



Kurt Jesman Director

Office of Physical Education, Health, Intramurals and Interscholastic Athletics

John Jay High School 2012 Route 52 Hopewell Junction, NY 12533 (845) 897-6700 x30096 Fax (845) 897-6720

WCSD Athletics Fall 2021 Guidelines

On Wednesday, August 18th, the Executive Committee of Section One, Inc., of the New York State Public High School Athletic Association (NYSPHSAA) convened for the first time in the 2021-22 school year. Members of the Section One Executive Committee universally expressed great enthusiasm for the safe return of all fall sports. The Committee continues to recognize the value that interscholastic athletics plays in the educational experience of our student-athletes.

In accordance with the most recent CDC and NYSED guidelines, the Section One Executive Committee strongly encourages schools to implement layered prevention strategies in their local interscholastic reopening plans as stated in a [news release on August 19, 2021](#).

The Wappingers CSD has also released a reopening plan. [The Wappingers CSD School Reopening Plan](#) is available for you to review, and was developed after reviewing guidance from the New York State Education Department (NYSED), the American Association of Pediatrics (AAP), and the Dutchess County Department of Community and Behavioral Health (DCDBCH).

In alignment with the most recent guidance and recommendations from the various agencies identified above, and in alignment with all districts in Conference One of Section One Athletics, the WCSD Athletic Department will implement the following guidelines for the fall 2021 sports season:

1. WCSD will conduct the fall 2021 season for all fall sports.
 - a. High School Fall Sports (Cheerleading, Boys & Girls Cross Country, Field Hockey, Football, Boys Soccer, Girls Soccer, Girls Swim, Girls Tennis & Volleyball) Start Date: August 23, 2021
 - b. Junior High School Sports (Cheerleading, Boys & Girls Cross Country, Field Hockey, Football, Boys Soccer, Girls Soccer & Volleyball) Start Date: September 13, 2021
2. Outdoor sports will not require masks for players, coaches, site personnel and officials. This guideline corresponds with the WCSD reopening plan, as well as providing consistency with other Section One school districts' athletic programs.
3. Indoor sports, including Volleyball and Girls Swimming (except when in the water) masks will be required. This includes players, coaches, site personnel and officials. Game Day Cheerleading will follow the guidelines based on whether a competition is held indoors or outdoors. Wearing masks indoors during interscholastic events corresponds with the District's reopening plan, as well as providing consistency with other Section One school districts' athletic programs.
4. Spectators will be allowed to view games for indoor sports. Spectators will need to follow the mask mandate as indicated by the venue.
5. Spectators will be allowed to view games for outdoor sports. Spectators will not need to wear masks while at outdoor events. This guideline corresponds with the WCSD Reopening Plan, as well as providing consistency with other Section One school districts' athletic programs.
6. Locker rooms will be utilized for athletic teams.

These guidelines are subject to change based on any future mandates from the State of New York, the State Department of Health, the local County Departments of Health, the State Education Department or the NYSPHSAA.

The mission of the Wappingers Central School District is to empower all of our students with the competencies and confidence to challenge themselves, to pursue their passions, and to realize their potential while growing as responsible members of their community.