



326 SHERMAN AVENUE  
QUEENSBURY, NY 12804

T: 518.743.1086

F: 518.743.1247

10/23/20 (edited 10/24 at 11:15 am)

(updated 11/21/20)

(updated 12/4/20)

**\*\*\* Registrations went live on Monday, 10/26 at 5:00 PM \*\*\***

**Do not make a registration payment until your team has been “approved”. Please read on...**

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12/4/20 Update:

We recently had a Zoom meeting which all currently registered coaches were invited to attend.

We discussed that each Pod (see the 11/21 update below for details regarding the “Pod” arrangements) can have a maximum of five (5) teams, and each weekend we can accommodate a maximum of four (4) Pods. Within the five-team Pods, each team will play two of the games on one day, followed by two games the next day.

We also talked about instances where there are four (4) teams in a Pod, and how I see that being scheduled. In these instances, each of the four teams in the Pod would play two of the other teams one time, and one of the teams a second time. After talking about this during that Zoom meeting, and being that there were a few comments in support of this approach, and none in opposition, that is how I intend to proceed.

If there are only three or fewer teams in a Pod, then that Pod, unfortunately will not go.

There may be an instance where a team in one Pod may be from a County that is “contiguous” to the adjoining Region’s Pod, which might make it possible to cross schedule with certain teams from the adjoining Region. The “contiguous” County requirement would have to work in both directions for this option to happen.

**If there are four (4) Pods:**

If there are four (4) Pods for a given weekend, all teams in one of the Pods will play two games on Friday evening, followed by two games on Saturday afternoon. The three remaining Pods will play two games on Saturday and two games on Sunday.



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### **If there are three (3) Pods:**

If there are just three Pods, there will not be any Friday evening games. All teams in each Pod will play two games on Saturday, followed by two games on Sunday.

There are a number of Pods that currently have only one or two teams. If a team from one of these Pods would like to consider moving to a different weekend, they will need to send me an email requesting which weekend that they would like to move to. I will review any such emailed requests according to the email's date and time received.

There have been a number of significant COVID related changes recently, both in New York State and in at least a couple of the adjoining states. Some areas have been shut down, and others have been elevated to "Orange" or "Red". Unfortunately, it's looking like these sorts of changes may be occurring on a more frequent basis in the coming weeks. Areas that have moved to "**Red**" or have been "shut down" are not going to be able to travel to the Capital Region, and this will likely have an impact on some of the registrations and the associated Pods. Additionally, if our area should be elevated to "**Red**", that would also shut us down. Hopefully that will not happen.

Thanks,  
Doug

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11/21/20 update:

Coaches,

As the New York coaches and teams should already be aware of, as of the June 18<sup>th</sup> New York State "*Guidance for Sports and Recreation During the Covid-19 Public Health Emergency*", all New York teams have been restricted from competing against teams that are outside of their own Region and its contiguous Counties.

Based on a New York State Press Release on August 24<sup>th</sup>, we had expecting that on October 19<sup>th</sup>, the State was going to broaden the allowable area for each region to now include the entire contiguous Regions, and not just the contiguous Counties.

That change would have allowed us to group New York teams into three (3) geographic area "Pods", as outlined on the first page (page 1) of the attached NYS Region maps.



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One Pod would consist of teams from the Capital Region and contiguous Regions, a second Pod would consist of teams from the Finger Lakes and contiguous Regions, and the third Pod would consist of teams from the New York City and contiguous Region. A fourth Pod would consist of out-of-state teams. The plan had been to accept the first five (5) teams that register for each of the four (4) Pods – Capital, Finger Lakes, NYC, and out-of-state.

The attached schedule consists of four “Pods” (pods A, B, C and D), with five teams in each Pod. All teams in each pod would play two games on either Friday or Saturday, and then two more games the next day.

This would have made the best of a difficult situation.

Unfortunately, I was informed on Wednesday of this week that New York State is delaying the change to “contiguous Regions”. Instead, we are going to have to continue to structure our events so that teams are only competing against other teams from within their own Region and contiguous Counties, and not from the contiguous Regions.

On pages 2A and 2B of the attached map, I have outlined just five of the ten NYS Regions, along with their contiguous Counties. The Capital and Finger lakes Regions are shown on page 2A, and the Mid-Hudson, Central, and Western Regions are outlined on page 2B. These are the boundaries for the “Region and contiguous Counties” that we have to work within.

As you can see from the maps, these five Regions cover the majority of the NY State. With each of these being their own “pod”, plus a “pod” for out-of-state teams, we would need a total of six pods.

However, as you can also see from the attached schedule, the four (4), five-team pods (A, B, C and D) fill all of the possible game slots on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. There’s simply no way to accommodate more than any additional 5-team pods.

