

Bow Athletic Club



2020-2021 Season will be a challenge for winter sports. With having sports in an enclosed building, this will cause concerns with the Covid-19. Bow Athletic Club has been working on solutions that would adhere to social distancing rules.

We are excited to try and offer a basketball program this winter, but with some changes and adjustments from prior years to follow state of NH guidelines with respect to COVID-19. Our goal will be to provide a fun basketball season in a safe environment, including sanitizing stations for all players and coaches (as well as spectators at games). Every player will also need to supply their own water bottle and basketball for practices. Additionally, any equipment used for practice/games will also be sanitized after use.

We only allow registered players to play on our teams and only kids within the SAU 67 Community. In the registration process a player must consent to a COVID-19 Communicable Disease waiver.

In addition to the foregoing, Bow Athletic Club Basketball Program intends to do the following:

- 1) All spectators, refs and coaches, scorekeepers and time clocker MUST wear a mask, there are NO exceptions.
- 2) Players must wear a mask while entering the building, until they reach the bench. They may take the mask off while playing. As soon as game is over, the mask must be worn while exiting the building.
- 3) While we will use bleachers, we will expect (and enforce) spectators to keep a safe social distance. Due to space constraints, games at BMS each player will be limited to four guests and at BES – only two guests. There will not be any limitation at BHS (due to size of gym). At no point would we allow more than sixty spectators at a game.
- 4) The only two teams that are playing in the time slotted game will be allowed in the gym. The next teams that will be playing will need to wait outside the building until the other teams have exited the building (and the gym has been sanitized). The coaches will need to move their team along as soon as the game is over and there will be no overlap between teams entering/exiting the gym. Teams (and spectators) waiting to play the next game at BMS – will wait in the cafeteria (the other schools they will wait outside or in their cars until they are given a signal by a BAC coach that they can now enter the gym and school.
- 5) We will attempt to avoid mixing basketball cohorts by having entry and exit through the separate doors at each school.
- 6) After each game has been played a designated person will be responsible for sanitizing the scorers' table, players benches and any other area that may need sanitizing before new persons

enter the gymnasium. The expectation is that it will take approximately 10 minutes to properly clean and sanitize the gym.

- 7) Like school, prior to arrival at the gym, it will be expected that all players have their parents check their temperature and adhere to the same checklist that the school requires parents to complete prior to arrival at school. If any of the symptoms or a fever are observed then the player must not participate in the game (or practice). As all players are students in SAU 67 – they, and their parents will be completely familiar with this process. Prior to the start of each practice or game the BAC coach is expected to verbally confirm with each player that their guardian took their temperature within the appropriate time and that they do not have any of the designated symptoms.
- 8) For contact tracing purposes, the designated BAC coach is expected to record specifically who attends each practice and players that attend each game.
- 9) Practices and games will be the same in terms of a Covid policy. Again, we will have a short gap in time between teams entering/exiting the gym (or ending/starting practice) in order for the designated person to sanitize the gym between such as exchange.
- 10) BAC will be certain to include hand sanitizer and the appropriate cleaning wipes at all games and practices.

BAC typically has approximately 40 teams with about 350 players in grades 1 through 12. As a frame of reference – here is how those teams are typically broken up:

- 1st and 2nd grade play in a Bow only league at BES with all games amongst Bow kids only. Typically we have roughly 6 teams in this group.
- 3rd – 12th grade have the vast majority of their teams in the Merrimack Basketball League (MBL) playing teams from as far away as Antrim and most games against other teams from Henniker, Hopkinton, Weare, Hooksett, etc. – games are played on Saturdays only. Typically we have about 20-25 teams in this group.
- 3rd – 8th grade have a “travel team” which plays in the Manchester Suburban League (MSL). We typically have 7 or 8 teams that play in this league and these are the more skilled players in each grade. Opponents typically are Bedford, Londonderry, Hudson, Hollis-Brookline, etc.

This year BAC basketball will be performed as follows:

- 1st and 2nd grade will look the same as in prior year’s except a space in time between practices and games.
- We will not play in the MBL, but instead those teams will play games only against Bow and Dunbarton kids. For example, we typically have 4 or 5 teams of 3rd/4th grade boys – they will play each other each week (as well as Dunbarton). They will not travel outside of SAU 67 and will not play teams with players from outside SAU 67.
- We will not play in the MSL, but instead in a new “town league” located in Derry. Thus, our “travel teams” will not have any home games in Bow gyms – so there will not be players entering the gym from outside of SAU 67.

If you have any questions for the Bow Athletic Club, please contact Bryce Larrabee - President.

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