



MCPS ATHLETICS

RETURN to R.A.I.S.E.

Update—May 28, 2021

Dear MCPS Community:

Following are key updates regarding the operations of the MCPS athletics program, including:

- Return to R.A.I.S.E. Plan Operations
- Winter Season Showcases
- Spring Season Update
- Conditioning and Weight Rooms
- Fall Season Registration

Return to R.A.I.S.E. Plan Operations

Effective May 28, 2021, when the Montgomery County [Board of Health regulation](#) rescinds, the MCPS athletics program will return to full operations, along with the procedures and protocols to prevent the spread of COVID-19 included in the latest update to the [Return to R.A.I.S.E. Plan](#). The Return to R.A.I.S.E. Plan aligns with guidelines from the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE), Maryland Department of Health, and the Maryland Public Secondary Schools Athletic Association (MPSSAA).

Winter Season Senior Recognition

Thank you sport directors, district representatives, athletics specialists, coaches, and all who support our student-athletes for your efforts with hosting the senior showcases this week; the basketball and wrestling showcases were exciting systemwide celebrations! We also appreciate the efforts of our swimming & diving and indoor track & field coaches to host school-based celebrations and recognitions throughout the spring. Congratulations to the Class of 2021!

Spring Season Update

The spring regular season will continue through June 5, 2021. Postseason play will occur June 7–19, 2021. Spring sports will be conducted in alignment with the [MPSSAA Spring Sports Bulletin](#).

- **Memorial Day** – no practices or contests are allowed.
- **Admission** – admission will not be charged through the regular season and county/region postseason. Admission will be charged for the state semifinals and finals, per MPSSAA procedures.
- **Concessions** – concession stands will remain closed through the end of the spring season.

Conditioning and Weight Rooms

Conditioning activities and the use of weight rooms may begin on June 1, 2021. Coaches must review and implement the [Conditioning Program Recommendations](#), along with MCPS health and safety resources.

From June 1–30, 2021, as part of conditioning programs, sport-specific skill training is allowed, per the approved COMAR waivers of MPSSAA regulations. Beginning July 1, 2021, when the waivers expire, only general conditioning may occur; no sport-specific activities may occur (school coaching staff may work with up to two student-athletes per day). Coaches and student-athletes must always comply with the [MCPS Out of-Season Participation Standards and Regulations](#) and in alignment with the [MPSSAA 80% Rule](#) and guidance.

During June 1–30, all conditioning and sport-specific activities must comply with the [Return to R.A.I.S.E. Plan](#) and all applicable MCPS and MPSSAA rules and regulations.

Fall Sports Season

MCPS is planning for a full return to operations for the fall season of the 2021–2022 school year. [Tryouts and practices](#) for high schools start on **August 11, 2021**; details will be provided through the local school and team(s). Registration will open on **July 12, 2021** through ParentVue.

Communication and Resources

Our COVID-19 Task Force for MCPS Athletics will continue to evaluate and implement the latest safety measures. Updates and guidance from the Task Force will continue to be provided and are available on the [COVID-19 Athletics Information webpage](#).

We appreciate your continued commitment and support. Specific questions should be directed to your school's [athletics specialist \(AD\)](#), [athletic coordinator](#) (AC), or coach.

Montgomery County Public Schools