

Newton South High School Fall 2020 Athletic Department Update

Effective September 14, 2020

Based on the recent guidelines established by the EEA, DESE, MIAA, Dual County League and Newton Public Schools, and voted on by the School Committee, the following has been established for the Fall 2020 Season

- Boys & Girls Soccer, Field Hockey, Golf, and Cross Country will take place this Fall Season. Tryouts/practices will begin the week of Monday, September 21st. More detailed tryout and practice schedules will be distributed by the end of the week.
- Football, Football Cheering, Dance, Girls Volleyball, and Unified Basketball have been moved to the MIAA Fall 2 Season, with tentative season dates of 2/22/21-4/25/21.
- MASKS ARE REQUIRED AS SPECIFIED BY MIAA SPORT SPECIFIC RULE MODIFICATIONS AND THE NEWTON HEALTH DEPARTMENT for all participants, coaches, and spectators at practices and games. In accordance with Newton Public School Health and Safety Policies, GAITERS ARE NOT PERMITTED for athletic participation.
- All student-athletes participating in a fall sport must have an IN-PERSON physical within the last 13 months (must be dated 8/21/19 or later) on file with the athletic office. The physical can be emailed to hoffmank@newton.k12.ma.us. Despite the pandemic, the Massachusetts DPH will NOT accept physicals via telehealth for fall sports participation.
- All Field Hockey and Soccer varsity games will be played on Wednesdays and Saturdays in October and November. Sub-varsity teams will travel only on Saturdays and will have intramural games on Wednesdays. DCL Golf matches will be played during the week based on golf course availability.
- Cross Country meets will be held on Saturdays and an occasional Friday.
- Newton South will compete against one school in all sports on the same week to limit contact and exposure and to also help with contact tracing should it be needed at any point during the season.
- Families are encouraged to provide own transportation to practice during the week (as students will be arriving at practice from remote learning each afternoon) and on Saturdays and holidays for respective games. A waiver form has been created for that purpose. Families that cannot transport their child to

games will be offered transportation. Bus transportation is limited to 25 students per State guidelines.

- Attendance at all practices and games will be strictly monitored. Every participating student-athlete will be required to answer 5 questions relative to COVID screening with their coach before the start of every practice and game during the 2020 Fall Season.
- In an effort to remain in compliance with all Massachusetts State Laws relative to large person gatherings, the DCL league will only permit one fan per student-athlete at each HOME and AWAY athletic contest. Attendance protocols will be strictly enforced in all locations. Masks and social distancing will be expected for all spectators in attendance.
- The standard NPS High School User Fee will be collected once teams have been selected. No refunds will be provided if the season is canceled.
- Financial assistance will be provided for families that need it.
- The Fall 2020 online athletic registration process is ongoing, and it will close Friday, September 18th. All student-athletes interested in trying out for a fall sport must be registered by 9/18. Due to strict health and safety guidelines, NO LATE REGISTRATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER 9/18. Registration will be through Family ID, and will be available through the Newton South Athletic Website.
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All information in this document is subject to change. Thanks for your patience as we work through these challenging times. We look forward to seeing our student-athletes on the field soon!