# **Colts Youth Organization Pandemic Procedure Plan**

#### Introduction:

These guidelines outline the procedures Colts and Colt Cadets will use for the 2021 season. These plans are meant to guide the organization and its personnel on approaches to make summer performance as safe as possible. The Colts Youth Organization does not promise, warranty or guarantee, express or implied, that these guidelines are comprehensive, exclusive or promise to be effective for every situation. They are meant to guide all participants (staff, volunteers, members, and families) to ensure best practices in summer performance. These plans will only be as strong as we can enforce them and as individuals respect and implement them. Our intent is to follow the details outlined as specifically as possible. These guidelines alone will not shield anyone from potential health issues.

These guidelines were developed making certain assumptions about the planned operations of the drum corps with the risks of the COVID-19 pandemic. Because pandemic and virus information is updated regularly, adjustments will need to be periodically made to this plan even during the tour timeline. The Colts leadership team strives to stay current with recommendations made by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (cdc.gov), as well as any guidelines or orders of any state or local health department in the geographic areas in which both our corps will operate, rehearse, reside, or perform.

In live time, decisions and adjustments will be made known to members of Colts or Colt Cadets prior to this document's written adjustments. Students, staff, and volunteers must follow the guidance provided daily by the Colts medical team, leadership, and administration. It is our hope these requirements may be relaxed through time, but this depends upon national improvement throughout a pandemic. We must all handle our daily routines prior to tour in a manner that models public health and safety guidelines for large group environments.

This approach has been largely adopted from the guidance of professionals dedicated to the drum corps activity. Please understand, there is an assumption of risk relative to all participants during any gathering or travel amidst a pandemic. Our intent is to utilize the guidance of health professionals, Drum Corps International, and our own experiences to mitigate risk as best as we can foresee to ensure that students can return to musical activity and live performances. In this document, the term participant refers to any individual that is a staff member, volunteer, or member of the Colts or Colt Cadets. Colts and Colt Cadets will have separate and independent bubbles with their respective support teams, but the organizational approach will be largely similar to simplify the understanding of all participants. Any questions may be directed to Colts Youth Organization leadership (contact information listed on the last page of this document).

# **The Five Key Elements:**

Vaccinations - All participants are expected to seek the COVID-19 Vaccination. All participants are required to submit a vaccination record. The vaccination does not replace any public health measures included in these guidelines.

PCR Test Prior to Arrival - All participants are expected to be sensitive to their exposure 7 days prior to arrival. Upon arrival, participants must demonstrate a negative PCR test within 72 hours of arrival.

Testing - The Colts plan to test all individuals once per week throughout the tour timeline, with the first test administered five days after arrival. Any unvaccinated individual may be tested twice weekly.

Bubble - The corps will seek to maintain a bubble as best as possible. The bubble is established and enforced through these outlined protocols and rules to define behaviors, physical environment, processes, and logistics. Maintaining the integrity of the bubble is crucial to maintaining the health of individuals in the bubble population, and therefore the ability of the members to participate for the duration of the season. Our bubble requires a disciplined, reliable, and consistent commitment by all participants and the organization.

Masks - Masks are expected from all participants at all times indoors, other than eating, sleeping, or showering. Members are asked to bring 12-15 masks they are comfortable wearing for indoor timelines. All individuals should bring their own masks to supplement corps provisions. The corps will make masks available to all participants. Brass players will be provided playing masks for indoor rehearsal timelines but will wear standard masks when not playing. Bell covers will be provided with all brass instruments to be used for indoor rehearsals. Unvaccinated individuals are expected to wear masks at all times.

# **Minimum Viable Conditions:**

- In event locations, new cases per 100,000 residents in a 14-day rolling average is 100 new cases or less
- Planned and regular testing must be conducted
- Must be able to travel between states on tour
- Indoor gathering restrictions in rehearsal & performance sites not fewer than 220

# **Contact Tracing:**

If any participant tests positive at any point during the season, the Colts will contact the local health department in the specific location of the positive test to discuss contact tracing and other public health measures or requirements. To assist the local health department in the contact tracing process, responsible staff (director or athletic trainer) should be prepared to provide the following information:

- Name & contact information of any person that might have come into contact with the individual who tested positive. A contact is someone who was within six feet of an infected individual for a total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period.
- Vehicle seat assignments that indicate who might have been traveling near the individual who tested positive.
- Housing/sleeping information that indicates who may have been sleeping near the individual who tested positive, including who might have shared a hotel room with that person (when applicable).
- Scheduling information that indicates who might have been rehearsing or working in the direct vicinity of the person that tested positive.

In addition, the Colts will contact local health departments in the area of each tour destination prior to the season to inform them of the stay and inquire about the best way to contact them regarding contact tracing. The Colts will maintain a list of each team member who has trained in the process of contact tracing. The free training used can be found <a href="here">here</a>.

