



Supervisor Tony Buffington  
**Blue Ridge District**  
*NewsFlash*

## Governor Eases Recreational Sports Restrictions

Sent: November 9, 2020

Governor Northam has amended Executive Order 67 with regard to recreational sports. You can read the amended Executive Order [Here](#).

See below for more information regarding the amended Order.

### **Restrictions Eased for Recreational Sports in Virginia**

Governor Northam has issued a [Fourth Amended Executive Order 67](#) (see page 10) that eases some restrictions for recreational sports throughout Virginia. The amendment removes the requirement for 10 feet of physical distance between players while participating in recreational sports and adds a requirement for screening coaches, officials, staff, and players for COVID-19 symptoms prior to admission to a facility.

The amendment allows all Parks, Recreation, and Community Services (PRCS) youth and adult sports leagues that play at County or Loudoun County Public School (LCPS) facilities to return to full play.

### **What has changed?**

- Games, scrimmages, and player-on-player drills are now allowed.
- Players do not need to wear face coverings while participating in gameplay.
- Players must maintain social distancing while on the bench during games and must wear face coverings unless they are participating in gameplay.
- Due to social distancing requirements for spectators and the size of gyms, PRCS is restricting the number of spectators as follows:
  - One (1) spectator per player for all games taking place in middle school, elementary school, and high school auxiliary gyms.
  - Two (2) spectators per player for any game taking place at a high school main gym.
- Spectators are expected to remain socially distant, unless they are family members.
- Spectators must wear face coverings at all times.

### **What has not changed?**

- Coaches must wear face coverings at all times.

### **What do leagues need to do before returning to play under the revised Order?**

- Leagues must submit a revised Return to Play Plan based on the new guidelines. Current guidelines will remain in place until PRCS approves a league's revised Return to Play Plan.
- Leagues must notify all coaches, players, and player families about the spectator restriction and ensure adherence to the restriction.
- Leagues need to be prepared to conduct screenings of all coaches, officials, staff, and players for COVID-19 symptoms prior to admission to the facility.

Facility Supervisors will serve as PRCS customer service representatives and will provide limited oversight to LCPS and PRCS facilities while those facilities are in use by youth and adult sports leagues.

Governor Northam's [Phase 3 Guidelines for Recreational Sports](#) (see pages 20 and 38) continue to apply. The total number of attendees (including both participants and spectators) at a recreational sports event cannot exceed the lesser of 50% of the occupancy load or 250 persons. For sports played on a field, attendees are limited to 250 persons per field. Indoor sports facilities must continue to maintain a minimum of ten (10) feet of physical distancing between all individuals as much as possible (except for players in gameplay).

**Who should I contact with questions?**

Any questions regarding the above information can be directed to Mr. Dave Carver from Parks and Recreation at 703-777-0346.

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***Coronavirus - We're in it together, we'll get through it together - Tony***

Be safe!



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