

Palm Beach Juniors Best Practices at the South Florida Fairgrounds Amid COVID-19.

Updated: January 8, 2021 (Revised 1/21/21)

Palm Beach Juniors takes great pride in working to host the best and safest events possible. The purpose of this document is to provide direct information on how Palm Beach Juniors will operate a volleyball event in South Florida Fairgrounds with respect to the current infectious disease climate.

Many of these recommendations are based upon current guidelines set forth by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), USA Volleyball, various youth sport industry leaders and organizations, USOPC and other local and Federal government agencies. Palm Beach Juniors reserves the right to add or remove requirements based on the safety of all participants.

Pre-Event Planning:

- Designate a staff member to monitor state and local government websites for updates and changes to guidelines
- Select an Event Management Team (to include a medical staff member) which has the authority to modify, restrict, postpone or cancel the event.
- Monitor county and state public health authorities throughout the event planning process to obtain the most accurate information regarding the local COVID-19 situation.
- Make certain proper public health policies and procedures are followed.
- Recognize “At risk” categories based on federal and state guidelines
DISCOURAGED from attending: 65 years of age, Moderate to severe asthma, Chronic lung disease, Serious heart conditions, Immuno compromised, Severe obesity, Diabetes, Liver disease, Living in a nursing home or long-term care facility.

Facility Cleaning & Services:

- Facility protocols posted throughout the facility.

- Hand sanitizing stations provided at throughout the facilities.
- Additional supplies of soap and towels in restrooms as well as a restroom attendant/ monitor for extra cleaning.
- Wearing of Masks, Physical distancing rules & Directional traffic
- Execute plan for the facility common space and lobby/concourse areas
Proper spacing of number of tables and chairs with required social distancing.
- Post physical distancing signage at entrances.
- No food concessions will be open.

Medical Team & Plan

- Trainer will be on site
- Clearly define roles and responsibilities for all medical team members.
- Coordinate necessary supplies, designated treatment area, and transport processes to treat illness' with special consideration towards COVID-19.
- Work with facility staff, local healthcare providers and the tournament medical staff to identify local healthcare resources (e.g., urgent cares, emergency rooms, ambulance services).
- Require a daily health screening entry process for building and tournament staff, administrators, and match officials to include temperature check upon entrance to building. Each person entering the facility is aware of the COVID-19 virus and taking the responsibility.
- Anyone showing symptoms or signs of sickness, who have risk factors or who have been in contact with known positive cases, should seek medical attention and NOT ATTEND/STAY HOME.
- Palm Beach Juniors staff/ Medical Trainer will evaluate an ill/ injured player, coach and attendee and authorize the return to play/ spectate or refer them for outside examination.

Tournament Staff, Administrators & Match Officials

- Any individual cannot work who meets the Medical Team's definition of "symptomatic"
- Enforce safe protocols for staff-to-staff and staff-to-customer interactions
- All tournament staff, admin & officials are required to wear a mask at ALL TIMES, except when seated while eating or drinking, and undergo temperature checks/health screening upon arrival each day to be cleared for current day of work.
- Encourage frequent hand washing with soap and water wherever possible and Carry 60% alcohol or higher anti-viral hand sanitizer when possible.
- Use personal drinking containers
- Office space, meeting room and tournament desk layouts set to provide for necessary social distancing.
- Minimize/eliminate shared equipment, encourage use of personal equipment.
- Officials must use personal phones for score entry or TEXT score to Head Official.
- Officials required to use personal handheld whistles or a mask over their whistle

Spectators, Athletes & Coaches (includes college coaches)

- Spectators will be limited to 2 representative per rostered player, and verified by the Tournament Staff.
- Coaches and Director are responsible to get this information to all players, coaches, and spectators.
- No entry for anyone who meets the Medical Teams definition of "symptomatic"

- Spectators and coaches required to wear masks at all times within the building, unless eating in designated areas or consuming a drink while seated.
- Athletes required to wear masks at all times within the building, unless eating or drinking in designated areas, taking a drink during their match, or on the court.
- Encourage frequent hand washing with soap and water wherever possible.
- Require individuals to dispose of their own drink containers or trash around the facility and court-side.
- Prohibit food consumption in the playing facilities except in designated areas to minimize amount of time face coverings are not worn to lessen exposure opportunities for all attendees.
- Spectators will enter the Fairgrounds through the West Expo and Exit out the East Expo. Spectators encouraged to REMAIN SEATED court-side UNLESS going to restroom, concessions, exit or entry areas or filming their child's match.
- Players and spectators from teams that are not playing in the match are to exit the playing facility until just before the warm-ups for their next scheduled match are to begin to decrease the density around each court.
- Spectators and players who refuse to comply with pre-mentioned policies will be asked to leave the event.