# Management of Close Contacts of a COVID positive participant:

Current CDC recommendations post-exposure depend on vaccination status:

Vaccinated participants: Those who are fully vaccinated do not have to quarantine after exposure to a close COVID positive contact as long as they remain asymptomatic.

Unvaccinated participants: After close contact with a COVID positive individual, those who are unvaccinated must quarantine for 10 days without testing or 7 days with testing which should be obtained no sooner than the 5th day post-exposure.

Group settings are at a higher risk for spread of the virus. Because of the group setting in which drum corps participants reside, those in close contact with a COVID positive individual must adhere to all public health measures to mitigate the potential spread of COVID, including consistently and correctly wearing a mask, 6 ft. social distancing and frequent hand washing.

# Management of ill participants whose symptoms are NOT suggestive of COVID:

Any ill individual should immediately contact the Athletic Trainer, medical professional, or director on tour, and this staff member will determine how to manage the individual and symptoms relative to regular corps medical protocols.

# Management of participants who are symptomatic of COVID:

If a participant is ill and symptoms are suggestive of COVID (based on symptoms as defined by the CDC), a test will be provided as soon as possible following identification of symptoms. The individual will be isolated and taken for evaluation at a hospital emergency department (ED),

urgent care (UC) clinic, or a telehealth (TH) provider which offers or is associated with a local COVID testing center. The Colts and Colt Cadets will each have one "quarantine van" on-site designated for the transportation of an individual to the evaluation to ensure the least possible exposure to others. Symptomatic participants will be managed similarly regardless of their vaccination status or history of COVID infection.

For symptomatic participants who TEST NEGATIVE for COVID, if the initial testing was a rapid antigen test, the test will be immediately repeated with RT-PCR testing if the facility where the initial evaluation occurs has the capacity to perform RT-PCR testing.

If vaccinated, and the initial rapid antigen test is negative, the individual may return to participation once no longer symptomatic for 24 hours. If symptoms suggestive of COVID persist, the individual will be retested, preferably with an RT-PCR test.

If unvaccinated, the individual must maintain quarantine for 7 days until they:

- are no longer symptomatic for 24 hours
- have had a minimum of two negative COVID tests with the second by RT-PCR, and performed no sooner than 5 days after the onset of symptoms

If the corps is due to relocate during the evaluation or quarantine time of a COVID negative but symptomatic unvaccinated participant, that participant will be responsible for their own medical care and housing beyond 72 hours. No participants who are symptomatic can be allowed to travel with other corps members. If possible, the corps may be able to transport individual(s) using the quarantine van, but this will be determined by the director and athletic trainer or medical professional on a case-by-case basis.

For symptomatic participants who TEST POSITIVE for COVID, no additional testing is needed, but may be repeated at the discretion of the corps medical provider. If a participant is minimally symptomatic or becomes asymptomatic within a day or two, and has a positive initial rapid antigen test result, the test can be repeated with an RT-PCR test to rule out a false positive. If the second (RT-PCR) test is positive, the participant is considered to have a positive test. If the second (RT-PCR) test in the now asymptomatic participant is negative, then the participant is likely negative for COVID and may return to participation.

The RT-PCR test is considered the "gold standard" for clinical COVID detection. While it may be necessary in some circumstances to confirm a rapid antigen test with a PCR test, if the pretest probability for COVID is high (meaning it is likely that the participant with a positive test result seems likely to have COVID, especially if unvaccinated and had a close contact), repeat testing is not necessary, regardless of which type of test was performed initially, but can be repeated if desired.

Regardless of vaccination status, participants who test positive for COVID (with repeat testing, if done) cannot return to participation until:

10 days have elapsed since symptoms first appeared and

- 24 hours fever-free without the use of fever-reducing medications and
- Other COVID symptoms are improving and
- They have been given medical clearance to return to participation

The tour director of each corps will have a designated location where they will house COVID positive individuals at every location on the tour, along with prior staff designation to care for COVID positive participants. Allocation of costs for housing and responsibility for observation and meals in the quarantine location will be the responsibility of the participant/participant's family beyond 72 hours.

If a participant tests positive for COVID, they will be isolated at the predetermined designated isolation site and managed by Colts personnel with appropriate PPE needed to care for a COVID positive individual. Symptomatic COVID positive participants will be evaluated by a TH provider at least once during their quarantine. The corps medical team member providing care for the participant during quarantine must be present on that TH call via computer. Quarantine care will include 4-hour checks while awake with the affected participant (check-ins can be done virtually) between the hours of 8 AM and 10 PM. The participant must do a CDC Coronavirus "self-checker" once daily and report that result as well as temperature and pulse oximetry to the corps medical team member responsible for monitoring the quarantined participant. Meals or other needs will be delivered to the door in a safe manner that does not expose the person providing delivery.

