Peach Belt Conference

Return to Play Plan

MANDATORY AND BEST PRACTICES DURING COVID-19
MESSAGE FROM THE COMMISSIONER

Colleagues,

I’m pleased to present the Peach Belt Conference – Return to Play Plan consisting of mandatory standards and best practices as we begin to open our campuses for Fall, 2020. We have researched many options and received input from many constituent groups to assist with developing this blueprint.

The standards below identify levels of commitment and expectations to minimize the risk of COVID-19 exposure and transmission, while giving each school confidence that its fellow PBC members are taking similar measures to protect their safety when returning to competition.

While minimum health protocols are included, each PBC member institution must also abide by additional safety measures determined at the institutional level, based on prevailing guidance and recommendations from their regional, state and local health officials.

We can all agree that this is a work in progress and fluidity is the key as changes arise throughout our conference. Rest assured, we will continue to monitor the landscape and adjust this guide as necessary.

Stay safe,

[Signature]

July 16, 2020
Table of Contents

Pledges 4
General 4
Participants 4
Working Staff 5
Officials 6
Venue/Game Day Operations 7
Venue/Spectators 7
Team Travel 8
Notification of Positive Test 8
Sport Specific Protocols 9
• Cross Country 9
• Soccer 9
• Volleyball 9
• Basketball 10
• Spring Sports 10
Next Steps 10
Attachments
Mandatory Forms 11
• Pledges
• PBC Fall Preseason Travel Questionnaire 23
• PBC Daily Screening Form 24
• PBC Officials Screening Form 25
Optional Form
• PBC COVID Questionnaire 26
Existing Policies 28
• Regular Season Contest Cancellation Policy 29
• Postseason Contingency Plan 30
PLEDGES

- The expectation is for each member institution and individuals associated with each athletics program to sign safety pledges agreeing to abide by the PBC health and safety standards in response to COVID-19 contained herein and acknowledging the risk associated with return to play, while not incorporating a liability release (See Supplement).
- The focus will be on risk aversion, consent to testing, compliance with externally-prescribed health standards, personal responsibility to help preserve the health of those around them and the community, mitigation efforts both on and off campus and proper notice of symptoms/exposure.
- Safety pledges were specifically developed for student-athletes, athletics staff/coaches and game day operations to include game day employees and independent contractors.

GENERAL

Mandatory Standards:
- Follow PBC, national, state, local and institutional regulations
- Temperature checks and screening will be conducted multiple times on campus and must be conducted by institutional medical staff (or their designees)
- Ongoing training to educate athletic community on updated guidelines and procedures

Best Practices:
- Use disposable towels to wipe floors/courts rather than regular towels so they can be discarded after use; individuals doing the wiping should wear gloves and a mask
- Create an online section showing institutional requirements & protocols so coaches can be aware of them in advance of traveling to other venues

PARTICIPANTS

Mandatory Standards:
- Student-athletes and all others accompanying each team must be screened and undergo temperature checks daily (home and away)
- Student-athletes and all others accompanying each team must wear a mask at all times except when physically exerting themselves (with the exception of coaches during games)
- Student-athletes should NOT share apparel, equipment (other than game ball), towels, water bottles, etc.
- Social distancing should be practiced at all times except during competition; social distance as much as possible on benches/in dugouts
- No hugs, high fives, handshakes, etc. among teammates or with opponents
- Communication with officials by student-athletes and coaches should be done at a reasonably safe distance

Best Practices:
- Only critical individuals permitted on the bench (e.g. limited managers, no red shirts, injured players, etc.)
• Hands and equipment should be sanitized as often as possible
• Student-athletes should sanitize their hands frequently during competition and always before they sub into a game or immediately when they come out of a game
• No spitting is permitted – officials will remind players if they see it happen

WORKING STAFF

Mandatory Standards:
• Maintain at least six feet between individuals located on press row and/or in press box
• Use additional outside tables/add additional work space where necessary
• Seating charts should be utilized for both press row/press box
• All working staff and media must wear masks
• Temperature check and screening required upon arrival at facility
  o The designated game day administrator is responsible for getting working staff to a trained temperature checker
  o If worker has a fever of 100.4 degrees F or above on the non-contact thermometer, they may be retested 10 minutes later
  o If both tests show the worker having a fever of 100.4 degree F and above, they will be disqualified from working the competition
• Press row/boxes should be sanitized daily at a minimum
• Equipment that is used by multiple people such as headsets or keyboards should be sanitized between uses
• Individuals not serving in an SID/media capacity should be prohibited from entering press row/boxes
• Spectators should not be permitted to sit/stand within at least ten feet (or two rows of bleachers) of the competitors, officials, and/or working staff
• Coaches are prohibited from approaching any game personnel including SID and table crew with the exception of the official scorer (basketball and volleyball) and then only when absolutely necessary
• If allowed by NCAA rules, no paper box scores will be provided. Should NCAA rules prohibit electronic devices on the bench, paper box scores will be placed on a vacant bench chair between halves/sets
• Visiting teams are prohibited from bringing individuals to record the competition. If a team brings their own filming equipment, they will not have access to the home team’s press row/press box (games streamed on Blueframe will be available to view 2-3 minutes following the end of the stream)
• Basketball instant replay equipment must be located away from others along press row; gloves and masks must be available for officials

