in each corresponding district.
- Each Area Meet will certify the top **TWO** qualifiers to the Regional Meet Director.
- NOTE: Area Sites may only host one Area Meet per day per conference.

## Regional Meets

**Regional Dates.** April 23-24, 2021

- Regional meets may host no more than one conference on a given day. The reduction in qualifiers to the Regional Meet should allow a “Finals Only” format for the Regional Meet. Two Day Meets will turn into one conference per day.
- Each Regional Meet will certify the top **TWO** qualifiers to the State Meet Director.

**Regional Sites and Directors.** Regional sites and directors may be found on the UIL website.

<http://www.uiltexas.org/track-field/regional-sites>

**Fees and Schedules.** Regional directors shall post a notice of entry fees for all regional activities.

- NOTE: For sites hosting more than one conference, Regional sites may only host one Regional Meet per day.

**Entries.** Qualifiers will be certified to the regional director by the district director. The regional director will certify state entries to UIL office.

- Each qualifying school should follow the entry guidelines set forth by each regional site.
- Relay names for the state entry will be required at the conclusion of the regional meet.

### **State Meet**

**Date.** May 7-8, 2021 (Tentative)

**Site.** **TBD**

**Qualifiers.** Only those qualifying through the regional meets are eligible to compete in the state meet. After the regional meet directors have certified state qualifiers, the UIL staff **may** select one additional qualifier for each event to compete in the state meet if the state site allows for it.

- This qualifier will be the individual and/or relay team with the best overall time, mark, or height from all regional meets per classification that did not finish first or second.
- Ties will be broken as stated by the NFHS tiebreaker procedures for each event.
- It is the responsibility of each school to visit the UIL website ([www.uiltexas.org](http://www.uiltexas.org)) for school and coaches’ instructions as well as a list of qualifiers to the UIL State Meet.

**Entries.** The regional director will certify state entries to the UIL office. Schools are not required to certify their entries from regional to state. If there are scratches or misspellings of names, please use the name change form found on the UIL website (<http://www.uiltexas.org/track-field/state/scratch-forms>).

- Schedules, school meet information, lodging options, and ticket information will be provided on the UIL website on the state meet page. <http://www.uiltexas.org/track-field/state>
- No school fees are collected for the State Meet.

# 2021 UIL Track & Field Season Update & Considerations

## **General Operational Guidelines**

TEA requires all school systems to develop a plan for mitigating COVID-19 spread in schools. 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](https://www.uiltexas.org/policy/covid-19/2020-2021-uil-covid-19-risk-mitigation-guidelines) can be found on the UIL website (<https://www.uiltexas.org/policy/covid-19/2020-2021-uil-covid-19-risk-mitigation-guidelines>).

## **Face Coverings- Executive Order GA-29**

[Executive Order GA-29](#), regarding face coverings, applies to all UIL activities effective July 3, 2020. This includes the 2020-2021 school year. As the public health situation changes, and/or if subsequent Executive Orders are issued by Governor Greg Abbott, these guidelines may be further modified.

1. For the purposes of this document, face coverings include non-medical grade disposable face masks, cloth face coverings (over the nose and mouth), or full-face shields to protect eyes, nose, and mouth.
2. All employees, parents, visitors and students ten years of age or older must wear face coverings or face shields upon entry to an area where UIL activities are being conducted and when not actively practicing or playing in the contest, unless an exception listed below applies.
3. The face coverings requirements do not apply to a school in a county that meets the requirements of paragraph 11 of [Executive Order GA-29](#), unless the local school system chooses to implement these requirements locally. Even in these circumstances, the wearing of face coverings or face shields is strongly encouraged.  
**\*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.**

## **Required Screening**

### **Required Screening before attending or participating in activities:**

If staff have not been screened by the school for purposes of participating in instructional activities, schools must implement these screening protocols before allowing staff to participate in UIL activities.