Because of this, we have had to rethink how we are going to manage each weekend, and who best to register the teams. We are in the process of rebuilding the registration database in DASH, and unfortunately, it will not be ready to go-live in time for Saturday afternoon. We expect to have this ready to go for Monday at 5:00 PM.

The plan now is to allow registrations to be processed as “**Pending**”, and without requiring the team payment at this time. **Please DO NOT make a registration payment until you receive a**



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**“Registration Approved” email.**

Once the majority of the registrations have come in, we will have to review every one of the registrations, in the order in which they are electronically “time stamped” in DASH, and determine the organization’s home county, and then determine which of the Pods they should fall under – Capital, Finger Lakes, Mid-Hudson, Central, Western, or Out-of-State.

**Once we get to the point that four (4) of the Pods are full with five (5) teams each, the registration will be considered closed.** The registrations for the teams that fill the first five spot in the four pods will be changed to **“Approved”**. Again, we will be reviewing the registrations in the order in which they are processed and electronically time stamped in DASH. Unfortunately, any remaining registrations will have to be moved to **“declined”**. Any “declined” registrations will also be left on a “Wait Listed” for their specific pod.

Once a team’s registration is moved to **“Approved”**, the coach will be emailed through DASH.

**Registration payments should NOT be made until your team has been approved.**

We currently plan to give each coach three (3) days (this may change) to make their team’s registration payment in DASH. If the payments have not been made by the deadline, the team will be withdrawn and the first team on the Wait List for the same pod will be offered the spot.

If NY State should eventually move to allowing the “Region and Contiguous Regions”, we will then reevaluate the registrations and Pods based on the “Region and Contiguous Regions” structure, as described above.

In addition to all of this, should there be any other CDC, DOH, or State travel or quarantine restrictions that take effect, it’s possible that some teams may have to pull out, or be disallowed. If that should happen, we will offer any spots that may develop to the first eligible “pod appropriate” team on the Wait List.

In thinking this out further, it’s also possible that a significant travel restriction could be imposed that essentially disqualifies an entire geographic Pod. If that happens, we would look to see if there is another Pod and teams that we might be able to take over. If not, we would then look to expand that number of teams in the currently accepted pods.

This is undoubtedly going to be somewhat challenging this year, and we hope that everyone will bear with us as we all work to navigate our way through these challenging times.

Beyond the actual tournament registration process, the following are some important points and



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changes that will be in place for this winter. This is only a partial listing, and changes, additions, or deletions may occur at any time.

- Each coach, team member, and parent is to read and understand the current [ADKSC Safe-Site Reopening Plan](#). This is also available on every page on our website ([www.adksc.com](http://www.adksc.com)) This is a **ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY**.
- Every player that is playing that day is allowed to have a maximum of one (1) adult, household spectator ONLY.
  - This does not mean a parent plus siblings or grandparents. It also does not mean that if one player does not bring a spectator, that another player can use his/her allotment. One (1) adult, household spectator ONLY. **NO EXCEPTIONS!**
- Our allowed occupancy for this winter is reduced to 50% of our approved maximum.
- Every player and their one (1) allowed adult, household spectator (if they have one), will need to check-in together
  - That's the required method to match up the player and parent for contact tracing and to verify and control the spectators.
  - If we have spectator issues, we will move to issuing ADKSC wrist bands.
  - If a team has 12 participating players, we should never be counting any more than 12 spectators for that team. **NO EXCEPTION!**
- All coaches, players, parents/spectators are required to wear face coverings at all times.
- All spectator bleachers have been removed from the facility. Spectators are allowed to bring their own folding chairs.
- Each "approved" team will be invoiced a \$715 registration fee, which will need to be paid online, through your DASH account.
- Each team will pay a \$40 umpire fee directly to the umpires at the pregame conference. Payment must be made in cash bills.
- Each team will have two games on Friday or Saturday, and two more games the next day. We are not allowed to have any single-elimination rounds this year.
- All teams in each "Pod" will play during the same time blocks.
- All teams are required to pack up and leave the facility immediately following their last game of the day.
- Incoming teams are not allowed to enter the facility until all departing teams have left.
- There is a 30 minute cleaning/disinfecting and warm up time between each Pod.
- **All teams will need to have an officially sanctioned 2021 ASA/USA, USSSA or NSA Roster.**
  - **There will not be any "put together" or "weekend tournament" teams allowed.**
  - **This will assist in keeping cohort groups together and help to reduce the**



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**chance of unintended exposure.**

- **All teams will need to provide an officially approved and properly signed 2021 ASA/USA, USSSA or NSA roster. Any roster with “pending”, or in any way unapproved players will not be allowed.**
  - ADKSC Roster/Waiver forms will NOT be used or allowed this year.
- **Coaches will email their certificate of insurance, roster, and birth certificates to the tournament director at least two days prior to their first scheduled game. There will be NO on-site, manual check-in this year.**

Additional details, and any possible changes will be provided in the coming weeks.

Thank you,  
Doug