Best Practices:
• All working staff to wear gloves
• Install Plexiglass between individuals on press row/press boxes where possible
• Use minimum number of staff possible which may mean decreasing “extras” such as message or video boards or have each individual do multiple jobs as possible (e.g. stats
AND announcing)

- Create checklists for visiting staff and media; possibly available online
- Use headsets (like Eartec UL3S or others) for individuals doing stats/spying to maintain social distancing

OFFICIALS

Mandatory Standards:

- Officials must complete the PBC Officials Screening form and email it to the host institution’s head athletic trainer 24 hours prior to competition (if an assignment changes with less than 24 hours before a contest, the official should bring the form with them) (See Supplement)
- Temperature check and screening will be conducted upon arrival at facility
  - The designated game day administrator is responsible for getting the officials to a trained temperature checker
  - If an official has a fever of 100.4 degrees F or above on the non-contact thermometer, they may be retested 10 minutes later
  - If both tests show the official having a fever of 100.4 degree F and above, they will be disqualified from working the competition
  - Any “Yes” answer to screening questions will disqualify an official from working
- If an official is disqualified by institutional staff, they will receive $50 for having traveled; if they knowingly arrive at a venue with symptoms/exposure/fever, they will receive no fee and future game assignments may be rescinded
- Social distance at all times (coin toss, captain’s meeting, pregame)
- Only lead official shall come out during pregame warm-up
- Officials must bring their own water bottles and towels
- If host school provides locker room/changing area, there must be sufficient space and some privacy from the public (could be tent with sides)
- Officials that don’t run must wear a mask; those who do run will be permitted to wear a mask if they choose, but it is not mandatory
- Officials do not need to sign the box scores/book after contests
- If an official is disqualified from working a game due to an elevated temperature upon arrival at the venue, games will be played as long as the minimum number of officials under NCAA rules are present and able to work
- Officials should bring their own coin for coin toss

Best Practices:

- Use electronic whistles where appropriate
- Avoid handling the ball/equipment as much as possible
- Ensure sanitizing of game balls during competition as much as possible
- Avoid sharing equipment with other officials (rule books, flags, cards, lineups, stats)
- Hold pregame and postgame crew meetings virtually
- Don’t ride-share whenever possible or wear masks if necessary
VENUE/GAME DAY OPERATIONS

Mandatory Standards:

- Access to the playing area should be restricted before, during and after contests to players, officials, and working staff only (no parents or fans)
- Venues (spectator seating, locker rooms, etc.) should be sanitized before and after practice and competition
- Benches/dugouts should be sanitized at half time and/or between games
- Hand sanitizer should be available on both benches and on scoring/press tables
- Designate one individual to fill water bottles for team members
- Towels should not be shared – and disposable towels should be used where possible

Best Practices:

- Offer multiple locker rooms if possible for visitors to shower after games while maintaining some social distancing
- Understanding/acceptance of risk language should be included on in-venue signage and locker room areas

VENUE/SPECTATORS

Mandatory Standards:

(The PBC encourages all institutions to publicize their regulations regarding spectators clearly and well in advance, while building spectator confidence in the experience)

- Social distance people in ticket lines via stanchions and/or spacing markers
- Post “Stop the Spread” and “COVID-19” signage in high visibility areas for fans, employees, student-athletes, officials, etc.
- Post other awareness and instructional signage throughout the venue
- Frequent video and/or public address announcements to promote proper cleanliness, social distancing and similar health practices for spectators
- Spectators shall not be permitted to sit/stand within at least ten feet (or two rows of bleachers) of the competitors, officials, and/or working staff
- Develop concession line rules of operation
- Develop restroom line rules of operation
- Hand sanitizing stations placed throughout the venue including entrance and at concession and restroom areas
- Regular cleaning/sanitizing of the bathrooms and common areas during the event (let people see what you are doing to keep areas sanitized)

Best Practices:

- Masks required upon entering the venue
- Create social media awareness campaigns on best practices for spectators attending an athletic event
- Understanding/acceptance of risk language should be included on tickets or via electronic means for online ticket purchases
- Social distancing enforced with fans only permitted to sit next to those with whom they cohabitate
• Grab and go food stations with simplified menu offerings
• Develop in-game movement rules of operation/directional flow
• Point of Entry – let spectators know they need to enter the venue earlier to allow for longer wait times due to limited gate staff and/or health checks.
• Schedule timed entries into the venue
• Health screening/temperature checks before spectators enter the venue consistent with local health codes
• Spectators sign health waiver essentially assuming the risks of attending a live sporting event
• Single directional flow into venue and seating area. Mark off to create a defined traffic flow
• Disallow sitting in aisle seats to maintain social distancing for fans walking down aisles
• Mitigate spectator clusters in tunnel areas
• Offer pre-packaged food choices
• Consider cashless concession purchases
• Consider cashless ticket purchases
• Consider propping open restroom doors to encourage touchless entry/exit
• Consider disabling every other sink and urinal station to allow for proper distancing
• Consider changes for will call/pass gate admittance
• Develop post-game exit rules of operation/directional flow/exit by sections to control flow
• Develop policy to address those who don’t follow the stipulated rules (e.g. ejection, warning)

TEAM TRAVEL

**Mandatory Standards:**
- All individuals accompanying a team will be screened and temperature checked before leaving campus for an away contest; NO individuals will be permitted to travel with a fever or “yes” answer to any screening questions
- Teams that travel without an athletic trainer and stay overnight will be required to undergo symptom and temperature checks performed by the home team medical staff (or their designee) daily (See Supplement)
- All individuals must wear masks during travel

**Best Practices:**
- Social distancing should be practiced as much as possible during travel
- For overnight stays, fewer individuals in each room are recommended
- An athletic trainer should travel with teams in basketball and soccer

NOTIFICATION OF POSITIVE TEST

**Mandatory Standards:**
- All players, coaches, or staff members who test positive must be isolated according to institutional guidelines
• All positive tests must be reported to the conference office immediately
• Upon notification of a positive test, the conference office will notify institutions and officials that had contact with that team in the past 48 hours as well as those scheduled to play against them in the next 48 hours
• If an official tests positive, assignors will notify the conference office, who will then notify any teams that came in contact with said official within the past 48 hours.

