



Public Health Division

County of Santa Cruz

HEALTH SERVICES AGENCY

POST OFFICE BOX 962, 1080 Emeline Ave., SANTA CRUZ, CA 95061-0962

TELEPHONE: (831) 454-4000 FAX: (831) 454-4488 TDD: Call 711

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Contact: Corinne Hyland, PIO

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Phone: corinne.hyland@santacruzcounty.us

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY RELEASES COVID-19 SAFETY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR YOUTH SPORTS AND ACTIVITIES

Santa Cruz County, Calif. –In an effort to reduce the spread of COVID-19 while supporting a safe environment for all who participate in school sports and other extracurricular activities, Santa Cruz County Public Health has released [health recommendations](#) for participants, staff, volunteers and spectators.

The new countywide recommendations, which align with an update to the California Department of Public Health's (CDPH) [public health guidance for K-12 schools](#), is not a legally binding health order, but expert advice for schools, sports leagues, clubs, and other organized activities for youth and children.

"We are seeing more cases in our youngest residents, including those not yet eligible to be vaccinated," said Dr. Gail Newel, Santa Cruz County's health officer. "Schools and organizations that provide youth sports and other activities should take precautions to limit the spread of COVID-19 among these populations."

The Santa Cruz County recommendations outline existing requirements and add further recommendations for face coverings, vaccinations, testing, transportation, hygiene and more. The guidance applies both to school-based and non-school activities, building on updated CDPH guidance for school sports and other activities.

The new county recommendations strongly encourage use of masks for all participants, coaches, staff, volunteers and spectators in outdoor sports, regardless of vaccination status. The use of masks for activities in indoor spaces is required by a county health [order](#).

For local information on COVID-19, go to <https://www.santacruzhealth.org/coronavirus> or call (831) 454-4242 between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

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