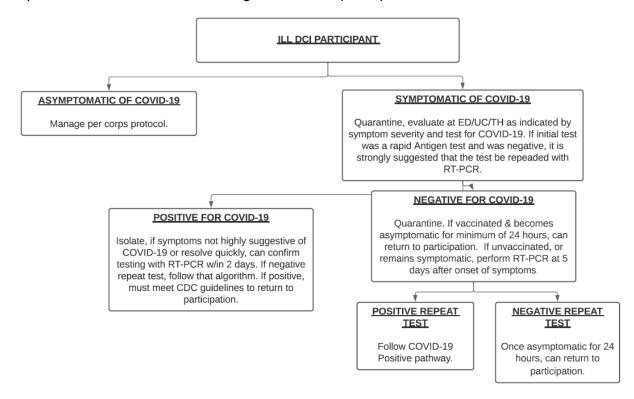
If there is a concern for the infected individual's safety, such as trouble breathing, chest pain or pressure, confusion, loss of consciousness, bluish hue to the lips or face, blood oxygen level less than 94%, or any other concerning symptoms, that individual must be taken to the nearest hospital for further evaluation and management.

In the event the COVID positive patient is a minor, the corps will involve the parent or guardian in all decisions regarding care. A TH visit with a healthcare provider is strongly recommended within 24 hours of any positive test result, or sooner as symptoms indicate. The designated care provider from the corps will provide parents with at least one daily update and the student will retain access to their phone for contact whenever desired.

The Colts Youth organization will report any COVID positive test results to DCI. These recommendations are also based on the following assumptions:

- Every participant has active health insurance that allows the participant access to care in the locations in which the corps is traveling for the entire duration of participation.
- Every participant should have a designated primary care provider and identify access to telemedicine within their insurance network.
- The Colts will not be responsible for the cost of care beyond 72 hours if the participant becomes COVID positive. The Colts will work with the family or emergency contact of each participant to determine the best possible solution for care and isolation.

Helpful schematic for decision making flow for an ill participant:



## Pre-arrival protocols:

The following guidelines are intended to help each participant take the steps necessary to minimize the risk of virus exposure prior to arrival, and while with the organization.

Step 1a: Self-sequestration for Fully Vaccinated Individuals (7 days before leaving for tour). Participants must:

- Avoid going to restaurants, bars, parties, or any place where people gather in numbers.
- Wear a mask and practice social distancing when participating in activities where there
  may be unvaccinated individuals.
- Practice frequent hand washing.

Step 1b: Self-quarantine for Unvaccinated Individuals or Not Fully Vaccinated Individuals (7 days before leaving for tour). Participants must:

- Not go to restaurants, bars, parties, or any place where people gather in numbers.
- Wear a mask at all times outside of your own home
- Maintain social distancing of at least 6 feet
- Practice frequent hand washing.

Step 2: Pre-travel testing (2-3 days before leaving)

Get a PCR COVID-19 test and have results at least 72 hours prior to arrival. If your results are positive, immediately quarantine and contact the corps director. If this happens, you will not be

able to participate until pre-arrival requirements are met, including a 10 day quarantine and a negative PCR COVID test within 72 hours prior to arrival.

# Step 3: Travel to corps

If your results are negative, travel following <u>CDC guidance</u>, wearing a <u>disposable surgical mask</u> <u>or a cloth mask</u> with at least two layers at all times when indoors with crowds and on planes, trains, buses or other enclosed vehicles. Regularly clean your hands with an alcohol-based hand sanitizer, sanitizing wipes, or soap and water. Use antibacterial wipes on your seat, tray table, armrest, and other areas around you during your travel.

### Step 4: Arrival at corps

If the PCR results are not provided to the Colts, a rapid antigen test will be used on site prior to admission into the bubble. Individuals admitted into the bubble will be identified with a Colts red wristband provided by the corps. After entry into the bubble, strictly avoid contact with people outside of the corps. Masks will be worn indoors when not eating, sleeping, or showering.

## Personal interaction guidelines when with the corps:

- Wear a widely available <u>disposable surgical mask or a cloth mask</u> with at least two
  layers at all times when indoors with crowds and/or on corps vehicles. Two layers of
  highly permeable fabric, such as T-shirt cloth, blocks droplets with an efficiency (>94%)
  similar to that of medical masks while being approximately twice as breathable.
- Avoid indoor activities whenever possible.
- Avoid self-serve food or drink options whenever possible.
- Avoid sharing objects (i.e. brass instruments, guard equipment, etc.)
- Wash hands with soap and water for 20 seconds before and after handling food.
- If you develop any COVID-19 symptoms or are notified that you were in close contact with someone who tested positive, immediately tell the appropriate corps staff and follow the directions given.

