South Alabama Athletics and the Jaguar Marching Band

Return to Practice and Competition

May 6, 2020

The following are general concepts concerning a return to athletics practice and competition. This is a fluid situation with influences at the University, State and National levels.

1. Athletics will abide by all State and University guidelines concerning return to activity on campus.
2. We anticipate recommendations from various entities including but not limited to the NCAA and the Sun Belt Conference.
3. Practice and competition can be considered if in-person classes exist as an option on-campus.
4. There will be a plan to return to practice and competition. This plan will include variations of the following:
   a. All athletics staff, student-athletes, cheer, dance and applicable student workers (managers, ticket personnel etc.) will be required to receive a flu vaccination provided by the University.
   b. All Jaguar Marching Band staff and students will be required to receive a flu vaccination provided by the University.
   c. Phasing-in of activity with clear benchmarks for progression from phase to phase.
   d. Coordination with USA Health for testing for immunity and a sound monitoring system of all student-athletes, coaches and support staff.
   e. Daily temperature monitoring for all student-athletes and staff.
   f. Coordination with USA Health to provide contact tracing as needed.
   g. Coordination with USA Health to implement additional health precautions.
   h. Definition of who can participate, assist with and watch practice and competition.
   i. Appropriate distancing will remain while minimizing exposure where distancing is not practical.
      i. Smaller groups rotating in waves through facilities.
      ii. Face masks will be used when feasible.
   j. Robust hygiene and sanitation systems along with abundance of hand sanitizers etc.
      i. Practice and competition facilities,
      ii. Training rooms,
      iii. Locker rooms,
      iv. Weight rooms.
5. Football:
   a. There is an anticipated six to seven-week period of conditioning and practice required prior to competition.
   b. When it is deemed allowable to return to practice and competition:
      i. There will be a period of two to three weeks to attain proper levels of fitness and conditioning (no football equipment involved) followed by,
      ii. A four-week period for typical practice and game preparation.
c. If we return in early to mid-July we could possibly begin on Labor Day weekend, if we return the first week in August the season could possibly begin the first week in October.

6. Soccer, Volleyball and Cross Country:
   a. There would be a three to six-week period of conditioning and practice required to any competition.

7. Jaguar Marching Band, Cheer and Dance
   a. They will have similar systems in place to begin practice and return to activity.

8. Winter and Spring Sports:
   a. If allowed to condition and practice in September there should not be any delay in playing competitions.

9. Attendance at games:
   a. Who, how many and under what circumstances will people be allowed to attend games is an unknown at this time. We will monitor and follow recommendations and best practices from the CDC and other governance/sporting organizations.
   b. Potential strategies for venue/game operations:
      i. Capacity of venues could be reduced and seats assigned with proper distancing in mind (this will cause a loss of revenue and could be challenging to police).
      ii. Customers may be encouraged/required to wear masks.
      iii. All gate, concessions and operations personnel will wear masks and gloves.
      iv. Temperatures of attendees will be checked at the gates.
      v. Proper cueing and spacing will be implemented at concessions and if needed restrooms.