



# Nouvel Catholic Central Schools

Called by Christ to learn, love and lead... courageously.

September 9, 2020

Greetings, Nouvel Catholic Central Community -

Thank you for all of your help and patience as we continue in Week #3 of in-person learning. On Thursday, September 3, we shared the news of Governor Whitmer's recent [executive order](#), which states that organized sports practices and competitions are allowed to resume, subject to strict protections. This is very exciting news for our student-athletes and Panther family. Athletics and other extracurricular activities is an important extension of the learning that occurs in our classrooms.

As we continue to explore what this means for each sport and/or student-athlete, our top priority continues to be for the health and safety of our students, staff and community. Parents and students that participate or plan to participate in contact sports are encouraged to review [guidance for contact sports](#) released by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services. Participation in these activities carries a higher risk for the transmission of COVID-19. The potential impact of increased transmission will not be limited to members of a specific team. If school leadership feels that the risk of participating in competitions is too great or creates unreasonable disruptions to our learning environment, the school may suspend participating in competitions.

We understand that there are several questions as to what this announcement means for Nouvel. Please see some clarifications, further explained below.

## **Practice & Competition Start Dates:**

### **NCCE/MS**

- Cross Country - *currently in season*
- Football (5th & 6th grades) - *Midland Area Youth Football League in discussion*
- Football (7th & 8th grades) - *Practices Allowed to Start 9/14 - First Game 9/29*
- Volleyball (7th & 8th grades) - *Practices Allowed to Start 9/14 - First Game 9/21*

### **NCCHS**

- Boy's Soccer - *currently practicing - First game 9/9*
- Boy's Tennis - *currently in season*
- Cross Country - *currently in season*
- Football - *currently practicing - First JV Game 9/17, First Varsity Game 9/18*
- Girl's Golf - *currently in season*
- Pom Pon - *currently in season*
- Volleyball - *Practices Allowed to Start 9/9 - First JV/Varsity Match 9/12, First Fresh. 9/15*

A complete list and full details can be found online at: [nouvelpanthersathletics.bigteams.com](http://nouvelpanthersathletics.bigteams.com)

## **Mask Guidelines:**

As it currently stands, the only individuals who are exempt from wearing masks during competition are the referees. All student-athletes, coaches, essential volunteers and guests will be required to wear a mask. During competitive play, student-athletes will be allowed to wear a gaiter or a mask.

## **Student-Athlete Transportation:**

To minimize any additional opportunities where students would not be able to socially-distance, we will not be providing school transportation, to or from games/matches at this time. It will be the responsibility of the parent to ensure transportation for the student-athlete to/from the games/matches.

[www.NouvelCatholic.org](http://www.NouvelCatholic.org)

**Senior Nights:**

Understanding that nothing this year is certain, we will prioritize recognizing our senior athletes towards the beginning of the respective sport seasons rather than at the final regular season home game/match. More details will be provided by each of the Varsity coaches.

**Spectators:**

1. Each student-athlete and coach on the official roster are allowed two spectators, per individual sport.
2. Tickets will be issued in the form of "season passes" for each specific sport. Season passes for each sport must be purchased in advance through our Athletics office. Single game tickets are not available.
3. The individual season pass for each sport will cost \$5 per high school game and \$3 per middle school game.
4. The two season passes can be used by anyone who holds the individual sport season pass. If parents have multiple student-athletes playing the same sport, they will be allowed to purchase two individual sport season passes per student-athlete.
5. In the event of any game cancellations, the purchase of the ticket/season pass will become a donation to NCC Athletics. If necessary, we will gladly provide a donation letter.

**Gates/Event Entry:**

Entrance to athletic events will be open no earlier than 30 minutes prior to the start of the event. No tailgating before, during or after a game on NCC property will be allowed. For athletic competitions with multiple events (i.e. volleyball matches), guests will be allowed to stay for each competition.

**Concessions:**

There will not be any concessions available at home games at this time.

**Cleaning/Safety Protocols:**

Each sport will be provided with equipment cleaning recommendations and additional safety protocols (i.e. not exchanging sides during competition, no hand shaking before or after competition, etc.). Each home school is responsible for ensuring the safety of their athletes and guests.

**Students Participation in Multiple Sport in a Single Season:**

Due to the unique nature of the fall season, students who already participate in an existing fall sport and would like to participate in a recently reactivated sport will be allowed to do so. The athletic director will communicate with the appropriate student-athletes and coaches to clarify expectations and details related to game/match and practice schedules.

**Live Streaming of Games:**

In May, we began to investigate the possibility of live streaming extracurricular activities. We are very proud to share that we have secured an agreement with a 3rd party provider, which will allow for the live streaming of events on the football field and in the high school gymnasium. At this time we do not have a launch date, due to back-ordered equipment. We will continue to update the community when we have secured a firm implementation timeline.

We understand that there are still many questions and unknown factors in regards to allowing athletic practices and competitions. As new information becomes available, or clarifications are provided, we will be sure to share that as soon as we are able. Thank you for working with us as we continue to do everything we can to keep our students, staff and community as safe as possible while re-introducing some traditional opportunities.

Respectfully,

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