



Ripon Unified School District
Informed Consent for District Activities,
Including Moderate and High Contact Sports

Student Name: _____

School: _____

Sport/Activity(s): _____

PLEASE READ THIS ENTIRE INFORMED CONSENT BEFORE AUTHORIZING STUDENT PARTICIPATION:

The Ripon Unified School District is pleased to announce the reinstatement of its outdoor moderate-contact and high-contact sports and other extracurricular activities (collectively “District Activities”) on March 4, 2021. The California Department of Public Health requires that parents/guardians be provided with information to understand and acknowledge the increased risk of transmission of COVID-19 in moderate-contact and high-contact sports. (CDPH’s guidance for *Outdoor and Indoor Youth and Recreational Adult Sports I* at <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/outdoor-indoor-recreational-sports.aspx>)

Athletes/students and parents/guardians are required to read and consider the following when deciding whether to return to District Activities. As always, participation in District Activities is strictly voluntary. Student athletes may choose not to participate in competitions at this time, and remain eligible to participate at a later time. **You are required to sign and return this form if your child intends to participate in a District Activity prior to your child’s participation.**

Risks of Exposure to COVID-19 in District Activities, Including Moderate and High-Contact Sports

COVID-19 is a respiratory disease that is believed to spread mainly from person to person through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs, sneezes, or talks. Given the variation in immune response from infected persons, some people who are infected may not have symptoms. At this time, the Center for Disease Control (CDC) believes that people of all ages are at risk of experiencing severe symptoms from COVID-19, though older adults and people with serious underlying health conditions may be at a higher risk. **By signing this form, you acknowledge and understand the following COVID-19 risks associated with moderate- or high-contact sports and other District Activities:**

- The way sports are played or the activity is performance and the way equipment is shared can influence the spread of COVID-19 among students. Community levels of COVID-19 will also impact the risk of infection and spread among students, coaches/supervisors, and families. (Parents/guardians and athletes are encouraged to review these and other risk factors identified in the CDC's *Considerations for Youth Sports Administrators* at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/youth-sports.html>; as well as the CDC's *Toolkit for Youth Sports* and *Sports Program FAQs*, at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/communication/toolkits/youth-sports.html>, and <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/youth-sports-faq.html>.)
- High-Contact Sports (like Football, Soccer, Rugby and Water polo) have more frequent or sustained close contact (and in many cases, face-to-face contact) between participants and therefore a high probability that respiratory particles will be transmitted between participants increasing the likelihood of contracting COVID-19.
- For all youth sports, regardless of their level of contact, competition between different teams contributes to the potential for spread of COVID-19.
- Risk increases when face coverings are not worn, and physical distancing is not maintained.
- Risk increases with greater exertion levels; greater exertion increases the rate of breathing and the quantity of air that is inhaled and exhaled with every breath.
- Risk increases with singing, shouting, or other activities that expel more breath.
- Risk increases with mixing of cohorts and groups, particularly when they are from different communities (during or outside of sports play or competitions); mixing with more people increases the risk that an infectious person will be present.

While the District has taken extensive measures in an effort to reduce the risk of COVID-19, this risk cannot be completely eliminated. Consequently, for the safety of our staff, students, parents, and other visitors, the District requires all persons participating in District Activities during this pandemic to provide informed consent, acknowledge an assumption of the risk, and agree to abide by District COVID-19 protocols, as follows:

Student and Parent/Guardian Responsibility

- I am the parent and/or legal guardian of the above-named Student, and I request that Student be allowed to participate in the District Activity indicated above, and I give my permission for Student to do so.
- Assumption of Risk. I understand and acknowledge the risk to myself and Student of becoming exposed to or infected by COVID-19 by participating in a District Activity, which exposure or infection may result from the actions, omissions, or negligence of myself or others, including, but not limited to, other participants or District officials, employees, volunteers, and/or representatives. I assume all such risk and accept sole responsibility for any harm or loss to myself and/or Student, including, but not limited to, personal injury or death or related costs or expenses of any kind, that I, or, if applicable, my student(s), may experience or incur in connection with the District Activity.

The risk of serious injury and/or illness, including infection with COVID-19, from participation in the District Activity is significant, including the potential for permanent impairment, disfigurement, amputation, physical and psychological trauma, and death. I, the undersigned, hereby release and discharge the Ripon Unified School District, and its officers, employees, agents, and volunteers from all liability arising out of or in connection with the above described activity or all liabilities associated with any and all claims related to such activity that may be filed on behalf of or for my minor child.

Agreement to Abide by COVID-19 Protocols.

- Face coverings must be worn when not participating in an athletic activity (for example, on the sidelines, between practice drills, while not on the playing field, when arriving at or departing from the playing facility, in a locker room, and during shared transportation to/from an event).
- Face coverings are strongly recommended to be worn during athletic practice, conditioning and during competition, even during heavy exertion as tolerated.
- I agree that I and Student will not attend practices, meetings, or competitions, or enter school grounds or facilities if I and/or Student have symptoms of COVID-19 or are in isolation or quarantine for COVID-19.

- I agree that I and Student will notify the coach, athletic trainer, staff member, and/or school administrator of any COVID-19 symptoms and/or test results.
- I warrant and represent that I am not aware of any medical condition of myself and/or my Student which would render it inappropriate for me and/or Student to participate in the activity.
- I agree that I and Student shall comply with existing public health orders issued by Federal, state, and local authorities in addition to District Board Policies, Administrative Regulations, and school rules related to the aforementioned activities. I understand and acknowledge that failure to abide by this agreement may result in me and/or Student, being removed from the District Activity.
- Student may be screened by the District for symptoms of COVID-19 prior to entering District facilities or participating in the District Activity. This could include temperature check and recorded screening question responses. For students participating in football, rugby, and water polo, screening may include COVID-19 testing. Persons with positive symptoms will not be allowed to participate.
- Student should abide by physical distancing protocols, as directed by coaches and other District personnel. Student must maintain 6-feet social distancing while in locker rooms and meeting rooms.
- Student must practice good hygiene including proper hand-washing before play, during breaks, at half time, and after the conclusion of the District Activity; coughing and sneezing etiquette; and wiping down all sports/weight and other equipment thoroughly before and after individual use.

My student and I have read and fully understand the terms of the Ripon Unified School District Informed Consent Agreement for Moderate and High Contact Sports and other District Activities. We are giving up substantial rights by agreeing to it. We agree to it freely and voluntarily without any inducement.



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SIGNATURE PAGE

Please return this page to your coach

Student Name: _____

School: _____

Sport/Activity(s): _____

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Print Parent Name: _____

Print Student Name: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Student Signature: _____

Date: _____

Date: _____