**FALL/WINTER SPORT PROTOCOLS**

**Cross Country**

**Mandatory Standards:**
• There shall be an empty box between each team’s starting box
• Each team must bring a receptacle to collect their team’s warm-up gear at the starting line

**Soccer**

**Mandatory Standards:**
• In lieu of ball shaggers, extra balls shall be placed around the perimeter of the playing field; balls will be retrieved and sanitized at half time by game personnel
• Limit travel rosters to 24 student-athletes for regular season games
• If both teams remain on the field at half time, they shall each go to the far end of the field closest to their bench to discuss strategy while social distancing
• Balls, cones, and other equipment touched by multiple individuals should be sanitized often during the contest
• Players shall not exchange bibs when subbing in and out
• Mandate a “hydration break” in each half to allow for less conditioning time leading up to the season
• Soccer officials should bring their own flags to avoid sharing them

**Volleyball**

**Mandatory Standards:**
• Teams will not change sides during the match
• Triplicate lineups must be provided at the start of each match – one each for official scorer, down official, and SID
• Stats will be provided to coaches at designated times – coaches should not approach table to get them
• Shaggers must wear masks and gloves and arrive in time for warm-ups
• During shared court pre-game, only gloved shaggers retrieve balls
• More than 3 game balls shall be used to allow for sanitization during the match
• Observe social distancing during captain’s meeting and coin toss
• Officials need five regular sheets rather than four and separate fifth set sheet

**Best Practices:**
• Separate sets of balls for home and visitors (labeled and sanitized prior to match)
• Stop the clock during pre-game to allow the floor to be wiped down between team warm-ups and ball retrieval
• Line judges should use hand signals rather than flags

**Basketball**

**Mandatory Standards:**
• Pre-game warm-ups will be in front of your own bench
• Eliminate pre-game captain’s meeting
• Basketball instant replay equipment must be located away from others along press row; gloves and masks must be available for officials to use
• Officials remain in locker room during pregame – scorekeeper brings official book to locker room at the designated time (wearing mask and gloves); officials take the floor two minutes before tip-off
• Cheerleaders will not be permitted on the baselines; pep bands are prohibited
• All communication will occur from appropriate social distance; if this does not occur coaches may be ejected
• At half time and end of game: the away team will exit the court first; when they are fully cleared, the home team will exit the court; when they are fully cleared, the officials will leave the court (no one should “wait” for officials/assignor – if they do, they will be assessed a technical foul)
• Multiple game balls must be used so that they can be rotated in and out and sanitized often during the games

**Best Practices:**
• Only critical individuals permitted on the bench (e.g. limited managers, no red shirts, injured players, etc.)

**SPRING SPORTS**

Information will be developed during the fall.

**NEXT STEPS**

These protocols are intended to help our membership prepare for the fall as we continue to assess the proper balance of:

1) Student-athlete, staff, spectators and guests safety and
2) A structure that allows fall sports to proceed for those who are healthy.

We will continue to assess these protocols and will share any necessary adjustments as they are developed.
The Peach Belt Conference’s top priority is the safety of its membership and athletic community. In support of this, the Peach Belt Conference is taking proactive steps to mitigate the spread of illnesses and infectious diseases (including COVID-19) among its colleges and universities, students, coaches, athletics staff, game-day employees, fans, and other members of the Peach Belt community.

Each member of the Peach Belt Conference community has a critical role in promoting safety and preventing the spread of COVID-19 during our return to athletics. Preparation and mitigation efforts can lower the risk for an outbreak or transmission within the conference, although it is not possible to eliminate altogether the risk of contracting or transmitting COVID-19.

The goal of our Peach Belt Conference COVID-19 Return-to-Play Safety Pact is to promote safety and prevent the spread of COVID-19 across all of our member institutions, so that each school’s student-athletes, coaches and supporters can feel confident that their opponents in competition will also be strong allies in promoting their safety. As a conference, we are asking each student-athlete, coach, staff member, and person involved in game day operations to pledge to do their best to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and to protect themselves and each other by following health authorities’ best practices. As a conference, we are offering common health and safety standards, to be implemented as conference-wide minimum standards, so each institution’s members can feel assured that every other conference institution’s members are helping to protect the entire Peach Belt athletics community from the spread of COVID-19.

As an institution, we ask that you pledge to help promote those best practices among your student-athletes, coaches, staff members, and people involved in game day operations, including by having them execute individual safety pledges, by helping them to comply with those best practices, and by excluding them from athletic participation and events if they do not adhere to those standards. We hope and expect that each member institution will proudly proclaim that they have agreed to meet the Peach Belt Conference’s COVID-19 Return-to-Play Safety Pact.

