

As the District begins our phased in return to in-person instruction, we are also preparing for the startup of our 2020/2021 Junior High athletic programs. Across the state, athletic programs have been impacted by COVID-19 since last spring. This year, we have attempted to build a schedule for our programs that will provide the best possible experience for our athletes and their families. In doing this, we have worked out a schedule that we hope will limit the impact to only our fall sports season.

As of right now, [Register My Athlete](#) (RMA) is open for families to register for fall sports or any sport throughout the school year. If your child had a physical on file with the athletic department during the 2019/2020 school year, you will **NOT** need to get a full physical for the 2020/2021 sports season. However, if there has been any changes to your child's health history that form will need to be filled out and re-submitted. This is form 15.7-A (Two pages). If your student did not participate in our athletic programs last year, your child will need to have a physical completed and submitted (uploaded) in RMA prior to tryouts. The doctor will need to fill out the AIA physical form (four pages) and sign before submitting this form (you can find this form on our DRJHS website under athletics). This year, you will also be required to sign a COVID-19 waiver order to participate. This waiver will be issued through Register My Athlete.

The plan for Junior High School fall sports season looks like:

- \*8/26-Register My Athlete (RMA) registration and updates start now.
- \*On 9/8-Hybrid in-person instruction will begin. Registration for RMA will continue Through 9/14.
- \*The week of 9/8-9/11- Coaches for each fall sport will be conducting camps/clinics to help prepare athletes for the tryout process for 7th and 8th grade volleyball, boys and girl's soccer, and flag football. Fliers will be sent out today.
- \*The week of 9/14-9/18- Tryouts will be held for each of those sports.
- \*On 9/21- Team practices will begin.
- \*On 9/28- The first games of the fall season will be played.
- \*The week of 10/28 will be the fall sports tournament and championship.

If everything proceeds as planned, we will have a shortened fall sports season that includes 5 games and then a tournament at the end of the season. Our intention (barring any other COVID-19 related mandates) we will continue with our full winter and spring seasons throughout the school year.

Many questions have come up about spectator attendance at sporting events. We are still discussing this as a district, as our first step was to get athletes on either the field or court. Once we have more information, I will communicate with you how the season will look. If we are limited in attendance, we will make every effort to try to live stream events if possible.

I would like to thank everyone for their patience and support throughout our procedures trying to re-open schools. Welcome back to the place where Rattlers Reign!

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact DRJHS athletics at (480) 635-2025 ext. 1402 or [laurie.mcbride@gilbertschools.net](mailto:laurie.mcbride@gilbertschools.net)

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