

# NWAC BASKETBALL PROTOCOLS FOR MARCH 2021-JUNE 2021

The following protocols are for NWAC Basketball competitions during March 2021-June 2021. Please ensure that as member colleges you follow the protocols and are responsible to provide as safe as an environment for all of those involved. *It is understood that each member college and region may need to make minor adjustments. Those changes need to be reviewed by the Conference office.* More detailed information is found on pages 32-33 in the NWAC Health and Safety Manual.

Host colleges must inform visiting team at least 48 hours in advance the protocols that will be in place prior, during, and after the game. At a minimum this information should include:

* Time of arrival and what entrance and exit to use.
* Location for screening when arriving on campus.
* Screening requirements needed prior to entry.
* Prior to the visiting team leaving to play the game, ***the visiting AD must*** send to the host AD names of SA’s who have been cleared to play.
* Protocols for use of the athletic training facility.
* Schedule of events for the day of the game.
* If team benches and the score table is set up opposite of each other.

**BALLS**

* Each team shall have its own rack (6-12) or an equal amount) of basketballs for use while in the venue. The balls should be cleaned by a designated member of the host institution’s game operations staff.
* It is recommended that three or four basketballs are set aside on a ball cart for game use only.
* Recommend that replacing the game ball each time a ball goes out of bounds and is touched by someone other than the players on the floor.
* Game balls should be cleaned during timeouts, halftime, and each period break.

**ESSENTIAL PERSONNEL**

The following game management essential personnel for basketball is:

* No more than three administrators to provide supervision and support.
* Three officials.
* No more than 15 student-athletes who are on the current roster and eligibility reports.
* Head coach and the minimum number of assistants.
* No more than two athletic trainers.
* No more than two video crew operators (film, announcer).
* Scoreboard operator, official scorer, shot clock operator.
* Three cleaning crew members.

**FACE COVERINGS**

* Currently student-athletes, coaches, and supportive staff must wear masks at all times.
* Currently officials must wear masks at all times



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**OFFICIALS**

* See pages 3-4 for details.

**SCORE TABLE**

* Only the official scorer, scoreboard operator, and the shot clock operator are seated at the game table. The seating configuration must maintain proper social distance protocols.
* Masks are to be worn at all times.
* Hand sanitizer and disinfecting wipes stationed at the score table.

**TEAM BENCH**

* If the facility allows member colleges should adjust the courtside set up to allow for physical distancing from playing court and benches. If spacing allows, recommend using multiple rows of seats with an appropriate distance between each seat. Each seat should have a name of the player on it and only the player is allowed to sit in that seat for the duration of the game.
* On the team bench sideline, Row 1 shall be set back from the playing court sideline a minimum of 6 feet to allow distancing from the court. Row 2 should be a minimum of 6 feet behind Row 1.

• If the facility allows, a minimum 12-foot physical distance barrier must separate the scorers’ table and bench areas from the general seating area.

* Each player and coach should have a designated seat that is clearly identifiable.

• Similar spacing is recommended for “broadcast tables” on the other side of the court.

* Each player should have his/her own bucket/bag with their name on it and items included should be a personalized water bottle, masks, towel and hand sanitizer.

**TOWELS**

* Towels should be used by only one individual for the competition.
* Multiple towel bins should be available to discard used towels.
* An alternative to towels is the use of disposable towels and appropriate disposal container.
* No towels to be placed on score table.
* Game Management will take care of wiping the court as needed.
* Official’s water towels should be located behind each basket or on a table across from the scorer’s table. These must be specific to each official and handled only by the officials.



# NWAC BASKETBALL OFFICIALS PROTOCOLS FOR MARCH 2021-JUNE 2021

Member colleges must provide information to the officials associations on campus health screening locations, screening requirements, points of entry, path of travel, access needs, availability of restrooms, locker rooms, and other designated facilities at least 48 hours before the scheduled event. Each member college may have to make minor adjustments to this plan. At a minimum this document should include:

* Time of arrival and what entrance and exit to use.
* Screening requirements needed prior to entry.
* Availability of meeting space for officials that provides for social distancing.
* Protocol for use of athletic training facility.
* Schedule of events for the day of the game.

Officials traveling to officiate a NWAC Basketball game should be prepared to have their own:

* Personal towels.
* Personal water bottles.
* Mask and additional supply of masks.
* Personal hand sanitizer.
* Come dressed to the match in uniform.
* Official’s water towels should be located behind each basket or on a table across from the scorer’s table. These must be specific to each official and handled only by the officials.

Officials should not work any NWAC Basketball match if they have shown signs of symptoms for COVID-19 at least 6-12 hours prior to the scheduled match.

Once on site and at a minimum officials will be given a temperature check. If their temperature check registers at 100.4 or lower the official may officiate the game. If their temperature registers higher than 100.4, the official will be asked to step aside and isolate for 15 minutes. After 15 minutes has elapsed another temperature check will be administered to the official. If the results confirms the original registered temperature, the official will not be allowed to work the game and will have to be isolated. If the second temperature check registers at 100.4 or lower, the official will be allowed to officiate.

**PROTOCOLS**

* **The pregame meeting between game officials and coaches must be conducted virtually or in a place that** allows for 6 feet of physical distance among participants. Officials should always wear masks/face coverings and maintain physical distancing during all activities.
* If a gym is going to be set up with players benches on one side of the court and the score table on the other side, please let the officials know.
* Officials are to follow personal health guidelines (e.g., wash hands frequently; do not touch your eyes, nose, or mouth; use hand sanitizer; maintain physical distance and wears masks at all times).
* No physical interactions, such as high‐fives, fist bumps and hugs, should occur with coaches, officials, members of other teams. Host school game management will enforce.
* Eliminate the pregame and postgame handshake line involving the two participating teams and officials.



**EXPECTATIONS**

* Arrival time depends on school requirements for COVID testing/attestation.
* Identify with teams what balls are designated for use as game balls only.
* Officials will not touch game towels.
* Minimal interaction with coaches.
* Will remind any participant to wear his/her facemask in the manner in which it was intended when approaching an official.
* Referees will use either an electronic whistle or a whistle under a mask.
* Referee whistles may or may not be the same.

**Meeting with Coaches**

* No handshakes.
* Coaches and officials must wear masks.
* Remind coaches to wear a mask when approaching to ask questions during the match.
* Remind coaches to remain proper physical distancing from officials at all times.
* Work with host team game administration on ball management.

**Meeting with Team Captains**

* Maintain social distance; no handshakes.
* Only one captain allowed from each team.
* Captains stand outside the center circle.
* Review game protocols for game balls and towel management.

**Players:**

* When appropriate, the captain wearing a mask may briefly approach a referee for clarifying questions only.
* Show good sportsmanship by waving to the opposite team after introductions and at the conclusion of the match.