In addition to the terms contained in the individual safety pledges, we offer the following minimum safety protocols to help reduce COVID-19 risks across the conference and to prepare student-athletes and the athletics community to return to sports.

**Member Institution’s Minimum Health and Safety Requirements:**

As a condition of participation in conference events and competitions, each member institution must agree to adopt and implement health and safety requirements for their athletics community. These requirements must be developed in accordance with guidance from the CDC, local health officials and governing agencies, as well as any NCAA, institution, or Peach Belt Conference guidelines.
Belt Conference protocols. The health and safety requirements must address the following minimum components.

1) Promote an environment where the athletics community is encouraged to make health and safety its top priority, over the ambition to practice, play, or win a competition

2) Designate an athletics/team COVID-19 coordinator who will be responsible for overseeing the COVID-19 safety plan and will serve as the point of contact for the athletics community to report COVID-19 symptoms or exposure

3) Require all coaches, athletics staff, game day operations, and student-athletes ("athletics community") to review and sign their respective Peach Belt Conference Safety Pledges and exclude any member of the athletics community from conference activities and competitions if they have not signed or are violating the Safety Pledge (In the event of a refusal by an individual to sign the Safety Pledge, it is the Member Institution’s obligation to ensure that that objection does not have a negative impact on the health and safety of the athletic community)

4) Ensure that all members of the athletics community are properly trained on the institution’s COVID-19 health and safety requirements

5) Encourage members of the athletics community to report any violations of the institution’s health and safety requirements or situations that put the athletics community at risk and to establish protocols that prevent retaliation for individuals making such reports

6) Establish a plan for:
   (a) screening and monitoring members of the athletics community for symptoms and exposure to COVID-19
   (b) immediately excluding and appropriately quarantining any member of the athletics community who has symptoms or exposure to COVID-19
   (c) reporting, testing and providing medical assistance if a member of the athletics community develops COVID-19 symptoms or is exposed to COVID-19
   (d) reporting, communicating, and contact tracing in the event a member of the athletics community contracts COVID-19

7) Implement sanitization protocols for shared equipment and athletics facilities, including spectator areas
8) Conduct facility assessments and protocols for capacity in athletics facilities and at athletics events

9) Establish protocols for social distancing, mask-wearing, and hygiene practices by members of the athletics community and spectators during athletics events and competition

10) Implement comprehensive messaging and signage notifying members of the athletics community and spectators of the risk of transmission of COVID-19 at athletics events and reminding them to practice social distancing, wear masks, and follow proper hygiene practices

11) Establish a risk assessment for competition in the event of local community spread

12) Establish requirements for vendors/food service in and around athletics competitions

13) Establish guidelines for team travel, lodging, transportation, and meal service

14) Follow any applicable federal, state or local laws or regulations for mitigating legal liability risks associated with COVID-19

Member Institution Commitment:

By signing below, the authorized representative for the Member Institution agrees to implement the above minimum health and safety requirements aimed at reducing the spread of COVID-19. The Member Institution acknowledges and agrees that compliance with this commitment is a condition of its participation in Peach Belt Conference activities and competitions and that any failure to comply with this commitment may lead to cancellation of its Conference activities and competitions.

____________________________________  ___________________
Signature       Date

Print Name of Authorized Representative: _____________________________

Print Name of Member Institution: ____________________________
Peach Belt Conference
Coaches and Athletics Staff Safety Pledge

The Peach Belt Conference’s top priority is the safety of its membership and athletic community. In support of this, the Peach Belt Conference is taking proactive steps to mitigate the spread of illnesses and infectious diseases (including COVID-19) among its colleges and universities, students, coaches, athletics staff, game-day employees, fans, and other members of the Peach Belt community.

As a coach or member of the athletics staff at a Peach Belt Conference institution, I recognize that I have a critical role in helping to stop the spread of COVID-19. I pledge to take personal responsibility for my own health and to contribute to the health and safety of myself, my student-athletes, my fellow staff and coaches, my team’s opponents in athletics competitions, and my community by doing the following:

A) Self-care

1) Adhering to social distancing as much as possible

2) Consistently wearing a mask or other face covering when around others, unless an appropriate exception applies (e.g. while exercising or competing; when eating or drinking; or in the event of a health exception), and following CDC guidance regarding How to Wear Cloth Face Coverings and How to Wash Cloth Face Coverings

3) Following all recommended hygiene practices including regular hand washing for at least 20 seconds, using sanitizer when soap and water are not available, avoiding touching eyes, nose, and mouth, and practicing respiratory etiquette, including covering coughs and sneezes

4) Keeping my personal space, shared common space, and my belongings clean and properly disposing of any personal protective equipment or tissues after use

5) Avoiding close contact with people who I know are sick, whether on or off campus

6) Performing a daily self-wellness check in accordance with updated CDC symptom-guidelines, which can be located at https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html. Current symptom guidelines are:

- Fever (100.4 or more) or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
• Nausea or vomiting
• Diarrhea

B) Communicating with health authorities and following their directives

7) Notifying my university’s designated medical staff and following the medical staff’s instructions regarding self-quarantining, testing and medical evaluations, and removing myself from athletic facilities and activities, if:

• I feel sick or develop any of the above symptoms;
• I had close contact with someone who is suspected of having COVID-19 or who tests positive; or
• I encounter a situation that puts my team or my health at risk

8) Participating fully and honestly with the medical staff for contact tracing to determine if I may have been exposed to COVID-19 or may have exposed others

9) Consenting to testing and screening for COVID-19

C) Establishing an environment that puts health and safety first

10) Because my actions, words, and attitudes are influential on my student-athletes and colleagues, taking extra precautions to conduct myself in a way that promotes a culture of health and safety of our athletics community as its top priority, over the ambition to practice, play, or win a competition

11) Contributing to the education of all student-athletes and members of the athletics staff on COVID-19 health and safety guidelines adopted by the Peach Belt Conference, my university, and outside health officials.

