



2020-21 Bowling Rules Considerations NHIAA Bowling Committee Adopted for 2020-21 Season

In support of the Guidance for Opening Up High School Athletics and Activities, the NHIAA Bowling Committee offers this document for state associations to consider whether any possible rules could be altered for the 2020-21 season. The considerations outlined in this document are meant to decrease potential exposure to respiratory droplets by encouraging social distancing, limiting participation in administrative tasks to essential personnel and allowing for appropriate protective equipment.

In addition to this document please be sure to consult the [New Hampshire Safer At Home Guidance for Bowling and Entertainment Centers](#)

****Bowling Alleys are most commonly privately-owned facilities. Be sure to know and follow the policies and procedures of the facility prior to practice or competition****

The NHIAA highly recommends and encourages schools to develop protocols for the wearing of masks during practice and competition when at all possible and allowed based upon the rules of the sport. All NHIAA tournaments will require masks for all participants except in the sports of gymnastics, swimming, ski jumping, and spirit as determined by safety reasons by sports specific committees.

Considerations for Bowling

- Athletes should wear a cloth face covering until they are on the approach (as is consistent with the [New Hampshire Safer at Home Guidelines: Bowling & Entertainment Centers](#)). However, it is strongly recommended that face coverings should be worn at all times by coaches and athletes.
- Athletes should not engage in physical contact with others – high fives, fist bumps, etc.
- Ball cleaners shall not be used – only rubbing alcohol can be utilized to treat balls.
- Whenever possible all participants should use their own equipment (balls, shoes, etc.).
- Water bottles, drinking stations, and towels shall be used by a single person only.
- Host schools should assure that hand sanitizer is available – Whether provided by the bowling center or provided by the host.
- Matches should consist of only varsity teams of eight (8) athletes until further notice in an effort to minimize congregation.
- All universal guidelines mandated through the NHIAA reopening guidelines, [New Hampshire Safer at Home Guidelines: Bowling & Entertainment Centers](#); CDC guidelines must be followed.

Recommendations for setting up a match:

Whenever available, matches should be played as early in the day as possible.

Standard game

- Each team should bowl their standard game on their own pair of lanes – No more than 4 athletes per lane.
- One vacant pair of lanes should be kept in between schools.

Final as of 1.8.2021

Baker

- Whenever possible, Baker games should be set up so that the teams will share a pair of lanes (one team on each), however athletes will be seated on opposite sides of the pair. – (EX: Lanes 3 and 4 are used for the baker match, one team shall sit in lane 2, the other team shall sit in lane 5).
- Whenever possible, the Baker games should be played on a pair of lanes which was previously vacant.