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Date Email Sent:	August 13, 2020
Email Subject Line:	Spectators & Participants at Athletic Events
Recipient Groups:	all board members, superintendents, superintendent secretaries, board attorneys and related affiliates

Email body:

Spectators and Participants at Athletic Events

Questions have been raised about crowds at school athletic events and football games. The current statewide [Safer-At-Home Order](#) applies to spectators at sporting events, including school football games. Spectators at sporting activities must comply with the following requirements:

- Spectators may not congregate within six feet of a person from another household;
- Spectators may not make physical contact with one another, e.g. high-fives and handshakes; and
- Spectators must wear a face covering when within 6 feet of a person from another household.

While there is no limit on the number of people who may be present, depending on a school's available outdoor space, a limit may be necessary at certain games.

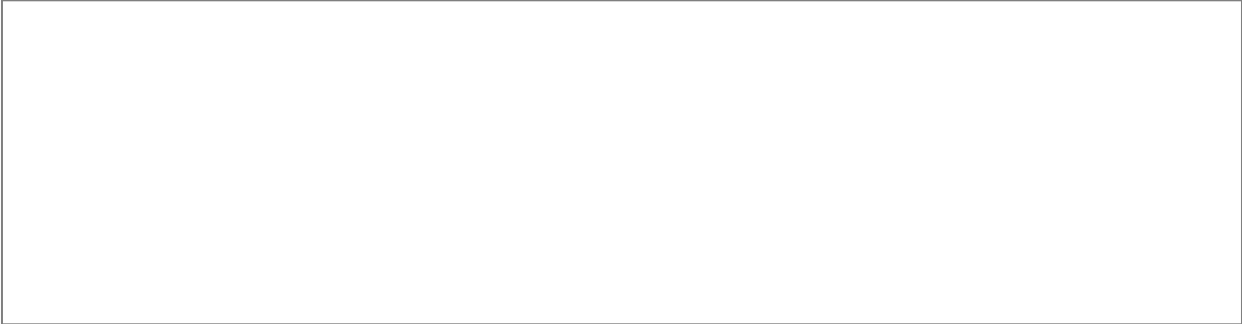
Be mindful that the same rules apply to athletes and coaches except as required to directly participate in the athletic event. For example, football players on the field actively engaged in play are not required to socially distance or wear a face covering. A coach on the sideline speaking with a player or another coach about the next play is not required to socially distance. The [Alabama High School Athletic Association](#) and [Alabama Department of Public Health](#) issued memos last week reinforcing these requirements as well.

Finally, these limitations also apply to participants at the event. We presume this category includes band members, cheerleaders and school employees who may be participating in support of the event. To the extent they can socially distance and wear face coverings, they must do so, unless they are actively participating in an exercise that makes it impractical. Here are some examples:

Activity	Socially distanced	Face coverings
Band members sitting/standing in the stands playing during the game	Yes	Yes, unless instrument requires uncovered face
Band members doing formations on the field during half-time	No	Yes, unless instrument requires uncovered face
Band members or cheerleaders walking to the concession stand	Yes	Yes
Cheerleaders performing on the sidelines	Yes	No
Cheerleaders doing certain stunts	No	No
Employees taking tickets at the gate	Yes, to the extent possible given necessary contact to take money and provide tickets	Yes
Employees working in a small concession stand	Yes, to the extent possible given necessary contact to take money and provide concessions. Limit helpers as much as possible within confined areas.	Yes

The current Safer-At-Home order is set to expire on August 31 unless extended by the Governor. As a reminder, violation of state health orders are subject to a \$500 fine. Ala. Code [§22-2-14](#).

Attachments (if any):

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