

January 14, 2021

Greetings Basketball Families!

With the Coronavirus pandemic, Gainesville Parks & Recreation is making every effort to follow social distancing guidelines and appropriate reduced capacities in its facilities. We have also increased our sanitization and safety protocols to protect our staff and participants. However, we cannot guarantee safety from exposure. If you are suffering any of the following symptoms: fever, sore throat, cough and/or sneezing or have been exposed to anyone who has tested positive for COVID-19, please do not participate in our programs or services at the time. Thank you for your cooperation.

Operational changes vary greatly by facility but residents can expect to see additional safety measures focused around social distancing and sanitizing. Please be aware that due to the nature of Basketball (guarding, passing, etc.), social distancing cannot always be maintained.

Basketball: Know Before You Go...

- No food or concession sales will be available.
- Practices and games will follow all local, state, and federal directives regarding number of people allowed to gather in one place.
- Coaches, volunteers, and all spectators must wear a mask when they are in all facilities for basketball practices and games. EXCEPTION: children under the age of two. Players may take mask off for the duration of their scheduled practice/game.
- Players and coaches should take measures to prevent all but the essential contact necessary to play the game. This should include refraining from handshakes, high fives, fist/elbow bumps, chest bumps, and group celebrations. Team huddles should be limited. Practice social distancing at all times.
- It is highly recommended that spectators be limited to two per player (Exceptions will be made for siblings) during games.
- Bleachers will be marked in some areas for members of the same family/household.
- No player's personal equipment should be brought. Basketballs will be provided for pregame warmups and the games. These will be disinfected periodically throughout the game and in between games.

**Kate Mattison, CPRP**

*Director*

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- Athletes, managers/coaches, and officials should bring their own personal water bottles to all team activities. Drinks should be labeled with the person's name. Teams should have no shared/team beverages or food.
- Players and families should vacate the facility as soon as is reasonably possible after the conclusion of their game to minimize unnecessary contact with players, coaches, and spectators from the next game.
- If there is a game or practice prior to your event, families and spectators are encouraged to stay in their vehicles or at recommended social distances until the start of their practice or game play to prevent overcrowding of spectator spaces and lobbies.
- If a parent, player, or coach has symptoms, is quarantined due to exposure, or tests positive for COVID-19, GPRA staff should be notified immediately.

Thank you for your continued patience and understanding, as we slowly work our way back to full operations. Please note that changes are inevitable but Gainesville Parks and Recreation will work to minimize the impact on participants, coaches, and staff by following our safety guidelines and protocols as well as those of the Hall County Parks and Leisure. Keep your chin up, stay healthy, stay active, and stay safe.

We look forward to seeing you!

GPRA Staff  
770.531.2680  
[gainesville.org/recreation](http://gainesville.org/recreation)

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