12) Encouraging all student-athletes and members of the athletics staff to follow all COVID-19 health and safety guidelines adopted by the Peach Belt Conference, my university, and outside health officials

13) Following the recommendations of medical staff and not permitting student-athletes to use athletics facilities or participate in athletic activities (including practices, team meetings, travel, or competition) if they are sick or have been exposed to COVID-19.

14) Ensuring that all student-athletes receive, review, and agree to the Peach Belt Conference Student-Athlete Safety Pledge; maintaining a record of these pledges; and not permitting student-athletes to use athletics facilities or participate in athletic activities until they sign this pledge
15) Reporting any known health and safety concerns and doing my part to establish an open and receptive environment for others to report concerns and to be free from retaliation.

D) Following COVID safety protocols in training, practices and competition

16) Following all additional health and safety rules and guidelines issued by the Peach Belt Conference as well as by my Athletic Training Staff and university, including those from outside health officials.

**Acknowledgement of Risk and Expectations:**

I understand that following the above safety precautions and those recommended by campus health authorities, the CDC and other health officials is an important part of reducing the risk of contracting and spreading COVID-19. Despite these efforts, I understand that there is an inherent risk of exposure to illnesses and infectious diseases associated with athletics activities. Even with all reasonable efforts, I may still contract COVID-19 and other infectious diseases. I will do my part to help prevent the spread of COVID-19. By signing below, I acknowledge these risks and agree to abide by my above Safety Pledge.

I acknowledge that these expectations and my pledge are a condition of my participation in Peach Belt Conference activities and competitions and that any failure to comply with this Safety Pledge may lead to the immediate removal of my Conference athletic participation privileges.

I agree to do my part to help make the Peach Belt Conference a safe environment for myself, my peers, and our community.

____________________________________  ___________________
Signature      Date

Print Name:___________________________
Name of College/University: _______________________________________

Peach Belt Conference
Student-Athlete Safety Pledge

The Peach Belt Conference’s top priority is the safety of its membership and athletic community. In support of this, the Peach Belt Conference is taking proactive steps to mitigate the spread of illnesses and infectious diseases (including COVID-19) among its colleges and universities, students, coaches, athletics staff, game-day employees, fans, and other members of the Peach Belt community.

As a student-athlete in the Peach Belt Conference, I recognize that I need to do my part to help stop the spread of COVID-19. I pledge to take personal responsibility for my own health and to contribute to the health and safety of myself, my teammates and coaches, my opponents in athletics competitions, and my community by doing the following:

A) Self-care

1) Adhering to social distancing as much as possible

2) Consistently wearing a mask or other face covering when around others, unless an appropriate exception applies (e.g. while exercising or competing; when eating or drinking; or in the event of a health exception), and following CDC guidance regarding How to Wear Cloth Face Coverings and How to Wash Cloth Face Coverings

3) Following all recommended hygiene practices including regular hand washing for at least 20 seconds, using sanitizer when soap and water are not available, avoiding touching eyes, nose, and mouth, and practicing respiratory etiquette, including covering coughs and sneezes

4) Keeping my personal space, shared common space, and my belongings clean and properly disposing of any personal protective equipment or tissues after use

5) Avoiding close contact with people who I know are sick, whether on or off campus

6) Performing a daily self-wellness check in accordance with updated CDC symptom-guidelines, which can be located at https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html. Current symptom guidelines are:

- Fever (100.4 or more) or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea
B) Communicating with health authorities and following their directives

7) Notifying my Athletic Training Staff and following the medical staff’s instructions regarding self-quarantining, testing and medical evaluations, and removing myself from athletic facilities and activities, if:

- I feel sick or develop any of the above symptoms;
- I had close contact with someone who is suspected of having COVID-19 or who tests positive; or
- I encounter a situation that puts my team or my health at risk

8) Participating fully and honestly with the Athletic Training Staff for contact tracing to determine if I may have been exposed to COVID-19 or may have exposed others

9) Consenting to testing and screening for COVID-19

C) Following COVID safety protocols in training, practices and competition

10) Following all additional health and safety rules and guidelines issued by the Peach Belt Conference as well as by my Athletic Training Staff and university, including those from outside health officials.

Acknowledgement of Risk and Expectations:

I understand that following the above safety precautions and those recommended by campus health authorities, the CDC and other health officials is an important part of reducing the risk of contracting and spreading COVID-19. Despite these efforts, I understand that there is an inherent risk of exposure to illnesses and infectious diseases associated with athletics activities. Even with all reasonable efforts, I may still contract COVID-19 and other infectious diseases. I will do my part to help prevent the spread of COVID-19. By signing below, I acknowledge these risks and agree to abide by my above Safety Pledge.

I acknowledge that these expectations and my pledge are a condition of my participation in Peach Belt Conference activities and competitions and that any failure to comply with this Safety Pledge may lead to the immediate removal of my athletic participation privileges (including practices, use of athletic facilities, or qualification for competition).