1. Schools must require staff to self-screen for COVID-19 symptoms before participating in UIL activities or entering areas where UIL activities are being conducted. Symptoms are listed at the end of this document. The self-screening should include staff taking their own temperature. Staff must report to the school if they themselves have COVID-19 symptoms or are lab-confirmed with COVID-19, and, if so, they must remain off campus and away from areas where UIL activities are being conducted until they meet the criteria for re-entry as noted below. Additionally, they must report to the school if they have had close contact with an individual who is lab-confirmed with COVID-19, as defined at the end of this document, and, if so, must remain off campus and away from areas where UIL activities are being conducted until the 14-day incubation period has passed. Close contact is defined in this document below.
2. Parents must ensure they do not send a student to participate in UIL activities if the student has COVID-19 symptoms (as listed in this document) or is lab-confirmed with COVID-19 until the below conditions for re-entry are met. School systems may consider screening students for COVID-19 as well. Screening is accomplished by asking questions by phone or other electronic methods and/or in person. The screening questions should also be asked of a student's parent if that parent will be dropping off or picking up their student from inside areas where UIL activities are being conducted.
3. Before visitors are allowed access to areas where UIL activities are being conducted, school systems must screen all visitors to determine if they themselves have COVID-19 symptoms (as listed in this document) or are lab-confirmed with COVID-19, and if so, they must remain off campus and away from areas where UIL activities are being conducted until they meet the criteria for re-entry as noted below. Additionally, school systems must screen to determine if visitors have had close contact with an individual who is lab-confirmed with COVID-19,

and if so they must remain off campus and away from areas where UIL activities are being conducted until the 14-day incubation period has passed. When practical, screening questions could be supplemented with temperature checks of adults.

## **Track & Field Specific Protocols**

- **Invitational Meets may have no more than 8 total schools (to include both boys & girls) with only one level of competitors (Var/JV/9<sup>th</sup>) on site at a given time. Invitational meets could allow schools to bring both Varsity & JV athletes, but would be limited to 4 total schools in that scenario.**
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  - **NOTE: Meets which are limited to three or fewer schools, do not count as a meet for participants, provided there is no loss of school time.**
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### **Meet Considerations**

Note: This is not an exhaustive list and additional steps may be necessary to help prevent the spread of virus. Even when taking all precautions, there will still be risk of transmitting illnesses. Everyone should stay vigilant about the health of members of their teams. Lastly, the situation with COVID-19 is rapidly changing. These considerations may quickly become outdated. Please keep up with the latest health officials in your county/local area.

### **General:**

- Social distancing of at least 6 feet should be maintained when possible. No hugging, shaking hands, or fist bumps for support/encouragement.
- Recommend that meet hosts have an area designated for spectators so that the competitors, coaches, and officials are always away from the spectators in the venue.
- Recommend that each meet has a specific event and warm-up schedule to prevent large gatherings at a particular event.
- Recommend only using every other lane during lane events if possible.
- Recommend that competitors proceed immediately off the track and to a designated recovery location near the finish area where social distancing may take place. Competitors should also put their mask as soon as they are done competing in their specific event.
- Recommend that there are designated camp locations for all teams that are a minimum of 25 feet apart from other team camps. If hosts allow, buses can be used as a camp location for teams if desired. Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces and exercise equipment.

### **Coaches:**

- Communicate your guidelines in a clear manner to students and parents.
- Consider conducting workouts in “pods” of same students always training and rotating together in practice to ensure more limited exposure if someone develops an infection.

### **Officials:**

- Bring personal hand sanitizer. Wash hands frequently
- Don't share equipment.
- Follow social distancing guidelines:
  - Pre and Post Meet conferences
  - Clerking at the start line
  - Tabulations and posting of results
- Consider using electronic whistle.
- Do not shake hands, and follow pre and post-game ceremony guidelines established by meet organizers.
- Official personnel should wear face coverings at all times.