These guidelines are recommendations for games and sporting events to begin to be held in a way that will help to protect participants’ and fans’ health.

**Baseball**

- All individuals in stands and concession areas shall adhere to social distancing requirements at all times and continue to practice proper hygiene.
- Players should space out as much as possible in the dugout.
- Individual baseball or softball games can be held due to low exposure rate on the field because of the lack of face-to-face contact for prolonged periods of time.
- Sharing of equipment and water bottles is highly discouraged.

**Basketball**

- Participating in basketball games in the month of May is discouraged. The nature of this sport encourages close face-to-face contact for prolonged periods of time, increasing the risk of exposure to COVID-19.

**Tournaments**

- Scheduling or hosting tournaments in Cole County through the month of May is not recommended. Sport tournaments invite large groups of people to attend from out of the county, and the crowds would make abiding by Social Distancing Requirements difficult.

**Other Sports**

- Cole County Health Department recommends that each sport or activity be evaluated for the following factors: face-to-face contact between individuals, period of time within six (6’) feet of another individual, and sharing of equipment. If any of these factors cannot be avoided, consider postponing through the month of May.
- Social Distancing Requirements must be followed in the stands and concession areas.

**Coaches**

- Try to limit close contact as much as possible. If touching is required to help with certain techniques, avoid face-to-face contact to the best of your ability and perform proper hand hygiene before and after. If face-to-face contact can not be avoided, it is recommended to wear a mask.
- Provide hand sanitizer at games and practices.