I agree to do my part to help make the Peach Belt Conference a safe environment for myself, my peers, and our community.
Student-Athlete Signature  
Date
Print Name: ___________________________

Parent/Guardian Signature (If Under 18)  
Date
Print Name: ___________________________
Peach Belt Conference
Game Day Ops Safety Pledge

The Peach Belt Conference’s top priority is the safety of its membership and athletic community. In support of this, the Peach Belt Conference is taking proactive steps to mitigate the spread of illnesses and infectious diseases (including COVID-19) among its colleges and universities, students, coaches, athletics staff, game-day employees and contractors, fans, and other members of the Peach Belt community.

As a part of the game-day operations team for a Peach Belt Conference competition, I recognize that I have a critical role in helping to stop the spread of COVID-19. I pledge to take personal responsibility for my own health and to contribute to the health and safety of myself and the athletics community by doing the following:

A) Self-care

1) Adhering to social distancing as much as possible

2) Consistently wearing a mask or other face covering when around others, unless an appropriate exception applies (e.g. while exercising or competing; when eating or drinking; or in the event of a health exception), and following CDC guidance regarding How to Wear Cloth Face Coverings and How to Wash Cloth Face Coverings

3) Following all recommended hygiene practices including regular hand washing for at least 20 seconds, using sanitizer when soap and water are not available, avoiding touching eyes, nose, and mouth, and practicing respiratory etiquette, including covering coughs and sneezes

4) Keeping my personal space, shared common space, and my belongings clean and properly disposing of any personal protective equipment or tissues after use

5) Avoiding close contact with people who I know are sick, whether on or off campus

6) Performing a daily self-wellness check in accordance with updated CDC symptom-guidelines, which can be located at https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html. Current symptom guidelines are:

- Fever (100.4 or more) or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea
B) Communicating with health authorities and following their directives

7) Notifying my university’s designated medical staff and following the medical staff’s instructions regarding self-quarantining, testing and medical evaluations, and removing myself from athletic facilities and activities, if:

- I feel sick or develop any of the above symptoms;
- I had close contact with someone who is suspected of having COVID-19 or who tests positive; or
- I encounter a situation that puts the PBC athletics community or my health at risk

8) Participating fully and honestly with the medical staff for contact tracing to determine if I may have been exposed to COVID-19 or may have exposed others

9) Consenting to testing and screening for COVID-19

C) Establishing a game-day environment that puts health and safety first

10) Implementing my duties and responsibilities in a way that promotes the health and safety of our athletics community

11) If I am responsible for sanitization of athletics facilities or equipment, carrying out those responsibilities in strict compliance with health and safety guidelines as well as manufacturer’s instructions

12) If I am responsible for the implementation of other health and safety protocols on game-day (such as health screenings, messaging/announcements, social-distancing assistance, stocking and replenishing of safety supplies, etc.), carrying out those responsibilities in strict compliance with the health and safety instructions I am given

13) If I am responsible for officiating competitions, overseeing those competitions in a way that complies with the Peach Belt Conference’s health and safety guidelines and reminding all student-athletes and coaches to follow COVID-19 health and safety guidelines while at the competition

14) Setting a good example and encouraging other members of the athletics community that I encounter to follow the game-day health and safety protocols

15) Reporting any known health and safety concerns and doing my part to establish an open and receptive environment for others to report concerns and to be free from retaliation
16) Following all additional health and safety rules and guidelines issued by the Peach Belt and the competing schools, including those from outside health officials.

Acknowledgement of Risk and Expectations:

I understand that following the above safety precautions and those recommended by campus health authorities, the CDC and other health officials is an important part of reducing the risk of contracting and spreading COVID-19. Despite these efforts, I understand that there is an inherent risk of exposure to illnesses and infectious diseases associated with athletics activities. Even with all reasonable efforts, I may still contract COVID-19 and other infectious diseases. I will do my part to help prevent the spread of COVID-19. By signing below, I acknowledge these risks and agree to abide by my above Safety Pledge.

I acknowledge that these expectations and my pledge are a condition of my participation in Peach Belt Conference game day operations and that any failure to comply with this Safety Pledge may lead to the immediate removal of my game day privileges.

I agree to do my part to help make the Peach Belt Conference a safe environment for myself, my peers, and our community.

____________________________________  ___________________
Signature      Date

Print Name:__________________________________

Name of Host College/University: ______________________________
Peach Belt Conference  
Fall Pre-season Travel Information Questionnaire

Please complete this form and return to the PBC office by August 1, 2020.

Institution Submitting Form:_____________________________________________________

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Locker Rooms</th>
<th>Soccer</th>
<th>Volleyball</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Will you have locker rooms available to visiting teams?</td>
<td>☐ Yes ☐ No</td>
<td>☐ Yes ☐ No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If yes, is there room to social distance in them?</td>
<td>☐ Yes ☐ No</td>
<td>☐ Yes ☐ No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If yes, what is your plan for cleaning the locker rooms?</td>
<td>☐ Yes ☐ No</td>
<td>☐ N/A ☐ N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Explain:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Athletic Training</th>
<th>Soccer</th>
<th>Volleyball</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Will you be able to set up an auxiliary athletic training room, if necessary?</td>
<td>☐ Yes ☐ No</td>
<td>☐ Yes ☐ No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If yes, explain:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Officials</th>
<th>Soccer</th>
<th>Volleyball</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Will you have a locker room available for officials?</td>
<td>☐ Yes ☐ No</td>
<td>☐ Yes ☐ No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Will you be able to provide services for officials prior to competition?</td>
<td>☐ Yes ☐ No</td>
<td>☐ Yes ☐ No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If yes, what information would you like provided prior to their arrival?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Explain:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Signature:_______________________________________ Date:_________________________
**Peach Belt Conference**
**COVID-19 Daily Symptom Screening**

