

Frequently Asked Questions

Non-school-sponsored Athletic Activities

Q: Are non-school-sponsored athletics, including practices and games/competitions permitted to occur?

A: It is not the Health Department's recommendation that high-contact/high-risk sports of any kind occur at the present time (please refer to NFHS definitions of high-risk sports below). Nevertheless, pursuant to Governor Lee's Executive Order 55, non-school-sponsored athletics may take place as permitted by the Tennessee Economic Recovery Group (i.e., Tennessee Pledge) and provided that all such activities are conducted in a manner consistent with COVID-19-related regulations adopted by Tennessee Pledge, including any forthcoming state guidance. The Health Department is available to provide technical assistance on conducting any non-school sponsored athletics activities. Any facility where a non-school sponsored athletic event occurs (including practices and games/competitions) must comply with all applicable provisions of the current Shelby County Health Directive and Shelby County Face Mask Directive, both of which can be found here: www.shelbytnhealth.com/healthdirectives.

Governor Lee's order is available here: <https://publications.tnsosfiles.com/pub/execorders/exec-orders-lee55.pdf>

National Federation of State High School (NFHS) definitions for high-risk sports is available here: https://www.nfhs.org/media/3812287/2020-nfhs-guidance-for-opening-up-high-school-athletics-and-activities-nfhs-smac-may-15_2020-final.pdf

Mask Usage and Polling Places

Q: Are face covering required while inside any voting location?

A: Face coverings are strongly encouraged (and will be provided) at all voting locations for anyone voting or administering an election.

School Sports and Activities

Q: Are schools authorized to permit (or not) school-sponsored sporting events and activities?

A: Yes, pursuant to Governor Lee's Executive Order 55, local education agencies and schools may permit, but are not required to permit, school-sponsored sporting events and activities, provided that all such activities, including practices and games or competition, must be conducted in a manner consistent with COVID-19-related regulations adopted by the Tennessee Secondary Schools Athletic Association. The Health Department is available to provide technical assistance on any sports event or activity.

The order is available here (as of July 31, 2020)

here: <https://publications.tnsosfiles.com/pub/execorders/exec-orders-lee55.pdf>

Curbside, Drive-thru, and Delivery Service

Q: May curbside, drive-thru, and delivery service continue by any properly permitted/licensed food service entity?

A: Yes, so long as all safety measures are followed, and further, food services may continue without the restriction of closing at 10 pm, but any such sales of alcoholic beverages must end at 10 pm.

Taprooms, Breweries, Distilleries

Q: Are taprooms, breweries, distilleries, wine bars, private clubs, beer-only bars or any other alcohol production businesses where on-premises consumption of alcohol occurs permitted to operate?

A: Any beer/wine/liquor production portion of a business enterprise may continue to operate, but the on-premises consumption of alcohol, inside or outside, of any of the aforementioned establishments cannot occur at this time. If permitted by state law, any curb-side, drive-thru, or delivery service is permissible. This FAQ does not apply to any establishment with a full-service restaurant license.

Curbside, Drive-thru, and Delivery Service

Q: May curbside, drive-thru, and delivery service continue by any properly permitted/licensed food service entity?

A: Yes, so long as all safety measures are followed, and further, these services may continue without the restriction of closing at 10 pm.

Clubs

Q: Are all clubs ranging from small private clubs to country clubs closed?

A: Yes, unless a club also has a restaurant license, then it may continue to operate as a “restaurant” as provided for in the directive. Also, if an entity is properly permitted/licensed to provide curb-side, drive-thru, and/or delivery service, they may continue to do so without the restriction of closing at 10 pm.

Wedding Ceremonies and Receptions

Q: How should I conduct my wedding and/or wedding reception under the current Health Directive?

A: Governor Lee’s executive orders preempt local health department directives as to weddings and currently (as of May 22, 2020) provides the following:

Worship services, weddings, funerals, and events related thereto are not social gatherings ... and nothing in this Order mandates closure of a place of worship, or prohibits weddings or funerals as a matter of law. Nevertheless, places of worship are strongly encouraged to continue to utilize virtual or online services and gatherings and strongly encouraged to follow the Guidance for Gathering Together in Houses of Worship issued by the Governor's Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives regarding in-person services that can be conducted safely. Likewise, persons at weddings and funerals are strongly encouraged to follow the Health Guidelines and maintain appropriate social distancing as provided for herein to the greatest extent practicable, although it is further strongly encouraged that any large

public celebration component of weddings and funerals be postponed or attended only by close family members.

Please reach out to the Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives for assistance on planning your wedding, and if needed, further questions can be directed to the Tennessee Department of Health. Wedding planners are encouraged to use their creativity to plan memorable and safe weddings and/or receptions and should follow applicable guidelines set forth in the current Health Directive, such as general business safety measures, safety measures for businesses that are permitted to be open, safety measures addressing food service (see restaurants and hotels), permitted numbers of people for gatherings, and so forth. Please note that the Directive does not affect the operations of any place of worship.