



Joint Information Center

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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San Joaquin County Implements Youth Sports Guidance

Stockton, Calif. - San Joaquin County has reached the point that restrictions on **youth sports** are being relaxed as of March 3, 2021. With a COVID-19 case rate of 11.6, which the state announced Tuesday, San Joaquin County fell below the 14 cases per 100,000 residents or under standard allowing football and a few other outdoor sports to return to action.

California Department of Public Health issued the guidance, which applies to all youth programs- including school-based, club, and recreational programs. The guidance is intended to support a safe environment for players, coaches, trainers, and families.

Youth Sports may resume in San Joaquin County if they are able to comply with the following:

- Face coverings to be worn when not participating in the activity (e.g., on the sidelines).
- Face coverings to be worn by coaches, support staff and **observers** at all times.
- Mixing with other households prior to and post any practice or competition must strictly adhere to current gathering guidance.
- Informed Consent
- Testing – antigen or PCR (regular and postseason antigen or PCR testing of sports participants and coaches weekly. If competing, testing performed with test results made available within 24 hours of play). When Adjusted Case Rates are between 7-14 per 100,000.
- Hygiene and Sanitation
- Limitations on mixing by participants
- Travel Considerations

The state is expected to release guidelines for weekly testing for football and water polo athletes and coaches soon. Sports participants, including coaches and support staff, are strongly encouraged to be vaccinated once eligible as vaccines will protect residents and reduce the likelihood of transmission from infected persons to others. COVID-19 is still spreading and prevalent in San Joaquin County. Community members are reminded that gatherings are still prohibited. You may have the virus and spread it even if you feel well.

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