



MCPS ATHLETICS

RETURN to R.A.I.S.E.

Winter 2021-2022 Season Spectator & Game-Day Guidelines

Following are spectator and game-day guidelines and operating procedures for Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) high school athletic events. All protocols and procedures will comply with the [Return to R.A.I.S.E.](#) Strategic Plan and will be implemented for the 2021-2022 Winter Season.

Fundamental Points

- MCPS is committed to providing the safest, greatest experience possible for student-athletes, coaches and spectators, consistent with the R.A.I.S.E. core values of MCPS Athletics.
- This plan is for the 2021-2022 Winter Season. The plan will be assessed prior to the 2022 Spring Season and throughout the season, as necessary.
- All stakeholders are reminded to stay home when experiencing any possible [symptoms of COVID-19](#).
- Spectators must wear face coverings/masks indoors at all times.
- Spectators are expected to demonstrate behaviors consistent with the R.A.I.S.E. core values of MCPS Athletics. Spectators who do not comply with MCPS expectations will be asked to leave the premises and may be banned from attending future events.
- Additional security resources and personnel will be employed to assist with game administration.
- MCPS will utilize GoFan digital ticketing to the extent possible during the winter season and will be offered for all events.

GoFan Digital Ticketing

[GoFan](#) is a digital, online ticketing platform for athletic events, which is utilized by the Maryland Public Secondary Schools Athletic Association (MPSSAA). This service was used exclusively for the last 4 weeks of the 2021 football playoffs, as well as all state championship events.

- GoFan digital ticketing will be utilized to the extent possible for the winter season and will be offered for all events.
- During the regular season, schools may offer a cash option for games, depending on the anticipated attendance.
- For games in which large crowds are expected, schools are strongly encouraged to exclusively use GoFan to control spectator attendance and enhance game operations, including only presale of tickets (no onsite sales).

- Schools will communicate in advance, in instances where GoFan will exclusively be used.
- Links will be provided in advance of each game, where spectators can purchase tickets.
- QR codes will be available at the gate for games in which onsite sales are allowed.
- Host schools will coordinate and control when tickets become and are available in GoFan - prior to the game and when sales close.
- Tickets for regular season contests through December 23, 2021 will become available prior to the start of the season. Additional contests will be released as the season progresses.

Ticket Prices & Admissions

There has not been an adjustment to ticket prices for MCPS athletic events in 20 years. Additionally procedures for admissions have remained relatively unchanged. For the winter season, the following adjustments will be made:

- MCPS will eliminate the \$1 Child Ticket completely.
- All children 10 and under will be admitted free, with a paying adult.
- Middle school students must purchase a ticket and be accompanied by a paying adult.
- There will be **one ticket price** for MCPS events - **\$5 for all spectators 11 and older** (cash price is \$5/ticket, GoFan price is \$4 plus \$1 convenience fee).
- Senior citizens over the age of 62 are still admitted without charge to all MCPS regular season contests.
- Current and retired MCPS employees (and one guest) are still admitted free to regular season contests hosted by MCPS schools, per existing protocols and the availability of space.
- MCPS and MPSSAA passes will be honored for events, per existing protocols and the availability of space.

Season Tickets

Students and parents are still able and encouraged to purchase season tickets. For the winter season, the cost is \$40 for adults and \$24 for students (**no increase in prices**). Information on season tickets is available at the local school. Season tickets are valid for the home school's regular season events only.

Concessions

Concessions will operate in compliance with the most current Return to R.A.I.S.E. Plan. Currently, indoor concession stands may open; however, eating and drinking in gymnasiums will not be permitted for spectators, including outside food and beverages.

Indoor Regular Season Events at MCPS Facilities

In addition to the aforementioned procedures, the following will be implemented:

1. Seating areas and gymnasium capacities should allow for a least 6 feet of space between spectator seating areas and team benches to the extent possible.
2. Spectators shall exit the facility immediately following the conclusion of the contest. Spectators may not gather outside of the gymnasium and should proceed directly to vehicles.
3. Admission will be charged for basketball and wrestling. Admission will be charged for cheerleading and pompons invitationals, per local school procedures.

Countywide and Offsite Events

- MCPS student-athletes, teams, and spectators will comply with the COVID-19 guidelines and operating procedures of the host facility and/or county.
- GoFan will exclusively be used for the MCPS county championship basketball games and pompons championships.
- GoFan will exclusively be used for indoor track and field meets at the PG Sportsplex ([per facility requirements](#)).

MCPS Athletics is excited to continue welcoming spectators to our events, as we transition to the winter season. We appreciate the collective cooperation of MCPS Sports Nation to ensure a safe and spirited experience for all, consistent with our R.A.I.S.E. core values.

Together, We RAISE!