



Fall Youth Sports Information

After reviewing the Commonwealth of Virginia’s “Safer at Home: Phase Three Guidelines for Recreational Sports”, Roanoke County Parks, Recreation and Tourism believes a fall 2020 youth team sport season is possible with modifications to our programs.

Below you will find several of the program modifications being considered to meet the Phase Three requirements as well as adopt new sports industry recommendations. A complete list of adopted program modifications and their details, will be available online at www.roanokecountyparks.com/covid19 prior to the start of the late registration period. Please note, however, changes and/or clarifications to program modifications may be made during the season if standards change or unique circumstances warrant.

Important Season Dates

- 7/1 – Registration Opens
- 7/21 – Late Registration Begins
- 7/28 – Registration Deadline
- 7/29 – Coordinators Meetings
- 7/30 – Team Number Deadline
- 8/1 – Player Evaluations
- 8/3 – Team Formation Week
- 8/8 – Practice Season Begins
- 9/8 – Game Season Begins
- 10/31 – Regular Season Ends

While recreational level games can be played in Phase Three, Phase Two physical distancing guidelines are not conducive to recreational level game play. Consequently, should Roanoke County be placed in Phase Two at any point during the season, games would be postponed during the reversion and teams would only be permitted to hold practices in accordance with published Phase Two guidelines. Please note, however, should the reversion to Phase 2 occur, it will likely be necessary to extend the season through November 14 to accommodate the regular season without consideration of post-season play.

Look for your local Recreation Club to release their fall program and registration details shortly. Should your family feel comfortable participating, we look forward to seeing you safely back at the field, soon.

- Roanoke County Athletics Staff

Potential Program Wide Modifications

- COVID-19 risk acknowledgement required during registration
- Participants, coaches and spectators will be required to self-screen prior to coming to any team activity
- Necessary shared equipment will be sanitized prior to and after each activity by team coaching staff
- Optional shared equipment will be prohibited
- Shared/community water or snacks will be prohibited
- Fields limited to two teams per practice session slot with each team only permitted to utilize one half of a field
- 15-minute buffer will be built into practice schedules to allow for decreased interactions during activity transitions
- Saturday afternoon practice and game slots will be utilized to allow for increased activity spacing
- Bleachers in park facilities will be removed/covered to encourage physical distancing by attendees
- Regular season extended through October 31st to allow for increased activity spacing
- Teams grouped in small, geographically determined pods for practice and game season to limit interaction between teams
- Post-game team handshakes and meetings prohibited
- Post-season banquets strongly discouraged

Potential Tackle Football Specific Modifications

Modifications will be announced after reviewing the Virginia High School League’s Phase 3 plan for high infection-risk activities as well as Roanoke County Public School policies for use of high school stadiums by PRT.

Potential Flag Football Specific Modifications

Game days expanded to include Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Saturday
Gloves required for each player

Potential Soccer Specific Modifications

8 game regular season
Throw-ins replaced with indirect kicks

Potential Cheer Specific Modifications

No cheers permitted which involve person to person contact
Squads will cheer from endzone or stands
2020 Cheer Olympics canceled