

Resolution 2020-5

COVID-19: Resolution of the City of Broken Bow Regarding Use of Municipal Property for Sports or Other Recreational Activities

A Resolution of the City of Broken Bow, Nebraska, Regarding the Risk of Exposure to COVID-19 Through the Use of Municipal Property for Sports or Recreational Activities.

Recitals

WHEREAS, the novel coronavirus, COVID-19, has been declared a worldwide pandemic by the World Health Organization, is extremely contagious, and is believed to spread mainly from person-to-person contact;

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the Governor of the State of Nebraska declared a state of emergency related to COVID-19 within the entire State of Nebraska, and this state of emergency remains in effect;

WHEREAS, directed health measures are in effect for every County in the State of Nebraska through May 31, 2020, and are likely to be extended by the Governor in some form for most or all Counties after May 31, 2020;

WHEREAS, on May 21, 2020, the Governor announced that the directed health measure prohibiting all organized team sports, youth and adult, would be relaxed by the State of Nebraska beginning June 1, 2020, in order to permit the planned reopening of certain adult and/or youth team sports;

WHEREAS, a copy of the *June 1st Statewide Sports Reopening Guidelines* is attached to this Resolution and incorporated herein as part of these Recitals;

WHEREAS, it is anticipated that future guidance from the State of Nebraska will permit additional team sports and other recreational activities;

WHEREAS, players, coaches, officials, and others who participate in such games, practices, or other recreational activities, and spectators who attend such activities risk the dangers of illness, disease, medical complications, injury or death, caused by or related to COVID-19, by voluntarily entering the municipal property and/or facilities on which such activities take place, by watching such activities, and by participating or authorizing the participation of a minor, in such games, practices, or other recreational activities; and

WHEREAS, it is the intent of City of Broken Bow to permit the resumption of adult and/or youth team sports and other recreational activities on municipal property and/or facilities, in accordance with the directed health measures and other laws and guidance issued by the State of Nebraska, including, but not limited to, the *June 1st Statewide Sports Reopening Guidelines* and such further laws and guidance that may be issued in the future, provided that every individual, organization, or group sponsoring such activities, and all participants and spectators, fully assume the health risks associated with these activities, including the inherent risk now present in any such

activities as a result of the presence of COVID-19 in the State of Nebraska, and provided that participants in such activities sign an agreement that releases the City of Broken Bow, its elected and appointed officials and employees, and all other participants in adult and/or youth team sports or other recreational activities from liability associated with exposure to COVID-19 in the course of such activities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City of Broken Bow that any individual, organization or group sponsoring adult and/or youth team sports or other recreational activities that wishes to use the playing or practice fields, courts, grounds, and/or other facilities of the City of Broken Bow for games, practices, or other recreational activities will be required to enter into the *COVID-19: License and Management Agreement for Use of Municipal Property for Sports or Other Recreational Activities* attached hereto. These License Agreements will be maintained by the Municipal Clerk and shall constitute an addendum to any other contract, license agreement, lease, or agreement allowing the use of the municipal property and/or facilities of the City of Broken Bow by the same individual, organization, or group.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, in order to enter the playing or practice fields, courts, grounds, and/or other facilities of the City of Broken Bow to participate in games, practices, or other recreational activities, all players, coaches, officials and other participants must sign the agreement titled *COVID-19: Participants Agreement for Sports or Other Recreational Activities* in substantially the same form as attached hereto. Each team wishing to participate on or use the municipal property and/or facilities of the City of Broken Bow must provide copies of signed *Agreements* for all participants affiliated with the team, together with a roster containing a complete list of the names of all players, coaches, officials, and others affiliated with the team. Copies of these documents must be provided to and shall be maintained by the Municipal Clerk.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, for the avoidance of doubt as to the risk assumed by participants and spectators, in order to encourage compliance with directed health measures and guidelines, and in order to promote public safety, the applicable provisions of the *June 1st Statewide Sports Reopening Guidelines*, shall be posted on all practice and playing fields, courts, grounds, and/or other facilities where adult and/or youth practices and/or games or other recreational activities occur. If the *June 1st Statewide Sports Reopening Guidelines*, are subsequently modified or updated, the applicable provisions of the modified or updated guidelines shall be posted in the same manner.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all participants and spectators shall comply with all federal, state and local laws and regulations, all directed health measures and guidelines, and all security policies or procedures established by the City of Broken Bow relating to COVID-19 or other safety or hygiene precautions while present on municipal property and/or facilities, understanding that the City of Broken Bow may elect to deny entrance to its playing or practice fields, courts, grounds, and/or other facilities to any non-complying participant or spectator, or to require a non-complying participant or spectator to leave the premises at any time.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that officials and employees of the City of Broken Bow are authorized to execute the directives set forth in this Resolution.