## **Corps management of in-person interaction:**

- Consider the length of interaction time, including rehearsal. The longer people are together, the higher the risk of virus transmission.
- Keep groups as small and stable as possible.
- For indoor activities, use rooms with open windows or good ventilation as possible.
- If anything must be shared, those items must be regularly cleaned and disinfected.
- Provide regular reminders and signs in strategic places providing instruction to hand hygiene, respiratory hygiene, and cough etiquette.
- Ensure PPE and cleaning/disinfecting supplies are available (masks, tissues, waste receptacles, alcohol-based hand sanitizer).
- Eliminate all interaction with personnel outside the corps bubble.
- No in-person visits by family or friends (No one outside the bubble can come into the bubble).

# **Bubble versus Public-Facing Participants:**

A tiered structure allows us to insulate, as best possible, corps members and staff who have been tested and isolated together from outside persons that may introduce the virus to the group. These individuals are bubble participants insulated and isolated from the outside world.

### Bubble Participants are:

- Admin Team that works closely with Members
- Members
- Instructional Staff that works closely with Members
- Medical Team
- Media Team members that interact with Bubble Participants
- Thread Team volunteers that fit students.
- Some bus and shuttle drivers for Bubble Participants
- Some Cook Truck volunteers for Bubble Participants

Bubble Participants will be identified with a red wristband that can be recognized clearly from a distance so that other bubble participants know with whom they can safely work. Public-facing persons will know to keep a safe distance and will wear a black lanyard with an identifying tag.

Bubble Participants are required to stay with the corps once they arrive and must eat on campus (no leaving for food, beverage, or supplies). If a bubble participant leaves the corps bubble, they cannot return to the corps without following the pre-arrival protocols (including a 7 day of self-quarantine for unvaccinated individuals, and for all: no signs of COVID-19 illness, a negative PCR COVID test 72 hours prior to return or a negative rapid antigen test upon entry).

Corps administration may need to split shower time or stagger meals to accommodate various schedules. Separate sleeping space will be provided for public-facing participants separate from the quarantine room. Any individual that interacts with the public would be considered a public-facing individual. An admin team member that interacts with housing contacts or visitors is considered public-facing and should not have direct contact with a bubble participant. The Colts and Colt Cadets will each have independent and separate bubbles.

# Public-Facing Participants are:

- Admin Team or other staff that do not work closely with Bubble Participants
- Admin Team members that interact with host facility officials
- Instructional and Design Staff that do not work in proximity of Bubble Participants
- Bus and shuttle drivers for other Public-Facing Participants
- Some equipment/food truck drivers
- Souvenir staff
- Grocery and errand runners or anyone that faces individuals outside the bubble.
- Thread Team volunteers that do not interact with Bubble Participants
- Any unvaccinated volunteer or staff

Public-Facing Individuals should still submit a COVID-19 negative test result within 72 hours before arrival. Equipment and food truck drivers can leave the corps when not essential and stay in an off-site location. Public-Facing Individuals that will be leaving the corps to perform tasks in support of the corps will have separate sleeping arrangements and bathrooms from Bubble Participants. Public-Facing Participants must wear masks when in the same setting as Bubble Participants, socially distance, and avoid direct contact with Bubble Participants.

Corps administration may ask housing contacts to be tested within 72 hours of arrival with a negative PCR test if the housing contact plans to be on-site for the corps stay. If Public-Facing Participants such as souvenir staff can stay off-campus or in a separate location from the drum corps, this can be helpful to the preservation of the bubble. A communication method will be directed to Bubble Participants so that shopping or other needs can be handled by Public-Facing Participants. Public-Facing Participants must remain socially distanced (5 yards encouraged) from any Bubble Participant.

Relative to volunteering, any individual may volunteer for a short timeline. A one day volunteer is considered Public-Facing and will still have an onsite COVID test in order to provide direct support for the corps. Public-Facing volunteers can help prepare meals, but should not serve meals; they can work outside a trailer, but should not step into corps vehicles. A volunteer that is vaccinated, has self-sequestered (been specific about exposure 7 days prior to arrival), demonstrates a negative PCR test conducted within 72 hours of arrival, and does not have COVID symptoms may enter the corps bubble. There may be times when someone begins as a Public-Facing Participant and becomes a Bubble Participant after the prescribed sensitivities have been addressed. The respective medical personnel or corps director will make this determination. Volunteers in the bubble will be issued the Bubble Participant red wristband. Public-Facing Participants will be issued a black identifying lanyard. Any individual without a black lanyard or red wrist band has not been tested and should be treated with high caution and the respective social distancing.

