

Elk County Catholic School System

Spectator Attendance Guidelines at Home Events

Revised: 10/9/20

Elk County Catholic School System looks to continue its safe and successful fall athletic season. Under the current guidelines released on October 5 a maximum of 20% of capacity is permitted at indoor and outdoor venues. All spectators attending events must follow all applicable health and safety directives as issued by the Governor, Pennsylvania Department of Health and the PIAA. Please review the following important information concerning spectators at Elk County Catholic home sporting events—and also understand that this information is subject to change with little notice.

Through attendance at an Elk County Catholic home athletic contest, the spectator attests that they have completed the self screening and have met the requirements for attendance at an ECC home athletic contest and hereby agree to abide by the guidelines stated below. Failure to comply with the Elk County Catholic Spectator Attendance Guidelines may result in guests being declined admission or being asked to leave the event venue.

Level of Community Transmission:

Based on the level of community transmission of COVID-19 within the St. Marys/Elk County region, the Elk County Catholic School System will permit spectators at home athletic events as defined below:

LOW LEVEL of community transmission - ECCSS will permit spectators at district events as defined by sport below.

MODERATE LEVEL of community transmission - the ECCSS Board of Directors grants the president the authority to analyze the local data and make adjustments to spectator attendance, in effort to protect the health, safety and welfare of student athletes, staff and community members.

SUBSTANTIAL LEVEL of community transmission, ECCSS will not engage in inter-scholastic or extracurricular activities.

Spectator Guidelines - Low Level Of Community Transmission

Spectators at all ECC home athletic contests are expected to follow all current safety mandates:

- Prior to the event, spectators should complete a self-screening and must be symptom free. (Free from fever over 100.4, sore throat accompanied by persistent pain, new uncontrolled cough, difficulty breathing, diarrhea, vomiting or abdominal pain or new onset of severe headache with a fever)
- Spectators must not have had close contact with a person with confirmed COVID-19 in the last 14 days.
- Spectators who have traveled to an area of high transmission as defined by the PA Department of Health in the last 14 days are recommended by the PA Department of Health not to attend.
- Spectators at all ECC home contest venues will also be required to follow Pennsylvania's Universal Face Coverings Order. **This order states that face**

coverings must be worn in all indoor venues and face coverings must be worn in outdoor venues where individuals cannot consistently maintain six feet of physical distance. Members of the same household are not required to physically distance from each other.

Tickets are not required at events held at Benzinger Park or the Leaning Pines. At these locations, spectators must follow the safety mandates listed above.

ECCSS will continue to livestream events for community and for opposing teams' fans in effort to provide a safer alternative than in-person attendance.

Current Regulations for Individual Sports

Please Note: that these regulations are subject to change without prior notice:

Varsity Football & Cheerleading & Band: For the families of all football players, cheerleaders, and band members, **four advanced-sale tickets may be purchased for use by families or household members prior to the event.** Purchase price is \$4.00 per ticket. No tickets will be available at the venue.

Everyone entering Dutch Country Stadium is expected to wear a face covering and follow social distancing guidelines.

Household members will be expected to be seated as a group at Dutch Country Stadium. Household groups are expected to maintain 6 feet of distance from other household groups attending the contest. Face coverings may only be removed when seated with household members and distanced at least 6 feet from other spectators. Face coverings must be worn at all other times.

100 tickets will be available for the visiting team. As per league agreement, the visiting team's band and cheerleaders will not be in attendance

Additional tickets may be made available for purchase depending on demand.

Please note: The St. Marys Area School District has indicated that they will NOT be restricting the parking areas during contests held on school grounds. St. Marys Area asks persons coming to the SMAHS school grounds to remain in the vicinity of their vehicle. Persons not admitted to the game may be able to view the contest from the parking area. We ask any individuals considering this option to follow ECC Spectator Guidelines with respect to masks and physical distancing, and avoid congregating. The St. Marys Area School District reserves the right to change this policy without notice. Failure to comply with St. Marys Area School District policies may also jeopardize our continued use of the SMASD facility.

All ECC home football games will be available on the River 98.9 Facebook page as well as the ECC TV YouTube Channel and the ECC-TV Channel on Zito Media.