RESOLVED this 29th day of May, 2020.

ATTEST:

By:  Rod Sonnichsen, Mayor

By: Stephanie M. Wright, Stephanie Wright, Clerk



COVID-19: Participants Agreement for Sports or Other Recreational Activities

(Please print clearly or type and fill in all blanks and sign below.)

Participant Name (Player, Coach, Official, or Other Participant): _____

Address: _____

Municipality: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone #: _____

Age of Participant _____

If Participant is 18 years of age or older, only Participant must sign. If Participant is 17 years Old or Younger, Parent or Legal Guardian must sign.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT AND ASSUMPTION OF RISK

The COVID-19 coronavirus has been declared a worldwide pandemic by the World Health Organization, is extremely contagious and is believed to spread mainly from person-to-person contact. By signing this, you ACKNOWLEDGE AND ASSUME THE RISK AND DANGERS OF ILLNESS, DISEASE, MEDICAL COMPLICATIONS, INJURY OR DEATH, caused by or related to COVID-19, by voluntarily entering the property and/or public facilities of any Municipality and participating in or viewing adult and/or youth games, practices, or other group recreational activities, or by authorizing the participation of a minor in or the presence of a minor at such games, practices, or other group recreational activities. No one guarantees that you or your child(ren) will not become infected with COVID-19. The person signing below voluntarily assumes this risk because s/he chooses or elects to do so.

COVID-19 RELEASE AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT AND COVENANT NOT TO SUE

In consideration of the above-listed player, coach, or official ("Participant") being allowed to participate in adult and/or youth team sports or other group recreational activities on municipal property and/or public facilities, the Participant or the parent(s) or legal guardian (if Participant is a Minor), on his or her own behalf and on behalf of any Minor Participant, agree as follows:

1. RELEASE, WAIVE, DISCHARGE AND COVENANT NOT TO SUE every city or village (hereinafter, **Municipality**) on whose property and/or public facilities Participant participates in any adult and/or youth games, practices, or other group recreational activities, together with each such **Municipality's** mayor and council, village board of trustees, manager/administrator, clerk, agents and employees, and all others who participate with Participant in such activities (all of whom are collectively referred to herein as "Releasees") from any and all liability to the Participant (or Participant's personal representatives, assigns, heirs, parents, legal guardians, siblings, children or dependents) on account of injury, illness, disease, quarantine or death from the COVID-19 coronavirus and any complication

or related disease or condition, occurring as a result of entering the property of any such **Municipality**, participating in or viewing any such game, practice, or other group recreational activity, or other use of public facilities on the property of any such **Municipality**, whether such injury, sickness, disease, condition, or death is caused by the negligence or other wrongful conduct of one or more of the Releasees or any other participants, spectators or other individuals present at the game, practice, or other group recreational activity, or whether liability for such injury, sickness, disease, condition, or death is assigned to one or more of the Releasees as a matter of strict liability or any other legal doctrine.