# **Housing Considerations:**

The campus area occupied by the corps should be closed to any visitors or other school groups as much as possible throughout spring training. Masks are to be worn by all participants at all times indoors other than when eating, sleeping, or showering (when indoors, masks should be removed when beginning to eat and used again when finished eating; masks should be worn in the gym until laying down to sleep, and then can be removed; students chatting with friends must still wear masks in the sleeping area). Larger spaces or additional spaces should be utilized for indoor rehearsal and sleeping facilities to facilitate social distancing as best possible. Although the Colts cannot assure social distancing, efforts will be made as best possible. All personnel should put on masks just as they put on t-shirts to enter any school facility.

Corps administration considerations will need to be: extended shower times, identifying ways to improve airflow (open doors or windows, fans, etc). Bubble participants will need support and

communication tools for personal needs since they cannot leave campus. Sleeping directions (head to foot) should be guided to better assure distancing in sleeping areas.

In hotels, the following protocols will be utilized:

- If 4 people per room are necessary, there should be one person in each bed, and two people on the floor socially distanced.
- Access to common spaces in the hotel including lobbies, lounges, or vending areas should be avoided.
- Masks must be worn at all times in common areas, but can be removed when sleeping.
- Housekeeping will be limited (to prevent added exposure).

## **Laundry Considerations:**

The corps will only use laundry facilities that are closed to members of the general public whenever possible. If a laundry service can be provided, this is the organization's preference. All Bubble Participants should bring their own large laundry bag in the event that a laundry service can be provided. Corps members should presume to pay for their own laundry bill two times during the summer season.

## **Travel and Transportation Considerations:**

The Colts will review and discuss safety protocols before utilizing any vendor. Masks must be worn on buses and in corps vehicles when multiple people are present. Rest stops will be used for restroom breaks and vehicle fueling. All corps participants will wear masks into rest stops and should get in & out as quickly as possible. Social time should be spent outside at the bus and not inside a rest area or gas station. Buy stops (including Walmart runs) may not be an option due to the bubble nature of the tour in 2021. Bus seating will be designated and recorded before travel, and switching vehicles will not be allowed (unless someone is moved to the quarantine vehicle).

The Colts will use the following resources to guide various areas of transportation utilized during the season:

Charter Bus Use: <u>CDC Guidelines for Bus Transit Operators</u> & the <u>ABA Sample Policies for</u> Post-Pandemic Cleanliness and Safety Protocols

Semi-Driver Details: CDC Guidelines for Long Haul Trucking

General Travel Guidelines: <u>CDC Resources for Travelers</u> & <u>CDC Guidelines for Ride Share</u>

Deliveries: <u>CDC Guidelines for pickups and deliveries</u> & <u>CDC Guidelines for Essential Errands</u>

## **Season Exit Strategy:**

Overall considerations include:

- Post-performance gathering
- Load-out of show sets and props
- Equipment and uniform check-in
- Distribution of luggage and personal items for those departing
- Crowd control relative to family, alumni, supporters, donors, and sponsors
- Airport departure bus scheduling

The Colts and Colt Cadets will return to DCI housing after the Saturday night performance. Equipment check-in will occur in the lot near our trailer in Indianapolis following Saturday night performances. Sunday morning each corps will hold an awards ceremony (in lieu of a banquet) between approximately 9:00 and 11:00 am to conduct all season wrap-up procedures in an environment that can better be managed than in a parking lot. Pick-ups and departures will be arranged by the corps in an organized and dedicated manner. The additional space at the housing site will assure appropriate distancing can be maintained until departure. Drop-offs will be arranged at the Indianapolis airport and en route home to Dubuque. Participants should seek Sunday flights after 1:00 pm EDT if flying home.

#### Considerations include:

- Maintaining clear boundaries that non-participants cannot enter.
- Understanding that once a participant exits the bubble, they are unable to return.
- Awareness that season-ending celebrations with family, friends, alumni, etc cannot happen in the parking lot.
- Awareness that corps who follow our corps in performance need to be able to have a safe, non-compromised bubble to exit the stadium.
- A plan for a sufficient, set timeframe for concluding events inside the bubble (ie: equipment and uniform check-in that is not rushed).
- Not allowing for those flying to book flights that force an early departure that would inconvenience or expose others.
- Making all aware that access to the parking lot by personal autos, ride-share vehicles, taxis, etc. will not exist and that alternative meeting locations for such needs will need to be considered by the participants
- Participants attending an event may not be able to re-enter the stadium to watch.

### **Food Service Considerations:**

The Colts and Colt Cadets will be able to continue food service in similar fashion to traditional seasons with slight adjustments. Both Colts and Colt Cadets have pre-plated and served food to members and will continue this practice. Food will be bulk ordered as usual through our national distributors (Martin Brothers, Performance Food Service). Daily grocery runs will be handled by a Public-Facing runner for Colts, and Public-Facing volunteers for Colt Cadets.

