



## **RETURN TO SCHOOL SPORT PLAN**

*Updated: April 14, 2021*

### **PREAMBLE**

School sport has countless physical, mental, and emotional health benefits. As much as any other group or individual, the MHSAA wishes to see athletics return to the school setting. First and foremost, the safety of all involved with school sport is the priority of the MHSAA and directives from the Government of Manitoba, and Manitoba Health take precedence over any decision made at the MHSAA, school division or school.

In accordance with the Government of Manitoba's Public Health Orders, the MHSAA's Return to School Sport plan permits school sport to return in a controlled, modified, and flexible approach. It considers the varied opportunities and challenges of our Zones and member schools across Manitoba, who are in either an urban or rural setting.

**It should be emphasised that this plan is current and fluid.** The MHSAA will continue to re-evaluate and adapt as new information and guidelines become available, with the best interest of our student-athletes always in mind.

The MHSAA remains committed to protecting the health and safety of our student-athletes, staff, coaches, member-schools, and the health of all our fellow Manitobans.

### **RETURN TO SCHOOL SPORT APPROVAL**

It is vital that before any Return to School Sport occurs, that you consult and obtain approval from your school division's administration, or school administration for independent schools. Further, each school's administration will be responsible to determine how Return to School Sport will be implemented in their building, ensuring all current Provincial Public Health Guidelines are followed and each sport specific Return to Play Protocol is being adhered to.

### **LEAGUE & EXHIBITION PLAY**

The MHSAA will permit localized league and exhibition play provided that the Zone receives approval from their respective school division(s), or school(s) administration for independent schools. All current Provincial Public Health Orders must be followed and the sport specific Return to Play Protocol permits competition.

### **PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIPS**

Provincial Championships, for any sports, will not occur at this time and until further notice.

### **TOURNAMENTS**

The MHSAA will not be sanctioning any tournaments, for any sports, at this time and until further notice.

## **INTERPROVINCIAL TRAVEL AND TOURNAMENTS**

MHSAA member schools will not be sanctioned to travel out-of-province or attend out-of-province tournaments at this time and until further notice.

## **MHSAA SPRING SPORTS STATUS**

A summary of the status of the MHSAA's spring sports, as per their most current sport specific Return to Play Protocol. Visit the links below for complete details of each sport specific Return to Play Protocols.

- **Basketball:**
  - Indoor group training to a maximum of 10 players and 3 coaches while masked.
  - 5 on 5 full court scrimmages within the group of 10 players permitted.
  
- **Badminton:**
  - Indoor training permitted, with modifications in place. No competition at this stage.
  - Masks must be worn at all times.
  
- **Baseball:**
  - Training permitted, with modifications in place.
  - Organized competition, with modifications in place, permitted as of May 15, 2021.
  
- **Fast Pitch:**
  - Training permitted, with modifications in place.
  
- **Football (spring camps):**
  - Outdoor organized practices can take place at outdoor sporting facilities following Football Manitoba's RTP for Non-Contact Football. Tackle football not permitted at this time.
  
- **Lacrosse:**
  - Outdoor play permitted in groups of up to 40 athletes.
  - Outdoor exercises may include limited contact. Prolonged instances of contact are not permitted. Example: faceoffs, loose ball battles.
  - Competition permitted within cohorts of up to 60 athletes (modified to eliminate prolonged contact).
  
- **Rugby:**
  - School programs permitted under Rugby Manitoba's RTP to run flag/touch rugby.
  - Contact rugby and inter school games are not permitted until the province returns to Code Yellow.
  
- **Soccer:**
  - Training permitted, with modifications in place.
  
- **Track & Field:**
  - Training permitted, with modifications in place. Maintain group sizes of 10 or less.
  
- **Ultimate:**
  - Training permitted, with modifications in place.

## **PROVINCIAL SPORT ORGANIZATION (PSO) RETURN TO PLAY PROTOCOLS**

Sport specific guidelines for each of the MHSAA's sports is available below. These links provide access to approved PSO Return to Play Protocols.

Football Manitoba: <http://footballmanitoba.com/>

Golf Manitoba: <http://golfmb.ca/>

Manitoba Soccer Association: <http://manitobasoccer.ca/>

Athletics Manitoba (Cross Country and Track & Field): <http://athleticsmanitoba.com/>

Volleyball Manitoba: <https://volleyballmanitoba.ca/>

Hockey Manitoba: <http://www.hockeymanitoba.ca/>

Basketball Manitoba: <https://www.basketballmanitoba.ca/>

Curl Manitoba: <https://curlmanitoba.org/>

Manitoba Badminton Association: [http://www.mhsaa.ca/assets/content/2021.04.10 return to play guidelines for schools final.pdf](http://www.mhsaa.ca/assets/content/2021.04.10%20return%20to%20play%20guidelines%20for%20schools%20final.pdf)

Baseball Manitoba: <http://www.baseballmanitoba.ca/>

Softball Manitoba: <http://www.softball.mb.ca/>

Manitoba Organization of Disc Sports (Ultimate): <https://mods.mb.ca/>

Manitoba Lacrosse Association: <https://manitobalacrosse.com/>

Rugby Manitoba: [http://www.mhsaa.ca/assets/content/covid-19 update Rugby.pdf](http://www.mhsaa.ca/assets/content/covid-19%20update%20Rugby.pdf)