2. AGREE TO INDEMNIFY AND SAVE AND HOLD HARMLESS THE RELEASEES and each of them from any liability, damage or loss (including, but not limited to, attorneys' fees and other defense costs) one or more of them may suffer or incur arising out of or related to the Participant's or any of the undersigned's entry onto the property and/or public facilities of any such **Municipality** in connection with any game, practice, or other group recreational activity, whether such claim is based on one or more of the Releasees' negligence, breach of contract or warranty, strict liability or other legal theory. The undersigned COVENANTS not to sue any Releasee related to injury, disease, loss, quarantine, or illness related to COVID-19.
3. THE PERSON SIGNING BELOW AGREE(S) to comply with all federal, state and local laws and regulations, all directed health measures and guidelines, and all security policies or procedures established by any such **Municipality** relating to COVID-19 or other safety or hygiene precautions, understanding that the **Municipality** may elect to deny entrance to the property (including any facilities present thereon) and the Participant may not be allowed to participate or continue to participate in the game, practice, or other group recreational activity at the election of the **Municipality** at any time. The undersigned agree(s) that in the event any portion of this document is held to be invalid, the balance shall, notwithstanding, continue in full legal force and effect to the greatest extent possible under applicable law. The parents or guardian of the Participant agree that by signing below they are in addition to binding themselves *and* binding any minor Participant on whose behalf they have signed, to the maximum extent permitted by applicable law to this Agreement in full.

I AM THE AGE OF MAJORITY, AM COMPETENT AND HAVE FULL AUTHORITY TO SIGN THIS, HAVE READ THE ABOVE AND UNDERSTAND ITS TERMS. I SIGN KNOWING ITS EFFECTS.

Signature of Participant
(If 18 Years Old or Older)

Print Clearly or Type Name of Participant

Signature of Parent
(If Participant is 17 Years Old or Younger)

Print Clearly or Type Name of Parent

Signature of Legal Guardian (If Applicable)
4842-4390-9309, v. 2

Print Clearly or Type Name of Legal Guardian

June 1st Statewide Sports Reopening Guidelines

The below guidelines lay out the planned reopening of certain sports. The State of Nebraska will utilize the April 2008 American Academy of Pediatrics Classification of Sports According to Contact as a guideline for opening sports of differing contact levels. Violation of these rules may mean a team is prohibited from practicing or playing games for the entire summer.

The below guidelines apply only to team sports. Individual sports such as golf and tennis (including doubles tennis) are not prohibited under any Directed Health Measure (DHM), however, participants must practice social/physical distancing.

Classification of Team Sports According to Contact Level

Contact	Limited-Contact	Non-Contact
Basketball	Baseball	Badminton
Boxing	Football, flag or touch	Bowling
Cheerleading	Softball	Crew/Rowing
Football, tackle	Volleyball	Curling
Gymnastics		Dance
Hockey		Rodeo* and horseback riding
Lacrosse		Swimming
Martial arts		Track and field events
Rugby		
Soccer		
Wrestling		

* Exception for rodeo as there is limited or no contact with other people, primary contact is with animals.

Month of May

- No Organized Team Sports games for youth and adults.
- No Team Organized Sports practices for youth and adults. This prohibition includes any practice, training or group exercise program organized by a coach of a sports team.
- Businesses and organizations that provide sports training AND that sell memberships to provide such training are allowed to offer sports training as long as they follow the same guidelines as fitness centers/clubs, gyms, health clubs, and health spas. No team organized training is allowed.

June 1

- Schools are permitted to open weight rooms for use by all student athletes as long as they follow the same guidelines as fitness centers/clubs, gyms, health clubs, and health spas.

