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**High School Athletics Update (March 2, 2021)**

On February 19, 2021, the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) released updated guidelines for athletic practices and competition. These updates allow sports identified in the Red Tier and the Orange Tier in the chart below to begin competition when the adjusted case rate for the county is 14 or less per 100,000 people. On March 2, 2021, Riverside County’s adjusted case rate is 11.3 and the below 14 cases criteria has been met.

RUSD sports programs that are permitted to participate in competition:

Purple Tier	Red Tier	Orange Tier (Outdoor)
Cross Country Golf Swim & Dive Tennis Track & Field	Baseball Sideline Cheer Softball	Football (Testing Required) Lacrosse Soccer Water Polo (Testing Required)

Requirements for all sports participants:

- Athletic participation in practice or competition is limited to one team. No mixing of cohorts will be permitted in RUSD. For more detailed information regarding the updated CDPH guidelines for Outdoor and Indoor Youth and Recreational Adult Sports click [HERE](#).
- Schools will provide information regarding risk to all parents/guardians of minors participating in such sports, and each parent will need to sign an informed consent indicating their understanding and acknowledgement of the risks indicated by participating.
- As related to athletics, Covid-19 testing is **only required** for athletes and coaches who compete in football and water polo. **If an athlete refuses testing, they are not permitted to play.** Direct communication about next steps, protocols, and competition guidelines will be sent by each school site to parents and athletes participating in football and water polo. (Other testing requirements apply to on-campus school attendance which has not begun for middle or high school.)

Observers/Spectators

Athletes are limited to a maximum of two (2) observers/spectators who are immediate family members at home events. Family units must maintain at least 6 feet of distance from other family units at all times. For events outside of RUSD, parents must follow the guidelines outlined by the home school or district.

**High School Visual and Performing Arts (VAPA)**

New guidance from Riverside Department of Public Health (RivCoDPH) will go into effect at each high school on Monday, March 8, 2021. The updated guidelines allow RUSD to continue the approved Board of Education plan for VAPA activities. Students participating in band (no wind or brass), colorguard, performing arts, and dance are permitted to resume extra & co-curricular activities under the following conditions:

- All activities must occur outdoors
- Maximum cohort size of 16 individuals including the instructor
- Masks worn at all times (no exceptions)
- Maintain at least 6 feet of distance
- No brass or wind instruments to be played until further notice

Each high school will provide detailed information on the VAPA programs unique to their site.