



**AMENDED DIRECTIVE AND ORDER REGARDING COMMUNITY, RECREATIONAL,
LEISURE, CULTURAL AND SPORTING GATHERINGS AND EVENTS**

Pursuant to Executive Order No. 20-09-28-01

No. MDH 2020-10-08-01

I, Robert R. Neall, Secretary of Health, finding it necessary for the prevention and control of 2019 Novel Coronavirus (“SARS-CoV-2” or “2019-NCoV” or “COVID-19”), and for the protection of the health and safety of patients, staff, and other individuals in Maryland, hereby authorize and order the following actions for the prevention and control of this infectious and contagious disease under the Governor’s Declaration of Catastrophic Health Emergency.

This Amended Directive and Order replaces and supersedes the Directive and Order Regarding Community, Recreational, Leisure, Cultural and Sporting Gatherings and Events, dated September 24, September 1, June 12 and June 10, 2020.

1. Sports Gatherings and Events

- A. **Major League Professional Sports.** All major league professional sports and events may resume sporting and other customary operations, subject to the following conditions.
- i. All individuals shall adhere to the face covering requirement and operating requirements, including six feet social distancing between individuals and/or groups, in [Order of the Governor No. 20-09-28-01 \(as it may be amended from time to time\)](#) (the “Executive Order”).
 - ii. As used herein, the term “spectator” means a person at a sports facility who is not (a) at the facility for the purpose of engaging in sporting or other customary operations, or (b) a member of the media.
 - iii. The total number of spectators permitted in an indoor sports facility shall not exceed at any one time the lesser of:
 - a. 50% of that indoor sports facility’s Maximum Occupancy (as defined in the Executive Order), or
 - b. 100 persons; and

- iv. The total number of spectators permitted in an outdoor sports facility or venue open to spectators or the general public shall not exceed at any one time the lesser of:
 - a. 50% of that outdoor sports facility's Maximum Occupancy (as defined in the Executive Order), or
 - b. 250 persons.

B. All Sports (Excluding Major League Professional Sports). All adult sports gatherings, excluding major league professional sports, but including minor league professional, semi-professional, amateur, and recreational sports and events may resume sporting and other customary operations, subject to the following conditions.

- i. All individuals shall adhere to the face covering requirement and operating requirements, including six feet social distancing between individuals and/or groups, pursuant to the Executive Order.
- ii. The total number of persons, including spectators, players, and support personnel, permitted in an indoor sports facility or venue shall not exceed at any one time the lesser of
 - a. 50% of that indoor sports facility's maximum occupancy (as defined in the Governor's Executive Order), or
 - b. 100 persons; and
- iii. The total number of persons permitted in an outdoor sports facility or venue shall not exceed at any one time the lesser of
 - a. 50% of that outdoor sports facility's maximum occupancy (as defined in the Governor's Executive Order), or
 - b. 250 persons.

C. College and High School Athletics.

- i. High school and college athletics may resume sports gatherings and events, subject to the same conditions as set forth in section 1.B above. For contact sports (e.g., wrestling, basketball, and football), play should be modified to safely increase distance between players following [CDC guidance](#).
- ii. Notwithstanding section 1.C.i above, a college or university outdoor athletic venue may host an athletic event at which the total number of persons present (including spectators, players, and support personnel) is up to 25% of the

seating capacity of the venue, *provided* that all of the following conditions are met:

- a. the spectators attending the event consist solely of students and staff of the college or university hosting the event (the “Host College”);
- b. the Host College has implemented a policy of performing COVID-19 testing, using scientifically credible testing methods, on at least 15% of its entire student population and staff, including athletic staff, per week;
- c. at no time in the 14 days preceding the event has the COVID-19 positivity rate among the Host College’s student and staff, including athletic staff, population been higher than 0.25%;
- d. all student spectators are required to travel directly between their on-campus housing areas and the athletic venue without any unnecessary stops or detours;
- e. social gatherings in and around the venue, such as “tailgating”, are prohibited;
- f. all persons, including students, athletic staff, event staff, and any contractors providing services at the venue, are required to undergo temperature and COVID-19 symptom screenings prior to entering the venue;
- g. distance between seated spectators is maximized to the extent reasonably possible, but is at least six feet; *provided*, that students who are immediate roommates may be seated together; and
- h. all spectators are required to wear Face Coverings (as defined in the Executive Order).

2. Youth Sports Gatherings and Events

- A. All youth sports gatherings and events may resume sporting and other customary operations. Parents and family may spectate at youth sports gatherings with appropriate social distancing.
- B. All individuals shall adhere to the face covering requirement and operating requirements, including six feet social distancing between individuals and/or groups, pursuant to the Executive Order
- C. For contact sports (e.g., wrestling, basketball, and football), play should be modified to safely increase the distance between players following [CDC guidance](#).

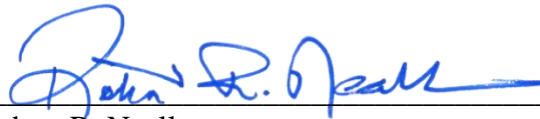
3. Other Gatherings and Events

Convention events are prohibited until further notice.

4. Severability

If any provision of this Directive and Order or its application to any person, entity, or circumstance is held invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, all other provisions or applications of this Directive and Order shall remain in effect to the extent possible without the invalid provision or application. To achieve this purpose, the provisions of this Directive and Order are severable.

THIS DIRECTIVE AND ORDER IS ISSUED UNDER MY HAND THIS 8TH DAY OF OCTOBER 2020 AND IS EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY.



Robert R. Neall
Secretary of Health