Primary medical storage will remain in a tool chest immediately inside the entry of each corps trailer. The corps will provide a tent for medical personnel to handle students in a shaded place slightly further away from the kitchen trailer than in prior seasons (to assure safe distance of any ill individual). Students needing access to medical supplies should be directed to the athletic trainer. In the event of an emergency, please use immediate best judgment and then notify the athletic trainer as soon as possible.

The manner in which foods are prepared is critical to maintaining a healthy nutritional program to avoid a variety of issues that include prevention of viral spread in a pandemic. The Head Cook and the Tour Director will ensure cleaning and disinfection of surfaces and cooking equipment before and after all meals. <a href="Servsafe">Servsafe</a> guidelines will continue to be followed. <a href="Ecolab strips">Ecolab strips</a> can be used to ensure dishwashing temperature reaches 160 degrees.

A handwashing/jugwashing station will be available at the rear of the Colts Cook Trailer and near the nose of the Colt Cadets Kitchen. Students must hand sanitize in addition to washing their hands prior to receiving a plate of food. Additional hand sanitizer will be available in each vehicle, in common areas, and at rehearsal locations.

Cooks must also be cognizant to wear gloves whenever handling food, to wash hands regularly, and use hand sanitizer often. Hair covering is recommended (hat, ponytail, etc). Cooks must limit the touching of cell phones, jewelry, face, etc. during meal preparation. Public-Facing volunteers may be asked to wear masks and must not enter either corps kitchen area (work or prep will be done outside the kitchen area). Resources include: Food Temperature Requirements & Best practices for workers

Distributing meals to the participants is a critical component to operating a safe and protected environment. There are many touch points that offer potential for spreading contamination to be addressed. The distribution of food and food items must involve the standard protocols that include proper hand washing prior to serving and wearing a clean pair of gloves. All volunteers on the Cook Truck should follow any directions provided by the Head Cook. Only vaccinated individuals will be allowed onto the Colts and Colt Cadets Kitchen trailers.

Utensils will be pre-plated with food placed by a single server. Participants will not be allowed to bring their own silverware, cups, or plates to the Cook Truck as they have been allowed in the past. Condiments may be served by an individual, or pre-cupped and offered in the service line. Essentially, self-serve options will be minimized. Essentially, items will be pre-placed or handed to recipients whenever possible. Peanut butter and jelly sandwiches may be premade, made to order, or plated with cups of peanut butter and jelly with a knife for students to handle on their own. Breakfast cereal may utilize volunteer support. Milk may need to be served for cereal or in cups for students at Meal 4. Any food lines should be set up to allow for social distancing by eaters and servers. All servers will be vaccinated individuals. Anytime food items are self-serve, participants will be directed to sanitize again before serving themselves (such as the pb&j, milk, or cereal tables, as well as with ketchup, condiments, or other dressings).

For drink distribution, the Colts Cook Truck is set up so individuals can get their own cup and serve their own drink in a touchless fashion, and this will not change from prior seasons. For Colt Cadets, juice will be mixed by a volunteer and pre-cupped for service to students by handing them a cup or by grab and go style service. For juice refills, a new cup should be used each time for both corps.

Any mouthpiece boil will take place midseason at a bunsen burner outside the trailer, so that no student mouthpiece is brought onto the trailer. The remote wash station for Colts will have hot water daily for individual jug washing in addition to handwashing. The Colt Cadets remote wash station will be located at the side of the portable sink near the kitchen area, also with the capacity for hot water washing. Group jug washes are not planned for 2021. Ideas to assist maintaining clean habits in these areas include: pre-packed individual Dawn dish soap bottles, a sponge, and a straw brush for each member to be brought on tour or given to them as a required packing item so regular jug washing can be managed on a member's own schedule; Smart Power & Smart Power Sanitizer by EcoLab for sink and surface cleaning.

### **Staffing & Volunteers Consideration:**

Staff and volunteers are expected to uphold and enforce all standards, protocols, and guidelines outlined in this resource. Staff and volunteers are preferred to be on tour for the duration, or for as long as possible. Fewer people coming in and out of tour reduces the risk of bringing an illness into the group. Any staff or volunteer that is classified as a Bubble Participant must quarantine and be tested prior to joining the corps at any point of entry.

Tour administration must provide additional guidance to volunteers since there has not been regular practice through camps for a full year. A tour admin will greet, remind, and support all Head Cooks and Drivers to ensure a consistency of care. A Tour Assistant will be assigned the role of Safety Coordinator (as required by DCI) to assist in the responsibility of ensuring all the safest environment possible. Additional signage will be added in 2021 to post regular reminders to all participants of good habits.

### **Rehearsal Considerations:**

All Bubble Participants Participants will be required to stay on campus while at housing sites and show sites. There is no leaving campus to get food, drink, or for any other activities. Any personal needs should be communicated to the designated Tour Assistant. PPE and rehearsal protocols will follow the <a href="NFHS Guidelines">NFHS Guidelines</a>.

