

Diné College Athletics

COVID – 19 Pandemic

Policy and Procedure



Policy Statement

The Athletics Department contends to address the impact that COVID-19 is having on athletics operations. It is our responsibility to identify and implement practices that will minimize the health risks associated with resuming of Physical Sports Activity in Fall 2021 Semester, while continuing to maintain positive student athlete outcomes. Our considerations are beyond the current threat imposed by COVID-19 and focus on an overall approach to proper manage all illnesses, viruses, and infectious diseases that affect our Dine People.

Reason for Policy

Dine College has a responsibility to the student athletes in providing a safe environment. The purpose of this policy is to allow for the safe and efficient athletic department operations. Students will be returning in Fall 2021 to practice and compete, this policy will outline guidance and procedures for students to abide while participating in extracurricular activities.

The Athletics department will be guided by these procedures that will be implemented and followed for the duration of the Covid-19 pandemic. Due to the ever-changing nature of the pandemic, recommendations from the National and State governing bodies, these guidelines may change at the discretion of the Athletic Director and Vice President of Student Affairs.

This policy works within the following parameters:

1. Center for Disease Control (CDC)
2. United States Collegiate Athletic Association (USCAA)
3. National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association (NIRA)
4. USA Archery (USAA)

Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) is a respiratory illness (see list of symptoms) caused by a virus called SARS-CoV-2. Here is what we currently know:

- The way the virus spreads is mainly from person-to-person through respiratory droplets when people cough, sneeze, or talk.
- You may also be able to get COVID-19 by touching a surface or object that has the virus on it, and then touching your mouth, nose, or eyes.
- The virus may be spread by people who are not experiencing symptoms.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/organizations/gym-employers.html>
(Updated November 12, 2020)

Procedures

In accordance with national, state, and college guidelines, all student-athletes will have their first COVID-19 Vaccination before beginning practice for fall 2021. If a student-athlete does not have their COVID-19 Vaccination, they are not eligible to participate in Sports (i.e. Practice, Team Meetings, and Competitions).

Dine College promotes vaccination to help increase the proportion of students, faculty and staff that are vaccinated to help slow the spread of COVID-19 and prevent interruptions to in-person learning. *Vaccination is the leading prevention strategy to protect individuals from COVID-19 disease and to end the COVID-19 pandemic.*

Some students or staff might not be able to get the COVID-19 vaccine due to health care access and lack of knowledge of COVID-19 Vaccine. Athletics Department will work with local clinics to get student-athletes and staff vaccinated.

Athletics department requires vaccination before any participation; however, we will require the following:

- Wearing a Mask
- Social Distancing
- Proper Hand washing / Hand sanitizer use
- Cleaning, Improving, ventilation, and maintain healthy facilities.
- Daily Symptom Screening

Mandatory Masks

Dine College still has a mandate for all students / staff / faculty to wear facemasks regardless if you have your vaccine or under medical accommodation approved by DHR. This is to continue protecting our at-risk population. CDC has lifted some restrictions to mask mandate in the United States, however, Dine College will continue to enforce mask mandate among those coming on-site to ensure a safe environment.

Travel

Only fully vaccinated student-athletes and staff are eligible to travel, approval will come from Athletic Director, in Compliance with Navajo Nation, Indian Health Services, and CDC guidelines.

- Three Days before the trip, Athletic Director will verify each student Athlete is not experiencing any symptoms of COVID-19, Information will be forwarded to hosting institution, in preparation for Contact Tracing.
- Day of trip, the Athletic Director will verify that each Student Athlete is not experiencing symptoms. (Temperature Checks and Student Self-Monitoring reporting)
- The coach will carry extra gloves, Masks, and sanitizers at all times.

- Student Athletes will receive enough face masks, gloves and hand sanitizer for duration of the trip. Items will be pre packed in a zip lock bag.
- All students and staff on travel must wear a facemask at all times.
- Hotel sanitization ratings will be checked before any reservations with any hotel.
- Limited 2 Student Athletes per hotel room.
- Student Athletes and Coaches must wipe down all touching points in hotel prior to unpacking (ie. Light switches, doorknobs, drawers, TV Remote, Outlet covers, etc.
- Throughout the trip, all participants must wash their hands with soap and water or use hand sanitizer. Coach will constantly remind student athletes.
- Pre-Ordering meals for quick pick up is encouraged. No dine in restaurants, to avoid large groups.
- If any traveling member should develop symptoms during travel, you should alert your coach immediately, and plan to quarantine.
- If any traveling member is experiencing symptoms of Covid-19, they will be asked to quarantine in their respective home or dorm room until they receive their test results as negative.

Training

Practice Session, coaches, must follow college guidelines regarding social distancing and maximum number of people in or on a facility. This may require coaches to plan several practice sessions to accommodate all their student-athletes. It is the responsibility of the coach to communicate training session times, locations, or changes with the athletic team and staff.

Practice Plans

Coaches are required to submit practice plans to Athletic Director for approval. The plans will be checked to ensure that the plan appropriately follows the guidelines of this policy. All Student Athletes must abide by the guidelines and policy set forth by the Coach.

Competition

Each institution will be setting their own guidelines for competition days. It is our responsibility to take extra precaution and ensure we have a safe and fun experience during these competitions.

- Social Distancing is highly encouraged
- Mandatory Facemasks
- Constant use of hand sanitizer

Daily Contact Screening

All Staff and Student Athletes will be screened daily when showing up for practice or competition.

Ensure you have your 1. College ID Badge 2. C-19 Clearance Sticker on your badge, 3. Know your Dine College ID number. These are required for coming on site

C-19 Clearance Sticker

DC has made it mandatory for those working on-site to have their COVID-19 Vaccination and to have the C-19 Sticker visibly shown on your College ID Badge.

In order to obtain your C-19 Clearance Sticker

- you must visit a Screening Station
- present your COVID-19 Vaccination dose card
- an orange C-19 Clearance sticker will be placed on your badge.
- Screeners will submit a photocopy of your vaccination card for verification.