On-Site Operations

- Minimize or eliminate interactions between event staff and customers and implement state and local government physical distancing guidelines
- Ticketing & Temperature Checks will be handled outside the facility at the entrance.

Tournament Desk

- Reduce number of staff required to work the desk

- Have a single person (post) assigned to take questions from customers
- Lost & Found ONLY for valuables at Tournament Desk – EXAMPLES: Phones/ electronics, jewelry, keys, wallet/purse etc... All other items will be discarded.
- Encourage participants to bring their own water.

Entrance/Exits for court locations

- Clearly identify entry and exit paths with signage. Spectators will enter the Fairgrounds through Expo West and exit through Expo East. When teams are done playing, they must exit the facility ASAP. All persons will be exiting through the back of the building.

Court-side Policies

- Spectator Seating Areas will be spaced by code or policy of the facility or city.
- Capacity will be adjusted and adhered to at the time of the event as to meet Florida Region, local and or state standards.
- Spectators nor teams will be switching sides during the match.
- Teams are encouraged to shag their own balls to limit the handling of opponents balls.
- Official and captains must all stand at social distance for coin toss; NO pre-match handshakes, high-fives or physical touchings is to be exchanged with opposing teams.
- When teams are beckoned on the court, athletes should go directly to their position. No end-line protocol is necessary. At the conclusion of the set players MUST go directly back to their bench.
- During substitutions players should refrain from contact and stand at social distance from each other, raising a hand to be recognized by the R1.
- We encourage the elimination of celebration traditions that involve player-to-player contact.

- We encourage coaches to keep social distance when possible during time outs, allowing players to stand on the playing surfaces.
- Encourage better court time management by R1 to eliminate delays.
- Encourage athletes to use labeled personal drinking containers only - no shared water.
- Prohibit food consumption in the playing facilities except in designated areas to minimize amount of time face coverings are not worn to lessen exposure opportunities for all attendees.
- Encourage athletes that towels should be for personal use only.
- Require coaches provide their own pens and pencils.
- Require R1 to wipe down volleyball after each match with 60% alcohol or higher anti-viral disinfectant wipes or spray or use ultraviolet light.
- Provide a volleyballs rotation per court to rotate usage for consecutive matches.
- The R1 will wipe down and commonly used equipment before each match with approved sanitizing cleaner.
- Players and coaches personal gear and equipment should be placed in their bags when not in use.
- Encourage teams to bring sanitizing and cleaning products for team equipment such as volleyballs and clip boards as this is the responsibility of the team.
- Officials required to use personal hand held whistles or whistle under their mask.
- Participants and Spectators shall minimize their time in and around the courts when they are not engaged directly in the current match and must exit and wait outside at the end of the match. The Fairgrounds has designated the courtyard at the entrance and staging area with many picnic tables by the concession area for safe social distancing.

Event Format, Courts & Set Up/Tear Down

- For normal 4-team pool flows limit number of spectators to facility, city, or state requirements.
- Teams are not allowed in the hall until 20 minutes before their first scheduled match with the exception of the first match on each day or if their court is not in use prior to their scheduled time.
- Establish requirements for court labor require everyone to wear masks and protective gloves where necessary if dealing with public areas.

Outside Participants & Support Services

- Scheduled set-up times may vary to reduce large numbers working in the same areas.
- Exhibitors, sponsors and merchandise sales will be kept to a minimum. Vendors that provide person-to-person contact services will not be allowed, such as massage booths.
- All vendors will adhere to all requirements listed above for staff personnel.
- Prior approval of booth layout and safety protocol plans to deliver product for each company. Products should be limited and monitored in regards to handling or tried on by customers with appropriate cleaning and sanitizing plans. If needed mark floor for social distance with lines based on booth sizes.

Post Event

- Track and post results and review to make sure no Covid related cases were reported.
- In the event there was a positive test immediate correspondence to the clubs and or teams that would have been exposed. Communication may be done through email, text and/or phone.
- Report to the Florida Region should previous steps listed be required due to a positive test result associated with the event.