For contact tracing and smaller group activities, larger sections will be divided into groups no larger than 12. Caption heads will identify these small groups with the director prior to tour start. Gear stacks, equipment loading and unloading, bus seating, sleeping spaces, etc. will be handled and designated with these small groups as best possible. Additional setup, teardown, meal time, and shower time may be provided to accommodate added time needs mandated by the pandemic.

Although additional spacing has not been written into the program, much space is inherent in the drill writing and there will be minimal sharing of equipment. Front ensemble students will have designated items for pushing and loading and work within the same subgroups for the duration of the season. Section instructors will direct rehearsal protocols and routines for consistency and safety (for example, brass players will be given a new routine by the caption head for horns up and down that adjusts to playing masks).

Indoor rehearsals should allow a break for 2-3 air exchanges every 30 minutes. Brass players will be provided and expected to wear a musician's mask with slits during indoor rehearsals to allow for mouthpiece placement. Indoor rehearsals will be avoided whenever possible. Visitors should not be allowed in any indoor space Bubble Participants are occupying.

## **Performance Considerations:**

Details of the performance sequence will be defined and rehearsed during spring training. No Bubble Participants should have any interaction with any individual from any organization outside the Colts or Colt Cadets respective Bubble personnel. Again, no Bubble Participant will be allowed to mingle with friends, family, or other drum corps. If observers come close or crowd a warm up area, staff should ask individuals to maintain distance and the Director or Tour Director should be notified immediately. We may choose to place cones or use caution tape if areas are not designated by the event host.

# Flow of performance sequence:

- 1. Unload logistics considerations with restrooms and equipment.
- Warm-up maintaining same guidelines for rehearsal, adequate space for warm-up.
- 3. Transit to field physical distancing as possible; students organized by subgroup.
- 4. Pre-show hype no huddles, maintain physical distancing.
- 5. Setup masks need to be worn in indoor staging areas.
- 6. Performance masks are not required for outdoor performance.
- 7. Exit return to subgroups as possible.
- 8. Post-show no huddles, maintain distancing guidelines.
- 9. Load logistics considerations (masks on buses for changing).
- 10. Post-show meal follow food safety guidelines, consider limitations.

#### **Event Considerations:**

Overall, there cannot be interaction between the Colts or Colt Cadets and the public (non-touring family included) and between other corps. Again, we reiterate the continued requirement of mask wearing (covering mouth and nose) indoors when changing or using restrooms, and appropriate social distancing based on CDC guidelines.

#### **Event & Corps Safety Managers**

We recognize that each venue will have its own set of safety criteria that must be met with their local/state health agencies. In order to ensure that safety requirements are fulfilled, each corps

will have a Corps Safety Manager (CSM) and each event is required by DCI to designate an Event Safety Manager (ESM). Some of the ESM responsibilities include:

- Working with local health boards during all event planning stages to identify and develop procedures in fulfilling all safety needs for corps and spectators.
- Communicate all safety requirements specific to the venue and community via the event sheet no later than 2 weeks prior to the event for each corps' review. These instructions will include on site contacts and emergency medical team placement, flow maps for safe ingress/egress, parking and warm-up options, and all safety instructions including weather shelter-in-place options.
- ESM will communicate with CSM prior to, during, and post event.
- Document safety plans, reports, incidents, modifications and outcomes.

The dedicated Corps Safety Manager (CSM) will check in with the ESM before and at each event prior to entering the venue. This person will be designated by each corps, confirmed with the DCI Office, and participate in additional safety training from DCI and the MMHWSP prior to the season. Some CSMs responsibilities include (but are not limited to):

- Ensuring the performers, staff and volunteers of our corps follow the health and safety requirements such as face coverings and physical distancing.
- Check with ESM prior to arrival for any venue specific safety instructions
- Organizing the performers, staff, and volunteers from the corps and communicating with the ESM when it's time to enter the stadium for the corps' performance.
- If a corps experiences symptoms and/or a positive test of COVID-19, the CSM must report to the ESM the corps plan of action and ability to keep other participants and spectators safe.
- Communicate any observed issues with and/or between participating corps to ESM so solutions can be quickly implemented.

The ESM and CSM have no other roles during events and their sole responsibility will be the implementation, monitoring and reporting of all safety issues in and around events. It is our hope that the collaboration and communication of these managers will help maintain the highest level of safety possible and give all parties a brisk solution should an issue be observed.

