Peters Township School District
Participation Waiver for Communicable Diseases Including COVID-19

The COVID-19 pandemic has presented all School Districts with countless challenges. The COVID-19 virus is a highly contagious illness that primarily attacks the upper respiratory system. The virus that causes COVID-19 can infect people of all ages. Research from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), among others, has found that while children can be infected by COVID-19, relatively few children with COVID-19 are hospitalized. However, some severe outcomes have been reported in children, and a child with a mild or even asymptomatic case of COVID-19 can spread the infection to others who may be far more vulnerable. While it is not possible to eliminate all risks of furthering the spread of COVID-19, the current science suggests that there are steps schools can take to reduce the risks to students, staff, and community.

The Peters Township School District will take the necessary precautions and recommendations from the federal, state, and local governments, CDC, Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE), Pennsylvania Department of Health (DOH), as well as the National Federation of High Schools (NFHS), and Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association (PIAA) to safeguard the participants and staff of our athletic and extra-curricular programs. The Peters Township School District realizes knowledge regarding COVID-19 is constantly changing, as new information and treatments become available. The recommendations below will be adjusted as needed as new information becomes available in order to decrease the risk of exposure for our students, staff, and community.

The following is mandatory for **all phases** for Middle School and High School Extra-Curricular Athletics and Activities during the COVID-19 pandemic:
1. All student athletes, participants, coaches, sponsors, and staff will undergo a COVID-19 health screening prior to any practice, event, or meeting.
    a. The purpose of the health screening is to check each individual for signs and symptoms of COVID-19.
    b. This health screening will involve temperature check and COVID-19 questions.
    c. The location of this health screening will be announced prior to the practice or event
2. Coaches and activity sponsors shall promote healthy hygiene practices to limit the spread of COVID-19 including:
    a. Hand washing (20 seconds with warm water and soap) shall be required prior to and following team activities.
    b. Students and participants shall wear a face covering (masks or face shields) when feasible.
        i. Face coverings will be required prior to and following team activities.
        ii. Face coverings will not be required for athletes while practicing or competing.
        iii. When not engaged in vigorous activities, students must wear face coverings.
    c. Coaches, activity sponsors and other adult personnel shall wear face coverings (masks or face shields) at all times, unless doing so jeopardizes their health.
    d. Frequent use of hand sanitizer.
3. Intensify cleaning, disinfection, and ventilation in all facilities.
4. Coaches and activity sponsors shall ensure that participants encourage social distancing (6 feet apart) through increased spacing, small groups, and limited mixing between groups, when feasible.
5. Prior to any team in-person event, educate athletes, participants, coaches, activity sponsors, and staff on health and safety protocols.

       a. These protocols include:
           i. Information about the COVID-19 health screening,
          ii. Promoting healthy hygiene,
         iii. Signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and what to do if COVID-19 is suspected in an individual,
         iv. Review social distancing,
          v. Review facility entrance and exit plans, and
        vi. Review hydration plans.

6. Require that anyone who is sick to stay home.
7. Follow the plan (found later in this document) for a student or employee who gets sick.
8. The administration will regularly communicate and monitor developments with state and local authorities, coaches, sponsors, staff, and families regarding cases, exposures, and updates to policies and procedures.
9. Athletes, participants, coaches, and activity sponsors MUST provide their own water and water bottle for hydration. Water bottles are not permitted to be shared. Disposable cups will not be provided. Water fountains and water buffaloes shall not be used.
10. Personal protective equipment (PPE) will be used as needed and situations warrant, or determined by state and local government/agencies. These items include gloves, face masks, and eye protection.
11. Students' caregivers should identify their children, and the District's primary contact should identify their staff, who may be at a higher risk of severe illness from COVID-19 due to underlying medical conditions such as:
    - Age 65 or older,
    - Lung disease, moderate-severe asthma,
    - Serious heart conditions,
    - May be immunocompromised,
    - Obesity,
    - Diabetes, and/or
    - Kidney or liver disease.

I understand that participating in athletic programs, events, and activities may include a possible exposure to a communicable disease including but not limited to MRSA, Influenza, and COVID-19. While particular recommendations and personal discipline may reduce the risk, the risk of serious illness and death does exist. I knowingly and freely assume all such risks, both known and unknown, even if arising from the negligence of others, and assume full responsibility for my participation. I willingly agree to comply with the stated recommendations put forth by the Peters Township School District to limit the exposure and spread of COVID-19 and other communicable diseases.

Print Student's Name: _____

Sport/Activity: _____ Student's Grade: _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian: _____ Date: _____

Signature of Student: _____ Date: _____

*A full copy of the Peters Township School District's Extracurricular Health and Safety Plan can be found on the District Website.

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