- Team Organized practices for Noncontact and Limited-Contact Sports may begin unless circumstances dictate a change in date.
- Rodeo events may also begin.
- Players, coaches, and staff showing signs/symptoms of COVID-19 (fever over 100.4F, sudden onset of cough or sudden onset of shortness of breath) shall not participate.
- Dugout and bench use will not be allowed. Players and their items when not on the field/court should be lined up against the fence/wall at least six (6) feet apart.
- Parents must remain in their cars or drop off and pick players up afterwards.
- Players should use their own protective equipment including gloves, helmets, and bats as much as possible.
 - When protective equipment is needed to be shared, it should be disinfected between players use. Coaches are encouraged to rotate equipment when possible.
- Coaches must disinfect shared equipment before and after each practice.
- Coaches are responsible for ensuring social/physical distancing is maintained between players as much as possible. This means additional spacing between players while playing catch, during drills, or while waiting to participate.
- Players must bring their own water/beverage to consume during and after practice. No shared drinking fountains or coolers.
- Players must bring their own snacks to consume during and after practice. No shared/communal snacks.
 - The use of sunflower seeds, tobacco products, and spitting while practicing or playing is prohibited.
- Team organized practices for contact sports remain suspended.

June 18

- Team Organized games for Noncontact and Limited-Contact sports may begin unless circumstances dictate a change in date.
- Same guidelines apply as above for practices.
- Use of dugouts and benches are permitted during games only.
 - For baseball and softball, the bleachers located between the dugout and home plate should also be used to spread out players. Players should have designated spots to place their personal items. Coaches must designate an adult who is responsible for ensuring players are seated on the benches unless they are actively participating in the game.
 - For all other sports, additional benches or bleachers should be used to spread out players. Players should have designated spots to place their personal items. Coaches must designate an adult who is responsible for ensuring players are seated on the benches unless they are actively participating in the game.
- Players should use their own equipment including gloves, helmets, and bats as much as possible.
 - When protective equipment is needed to be shared, it should be disinfected between players use.
 - Coaches are encouraged to rotate equipment when possible.
- Coaches must disinfect shared equipment before and after each game/match.
- Fan attendance is limited to household members of the players on the team. (*Collegiate, semi-professional, and professional games will follow gathering requirements under the Directed Health Measures and must submit plans prior to reopening if facilities meet these requirements.*) For outdoor sports, no use of bleachers for fans. Fans must bring their own chairs or stand. Fans should keep six (6) feet of social distancing between different household units. No fan seating or standing is allowed within in six (6) feet of the teams' benches or for baseball and softball within the area from behind home plate to six (6) feet past the far end of each dugout.
 - If game/match is held at a facility that has a capacity of 500 or more individuals, (1,000 or more in counties over 500,000 population) shall follow reopening plans submitted, reviewed and approved by the Local Health Department by the facility.
- Teams to play next must be provided designated areas for player warm-ups that provide for necessary physical/social distancing.
- Post-game handshakes or interaction between teams are prohibited.

- When games end, the leaving team must sanitize the dugout or bench area. No post-game talks at the field or court are permitted. Fans and players must leave the playing area and return to their cars immediately after the game.
- The team to play next must remain in their designated warm up area until the prior team has finished disinfecting and is completely out of the dugout or off of the court/field.
- Fans for upcoming games must remain in their cars during player warm ups. They will be permitted to come to the field/court once the team they are there to watch enters the playing area.
- Restrooms must be cleaned and disinfected regularly (at least every 2 hours) while players and fans are present. Markings should be placed on the ground to ensure individuals waiting to use the restroom are spaced six (6) feet apart.
- Players must bring their own water/beverage to consume during and after practices and games. No shared drinking fountains or coolers.
- Players must bring their own snacks to consume during and after practice/games. No shared/communal snacks.
- Concession stands are allowed to open, if they meet the following:
 - Markings should be placed on the ground to ensure individuals are spaced six (6) feed apart.
 - Clean and disinfect high touch surfaces regularly while players and fans are present.
 - Staff must serve food directly to customers and remove self-serve condiment stations (e.g. provide customers with condiment packets upon request).
 - Whenever possible, practice social distancing between staff.
 - All employees directly interacting with customers should wear face coverings.
 - All food code regulations must still be followed.
 - Employees should wash hands frequently; provide hand sanitizer for customers.
- Team organized practices and games for other sports may remain suspended.

