



MASSACHUSETTS INTERSCHOLASTIC  
ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION



**To:** MIAA Member Schools  
**From:** Bob Baldwin, Executive Director  
**Re:** Winter Masking Guidelines  
**Date:** November 23, 2021

As of this date in November, we are providing direction regarding masking guidelines for the winter season. This information is consistent with the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE), and set forth by the Commissioner of Education. In order to maximize full participation of winter sports we will begin the winter season with the same guidelines that we utilized this fall:

***Student-athletes, coaches, and officials that are indoors shall be masked.***

These are minimum required State safety standards that remain consistent with the practices that take place during the school day.

While masking guidelines may vary at off campus facilities and venues please treat practices and competitions as school events and adhere to the above guideline. Further, be respectful to the policies and expectations set forth in school districts and local communities and continue the practice of communicating with member schools that may or may not have reached the 80% vaccination threshold.

DESE has set a January 15, 2022 date to assess masking guidelines. Through our work with State officials, and monitoring vaccination rates and COVID rates, we will take into consideration MIAA committee votes and push for a transition to un-masking during athletic completion within the winter season.

***To reiterate, we will begin the winter season on Monday, November 29, 2021 with the same masking guidelines that we followed this fall.***

Thank you for making this fall athletic season a true success! May you find time to rest, recharge and enjoy the Thanksgiving holiday with your family and friends.

EDUCATIONAL ATHLETICS

MIAA | 33 Forge Pkwy | Franklin, MA 02038 | 508-541-7997

