



NWAC M/W SOCCER PROTOCOLS FOR MARCH 2021-JUNE 2021

The following protocols are for NWAC Men's & Women's Soccer competitions during March 2021-June 2021. Please ensure that as member colleges you follow the protocols and are responsible to provide as safe as an environment for all of those involved. *It is understood that each member college and region may need to make minor adjustments. Those changes need to be reviewed by the Conference office.* More detailed information is found in Chapter 8 in the NWAC Health and Safety Manual.

Host colleges must inform visiting team at least 48 hours in advance the protocols that will be in place prior, during, and after the game. At a minimum this information should include:

- Time of arrival and what entrance and exit to use.
- Location for screening when arriving on campus.
- Screening requirements needed prior to entry.
- Prior to the visiting team leaving to play the game, **the visiting AD must** send to the host AD names of SA's who have been cleared to play.
- Protocols for use of the athletic training facility.
- Schedule of events for the day of the game.
- If team benches and the score table is set up opposite of each other.

BALLS

- Each team shall have their own balls for pre-match warmup use while at the venue. The balls should be cleaned by a designated member of the host institution's game operations staff.
- It is recommended that there are 4-6 balls set aside for game use only.
- Game balls should be cleaned during stop time, halftime, and as much as possible.

ESSENTIAL PERSONNEL

The following game management essential personnel for basketball is:

- No more than three administrators to provide supervision and support.
- Three officials.
- No more than 22 student-athletes for each team who are on the eligibility rosters.
- Head coach and the minimum number of assistants.
- No more than two athletic trainers.
- No more than three video crew operators (film, announcer).
- Scoreboard operator and official score keeper.
- Three cleaning crew members.
- Two ball shaggers.

FACE COVERINGS

- Currently student-athletes, coaches, and supportive staff must wear masks at all times.
- Currently officials must wear masks at all times



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OFFICIALS

- See pages 3-4 for details.

SCORE TABLE

- Only the official scorer and the scoreboard operator are seated at the score table. The seating configuration must maintain proper social distance protocols.
- Masks are to be worn at all times.
- Hand sanitizer and disinfecting wipes stationed at the score table.

TEAM BENCH

- Member colleges should adjust the team bench set up to allow for physical distancing from pitch, score table and benches. If spacing allows, recommend using multiple rows of seats with an appropriate distance between each seat. Each seat should have a name of the player on it and only the player is allowed to sit in that seat for the duration of the game.
- On the team bench sideline, Row 1 shall be set back from the playing court sideline a minimum of 6 feet to allow distancing from the court. Row 2 should be a minimum of 6 feet behind Row 1.
- If the facility allows, a minimum 12-foot physical distance barrier must separate the scorers' table and bench areas from the general seating area.
- Each player and coach should have a designated seat that is clearly identifiable.
- Similar spacing is recommended for "broadcast tables" on the other side of the pitch.
- Each player should have his/her own bucket/bag with their name on it and items included should be a personalized water bottle, masks, towel and hand sanitizer. This should be each team's responsibility.

TOWELS

- Towels should be used by only one individual for the competition.
- Multiple towel bins should be available to discard used towels.
- An alternative to towels is the use of disposable towels and appropriate disposal container.
- No towels to be placed on score table.
- Game Management will take care of wiping down the balls.
- Official's water and towels should be located behind across from the scorer's table. These must be specific to each official and handled only by the officials.



NWAC SOCCER OFFICIALS PROTOCOLS FOR MARCH 2021-JUNE 2021

Member colleges must provide information to the officials associations on campus health screening locations, screening requirements, points of entry, path of travel, access needs, availability of restrooms, locker rooms, and other designated facilities at least 48 hours before the scheduled event. Each member college may have to make minor adjustments to this plan. At a minimum this document should include:

- Time of arrival and what entrance and exit to use.
- Screening requirements needed prior to entry.
- Availability of meeting space for officials that provides for social distancing.
- Protocol for use of athletic training facility.
- Schedule of events for the day of the game.

Officials traveling to officiate a NWAC Soccer match should be prepared to have their own:

- Personal towels.
- Personal water bottles.
- Mask and additional supply of masks.
- Personal hand sanitizer.
- Come dressed to the match in uniform.
- Official's water towels should be located behind each basket or on a table across from the scorer's table. These must be specific to each official and handled only by the officials.

Officials should not work any NWAC Soccer match if they have shown signs of symptoms for COVID-19 at least 6-12 hours prior to the scheduled match.

Once on site and at a minimum officials will be given a temperature check. If their temperature check registers at 100.4 or lower the official may officiate the game. If their temperature registers higher than 100.4, the official will be asked to step aside and isolate for 15 minutes. After 15 minutes has elapsed another temperature check will be administered to the official. If the results confirms the original registered temperature, the official will not be allowed to work the game and will have to be isolated. If the second temperature check registers at 100.4 or lower, the official will be allowed to officiate.

PROTOCOLS

- **The pregame meeting between game officials and coaches must be conducted virtually or in a place that** allows for 6 feet of physical distance among participants. Officials should always wear masks/face coverings and maintain physical distancing during all activities.
- Officials are to follow personal health guidelines (e.g., wash hands frequently; do not touch your eyes, nose, or mouth; use hand sanitizer; maintain physical distance and wears masks at all times).
- No physical interactions, such as high-fives, fist bumps and hugs, should occur with coaches, officials, members of other teams.
- Eliminate the postgame handshake line involving the two participating teams and officials.



EXPECTATIONS

- Arrival time depends on school requirements for COVID testing/attestation.
- Identify with teams what balls are designated for use as game balls only.
- Officials will not touch game towels.
- Minimal interaction with coaches.
- Will remind any participant to wear his/her facemask in the manner in which it was intended when approaching an official.
- Referees will use either an electronic whistle or a whistle under a mask.
- Referee whistles may or may not be the same.

Meeting with Coaches

- No handshakes.
- Coaches and officials must wear masks.
- Remind coaches to wear a mask when approaching to ask questions during the match.
- Remind coaches to remain proper physical distancing from officials at all times.
- Work with host team game administration on ball management.

Meeting with Team Captains

- Maintain social distance; no handshakes.
- Only one captain allowed from each team.
- Review game protocols for game balls and towel management.

Players:

- When appropriate, the captain wearing a mask may briefly approach a referee for clarifying questions only.
- No postgame handshake line involving the two participating teams. Consider some act of sportsmanship, such as the teams lining up in front of their respective penalty box lines and giving congratulatory waves to each other.