Cross Country Home events are held at Benzinger Park, which is a city-owned and operated recreational facility. Any spectators in attendance at these matches will be expected to follow all ECC Spectator Guidelines and any additional guidelines set forth by the City of St. Marys.

Boys & Girls Soccer: Girls varsity, boys varsity, and junior high soccer matches are held at Angela Huey Field in Kersey. This field is located at the Fox Township Park, which is a community-owned and operated facility. There will be a limited number of tickets for sale at the gate on a first-come, first-serve basis for each soccer match. Spectators will be expected to follow all ECC Spectator Guidelines including physical distancing and any additional requirements set forth by Fox Township.

Volleyball & JH Basketball (held in the main gymnasium): For the families of all volleyball and junior high girls basketball players, up to **four advanced-sale tickets may be purchased for use by families or household members prior to the contest.** Purchase price is \$4.00 per ticket. No tickets will be available at the door.

40 tickets will be available for the visiting team.

Spectators attending events in the ECCHS/SMCMS gymnasiums will be required to be seated in marked spaces within the gymnasium. Members of the same household must be seated together and are not required to distance. All spectators at these events are required to follow the Universal Face Covering Mandate and wear a face covering over the mouth and nose at all times while in the building.

Spectator Rules, Regulations, & Expectations

- 1. Spectators choosing to purchase a ticket or attend venues where tickets are not sold are consenting that they agree to the terms of the Elk County Catholic Spectator Guidelines document and understand the risk associated with COVID-19, and assume all responsibility and liability if they were to contract COVID-19.**
2. Spectators must certify that they are in good health on the day of the contest as outlined by the screening criteria above and that they have had no signs or symptoms that would indicate they are at risk of COVID-19. Spectators must certify that they have not been in close contact with a COVID-19 positive individual within the last 14 days.
3. Spectators at all ECC home contest venues will also be required to follow Pennsylvania's Universal Face Coverings Order. This order states that face covering must be worn in all indoor venues and face coverings must be worn in outdoor venues where individuals cannot consistently maintain six feet of physical distancing. Members of the same household are not required to physically distance from each other.
4. For events held at the HS-MS building, household members must remain seated as a group during contests, spectators are not permitted to congregate in corridors or other areas of the school building.
5. For all contests, at the conclusion of the contest, spectators are required to immediately exit the venue/building. Spectators may not congregate at the venue or within other areas of the school building.

STATEMENT OF IMPLIED CONSENT

Spectators choosing to purchase a ticket or attend venues where tickets are not sold, through their attendance are consenting to the following:

Spectators attending ECCSS home contest events acknowledge the contagious nature of the Coronavirus/COVID-19 and that the CDC and many other public health authorities still recommend practicing social distancing.

Spectators further acknowledge that ECCSS can not guarantee that spectators will not become infected with the Coronavirus/COVID-19. Spectators understand that the risk of becoming exposed to and/or infected by the Coronavirus/COVID-19 may result from the actions, omissions, or negligence of the spectator and others, including, but not limited to, event staff, and other spectators and their families.

Through the spectator's attendance at an ECCSS home athletic contest, the spectator acknowledges that they are increasing his/her risk of exposure to the Coronavirus/COVID-19. The spectator acknowledges that he/she must comply with all set procedures to reduce the spread while attending the ECCSS home athletic contest.

The spectator hereby releases and agrees to hold the Elk County Catholic School System harmless from, and waive on behalf of the spectator, their heirs, and any personal representatives any and all causes of action, claims, demands, damages, costs, expenses and compensation for damage or loss to the spectator and/or property that may be caused by any act, or failure to act of the part of the school, or that may otherwise arise in any way in connection to my attendance at an ECCSS home athletic contest. The spectator understands that this release discharges the Elk County Catholic School System from any liability or claim that the spectator, his/her heirs, or any personal representatives may have against the ECCSS with respect to any bodily injury, illness, death, medical treatment, or property damage that may arise from, or in connection to, any attendance at an ECC home athletic event. This liability waiver and release extends to the school system, employees and event staff.