### Public Awareness & Access to Events and Warm Up Areas

DCI Marketing will work with the Colts to develop appropriate messaging for our fan-base to be distributed in advance of touring, so that fans understand they will not be invited to any "backstage" area of an event, including lots, warm-ups or corps entry/exit gates/tunnels. DCI will do the same on all media outlets and with all ticket purchases. As well, the Colts Youth Organization will educate all touring participants within their organization on the importance of the safety-through-separation messaging. Each of our corps will be responsible for enforcing the protocols with their participants. Families and fans are discouraged from lingering in the lots. Events are likely to implement a "no pass-outs" policy for ticket holders (no re-entry if a spectator leaves after their ticket is scanned). Colts and Colt Cadets families must embrace

waving over hugging for the summer of 2021. Our members must be trained and reinforced to not encourage interaction with the public, family or friends in order to preserve the bubble. These parameters are not our preferred method of approach, but they are critical to maintain the safest standard possible for our large group environments.

#### Identification/Credentials

Corps Bubble Participants will be identified with a red Colts Wristband and identified corps Public-Facing Participants will be provided a black lanyard with tag for Colts identification. Events will offer a limited distribution field pass to limit the number of people on the field and entering into any restricted corps space. This will change for each venue and will be distributed upon arrival to the venue. Colts and Colt Cadets participants will be required to wear their provided corps credential visibly anytime they are not in rehearsal, and this allows recognition from a distance to identify Bubble and Public-Facing Colts and Colt Cadets personnel. Event bands or tickets will provide separate access to front stage (audience and souvies) and backstage (performers and support staff) areas.

#### Corps Parking

In a perfect world, there would be a barrier around the corps lot to keep non-credentialed public individuals out, but unfortunately this is not generally possible since interior lots are not fenced. All venues are asked to have signage stating, "Corps Personnel ONLY.... For the safety of our touring performers..." Access to corps lots should be strictly limited to Bubble Participants and identified Public-Facing Participants. Please note that drivers may vary by corps and potentially within our own corps - some may be Public-Facing and have access to front stage areas, while other drivers may be identified as Bubble Participants and have access to back stage areas.

When Colts or Colt Cadets arrive at an event venue, they will be directed to a specific "zone" that will remain specific to the corps for the duration of the stay. We may create some sort of waist-high perimeter (stanchions such as a pvc pole inserted into an orange cone with rope/caution tape tied off since cones only will not stop entry). If available, we may have a few volunteers that police each area for party-crashers (non-same organization participants and uninvited guests) into their zone. Our corps will be expected to self-police and self-protect since they will know best who should and should not be in their zone. Volunteers and staff members are encouraged to be vocal in these situations, and immediately notify the director, tour director, and safety manager of any concerning situations.

For each event, we should be notified of our corps zone specific parking plan prior to arrival. There is apt to be a traffic lane, clearly marked, for corps movement toward and away from destination areas. When not moving, corps participants should stay clear of these lanes to limit cross-over between corps.

### Props/Equipment Storage

A time for each corps to push equipment to staging areas will be provided (drum major podiums, sound gear, show elements, etc). All equipment will be brought to a designated location at the same time (props, sound, podium) if it is necessary to have it arrive prior to the corps gate time.

If possible, it would be preferable for these items to simply move to the gate when the corps moves to the gate. Post production, there will be two zones, removed from the exit gate and separated where possible, for corps to drop equipment for a breather, water, and recap the performance. Members will need access to water as water tables will not be provided. This area must be vacated by the corps within 20 minutes to move back to their lot zone.

#### Restrooms & Dressing

Any uniform changes will need to be handled within Colts or Colt Cadets vehicles or designated restrooms. We presume most assigned restrooms at events will be portapotties. Participants should assume there will not be an in-stadium or indoor facility provided for changing/restrooms.

#### Gates

Colts and Colt Cadets will design the entry and exit from the field to follow the same flow (enter gate A, exit gate B) in order to limit corps crossing. In venues where there is only one entry/exit, an alternative will be provided (an example could include a longer interval to "park" the exiting corps along the endzone to allow the entering corps to pass). ONLY specific field credentials will be allowed field access. Event staff (non-corps) will stay away from corps participants. Field corrals will be created for event personnel.

### Corps Viewing, Sound and Video

A corral will be identified on the field for all non-corps, field-credentialed personnel. Individuals will not be allowed to leave the field into the stands to eliminate crossing Bubble Participants (backstage) into Public-Facing (front stage) areas. There will be a high area away from public access for personnel needing a high vantage point. Each event will specify capacity limitations and designated personnel should not arrive to those areas until the corps prior has already begun their production, and vacate immediately after their corps has finished.

Participants will not return to the stadium or visit other corps zones. Corps should depart venues as soon as they are loaded. Any critiques will be presented in a virtual platform.

## <u>Organization Expectations for Pandemic Operation (Waivers, Releases, Agreements):</u>

All participants, both Bubble and Public-Facing Participants, volunteer or paid, will need to provide the required medical and release form with COVID-19 vaccination information prior to participation in any capacity. Any questions or concerns can be directed to the appropriate corps director or the executive director. All Colts Youth Organization activities and roles will necessitate liability and risk participation waivers.

#### **Contact Information**

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