

Reminder: Face Masks Still Required at Outdoor Events

Statement from Karen Avisato, Division Manager of Athletic Services and Community Use

On Thursday, April 29, Governor Ralph Northam amended Executive Order 72 to adopt new guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) on mask use in outdoor settings beginning on May 1. The CDC guidelines state that fully vaccinated individuals do not have to wear masks outdoors when alone or in small gatherings. However, mask use is still required indoors and outdoors at events such as sports games. Amended Executive Order 72 specifically states that “spectators must wear masks over their nose and mouth at all times, and six feet of physical distance must be maintained between spectators who are not Family members.” Only athletes engaged in active play may remove their masks.

These guidelines are for both vaccinated and non-vaccinated people and cover events at all Neighborhood and Community Services, Fairfax County Park Authority, and Fairfax County Public Schools locations.

Fairfax County does not have the authority to implement public health guidance that contravenes Governor Northam’s Executive Orders. Fairfax County continues to implement mitigation measures, including mask use, as announced by Governor Northam.

If you have questions about mask guidance, please contact NCS Athletic Services at AthleticServices@fairfaxcounty.gov or 703-324-5533.

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