Full Name: _________________________________________________________________

Date of Birth: ___________________________ Temperature: ______________________

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Current/Recent Symptoms</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Difficulty Breathing/Shortness of Breath</td>
<td>□Yes □No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fever</td>
<td>□Yes □No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cough</td>
<td>□Yes □No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nausea/Vomiting</td>
<td>□Yes □No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upset Stomach</td>
<td>□Yes □No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diarrhea</td>
<td>□Yes □No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sore Throat</td>
<td>□Yes □No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Body/Muscle Aches (more than usual)</td>
<td>□Yes □No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Altered or Loss of Taste or Smell</td>
<td>□Yes □No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Body Chills</td>
<td>□Yes □No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extreme Level of Fatigue</td>
<td>□Yes □No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Changes to Vision/Eye Discharge</td>
<td>□Yes □No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rash</td>
<td>□Yes □No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notes:**

**Signature:**_________________________________ **Date:**____________
Peach Belt Conference
Official/Referee COVID-19 Screening

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Full Name:</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cell Phone:</td>
<td>Sport:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date of Contest:</td>
<td>Location of Contest:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home Team:</td>
<td>Visiting Team:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please complete this form to assess your potential exposure/possession of COVID-19 and other illnesses:

1. Do you have ANY of the following symptoms of COVID-19 that started within the past two weeks?
   - [ ] Yes
   - [ ] No

   **Signs and Symptoms***
   - Fever (>100.4)
   - Body/Muscle Aches
   - Body Chills
   - Loss of Taste
   - Loss of Smell
   - Extreme Level of Fatigue
   - Cough
   - Changes to Vision/Eye Discharge
   - Pain/Difficulty Breathing
   - Skin Changes in Fingers/Toes
   - Shortness of Breath
   - Diarrhea/Gastrointestinal Illness
   - Sore Throat
   - Skin Rash or other Skin Symptoms

*https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html*
(subject to change – continue to monitor for updates)

2. Have you tested positive for COVID-19 in the past two weeks (not a blood test, but one that required a sample from your nose, mouth or throat)?
   - [ ] Yes
   - [ ] No

Please complete the following questions regarding the health of yourself and close contacts (someone with whom you spent more than 15 minutes within a 6 foot distance):

3. Do you have a household contact or other close contact who within the last two weeks was experiencing any of the symptoms listed above and who has not been able to get tested or has a pending result?
   - [ ] Yes
   - [ ] No

4. Does a household contact or other close contact with whom you have spent time in the last two weeks tested positive for COVID-19 (not a blood test, but one that required a sample from your nose, mouth, or throat) within the past two weeks?
   - [ ] Yes
   - [ ] No

**Official/Referee Signature:**

Date: ___________________________ Temperature: ___________________________
Peach Belt Conference  
COVID-19 Questionnaire

Last Name:_______________________ First Name:_______________________ Middle Initial:____________
Student ID#:__________ Date of Birth (MM/DD/YYYY):__________ Age:______ Cell Phone:__________________
Gender: □ Male  □ Female  
Sport(s):________________________________________________________

Please complete this form to assess your potential exposure/possession of COVID-19 and other illnesses.

Are you currently free from illness? □ Yes  □ No

During your time away from school/work, did you experience, or are you currently experiencing any of the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SYMPTOM</th>
<th>YES</th>
<th>NO</th>
<th>LENGTH OF SYMPTOM</th>
<th>EXPLANATION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fever (without Tylenol for 24 hours)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Body Chills</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extreme Level of Fatigue</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cough</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pain / Difficulty Breathing</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shortness of Breath</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sore Throat</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Body / Muscle Aches</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loss of Taste</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loss of Smell</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Changes to Vision / Eye Discharge</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rash</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diarrhea</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vomiting</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upset stomach</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>YES</th>
<th>NO</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2-14 days prior to experiencing these symptoms, did you experience a suspected case of COVID-19?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Have you been in direct contact with someone that has a suspected or lab confirmed case of COVID-19?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>During your time away from school/work, did you self-quarantine due to suspected symptoms or exposure of COVID-19?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>During your time away from school/work have you been living in, or have visited an area reporting an increased number of COVID-19 cases (i.e. “hot spots”)?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Have you had any direct contact with anyone who lives in or has visited a place where COVID-19 is spreading and/or is an area reporting an increased number of COVID-19 cases (i.e. &quot;hot spots&quot;)?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Have you previously been or are you currently diagnosed with COVID-19?
  □ YES  □ NO  DATE OF DIAGNOSIS:_____ / _____ / _____

Do you have medical documentation to support your diagnosis and treatment of COVID-19?
  □ YES  □ NO  PHYSICIAN NAME:______________________________________________
  PHYSICIAN LOCATION:____________________________________________________

Please list any countries/states/cities you have traveled to since March 15, 2020 and the dates you were there:
1. ___________________________ Dates: __________________________
2. ___________________________ Dates: __________________________
3. ___________________________ Dates: __________________________
4. ___________________________ Dates: __________________________
5. ___________________________ Dates: __________________________

Are you considered part of a vulnerable population? (ex-immunocompromised, asthma, lung diseases, diabetes, and more)
  □ YES  □ NO

Signature: __________________________________________ Date: ______________________
Peach Belt Conference Policy on Athletic Competition Cancellation in the Event of Medically Related Incident, Natural Disaster, or Other Disastrous Events

The Peach Belt Conference is committed to the health and well-being of all student-athletes, coaches and athletic department staff members and to assuring the fair and safe conduct of all conference athletic competitions. To this end, the PBC has established the following policy that will be put in force in the event there is an occurrence of a medically related incident, natural disaster, or other disastrous event that occurs on one or more conference member campuses and that may impact or potentially impact the overall operation of that campus or athletic team or program.

Decisions on Cancelling/Postponing Athletic Competition

In the event of an occurrence of a medically related incident, natural disaster or other disastrous event that impacts or has the potential to impact one or more PBC institutions and therefore creates the possibility for cancellation of an athletic event, the following protocol will be used:

Medically Related Incident

The decision to not permit a team to participate in an athletic competition due to a medically related incident or issue (such as a widespread virus) may be made by either the host or visiting institution and must be based on an institutional decision, not merely by a coach or athletic administrator. It is clear that in the case of medically related incidents that policy may change during the course of that incident based on Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines regarding how to treat infected students and how interaction with other students will be handled. Therefore, if it is determined that a team cannot play or host a competition, documentation of the institutional decision from the appropriate administrative department (for example, Vice President for Student Affairs or Dean of Students) must be presented to the opposing team and the conference office when that decision is made. It will be assumed that if a campus has not closed due to an outbreak and is permitting other activities to occur, that the athletic programs and contests will be allowed to continue and student-athletes to participate. Decisions on cancelling a contest due to an outbreak should never be made based on ‘which’ team members are ill, only if the situation is such that an institutional policy makes it clear that contests cannot be played at that time. The expectation is that teams with a required minimum number of players to field a team will compete even if the players are not playing in their typical positions.

- If an institution has announced that there is an outbreak on their campus, but based on their policy they intend to allow their team to compete or host an event, that contest will go on as scheduled.
- A school has decided that they will not travel to a campus which has announced that there has been an outbreak must provide documentation that the institutional policy is
not to travel off campus to sites where an outbreak has been declared until the hosting campus states that it has determined that the outbreak is over.

- Institutions will use their best professional judgement based on CDC policy to determine when a team will be able to participate again once a contest is cancelled due to outbreak.

Natural Disaster and Other Disastrous Events

Policies on the cancellation of contests due to natural disasters or other disastrous events will be similar to those for medically related incidents as above. It is assumed that institution athletic directors will communicate with each other on the best way to handle catastrophic events that arise.

PBC Policy in Event Contest is cancelled due to Medically Related Incidents, Natural Disaster, or Other Disastrous Events

In the event a competition may not take place on a member campus due to one of the above situations but the opposing campus is available, the contest will be moved to the other campus for the contest, unless extenuating circumstances approved by the conference office dictate otherwise. If an event is cancelled before the away team travels, it must be made up on the first mutually available date even if that means one or both schools have to cancel a non-conference game.

- If the cancellation results in there not being an available date to make up the contest before the end of the season, final standings and playoff positions will be determined by winning percentage (no wins, losses, or forfeits will be assigned). Games not played will not be considered forfeits, nor will wins and losses be assessed – they will be considered games not played.

[NOTE: The PBC previously developed a conference tournament contingency plan that will be enacted if necessary].
Postseason Contingency Plan

Part 1 - Tournament Host

If a host institution cannot fulfill its commitment to host a Peach Belt Conference tournament:

1. The institution shall notify the conference office as soon as possible upon learning this information, AND
2. The conference office shall try to find another institution/location to host the tournament.
3. In the event that no alternative site can be secured in a timely manner, the following policies will apply:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sport</th>
<th>Policy Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cross Country</td>
<td>Title of conference champion would go to the highest regionally ranked team, as ranked by the USTFCCCA, as of the first date of the scheduled tournament</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soccer</td>
<td>Revert to tournament rain policy where the regular season champions would be declared the tournament champion and receive the automatic bid (women only)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volleyball</td>
<td>Regular season champions would be declared the tournament champions and receive the automatic bid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basketball</td>
<td>Regular season champions would be declared the tournament champions and receive the automatic bid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Softball</td>
<td>Revert to tournament rain policy where the regular season champions would be declared the tournament champion and receive the automatic bid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tennis</td>
<td>Revert to tournament rain policy where the regular season champions would be declared the tournament champion and receive the automatic bid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golf</td>
<td>Revert to tournament rain policy where the automatic bid and title of conference champion would go to the highest regionally ranked team, as ranked by the NCAA, as of the first date of the scheduled tournament</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Track and Field</td>
<td>No champion will be crowned</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baseball</td>
<td>Revert to tournament rain policy where the regular season champions would be declared the tournament champion and receive the automatic bid</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Part 2 - Tournament Participants

In the event that an institution cannot send its team to the conference tournament:

1. The institution shall notify the conference office as soon as possible upon making this determination, AND
2. If there is sufficient time, all seeds below the involved institution will move up one seed, OR
3. If there is not sufficient time to move seeds up one, that institution’s opponent will receive a bye for the contest. For example, the #3 seed cannot participate, so the #6 seed gets a bye in the quarterfinal round.