



2021 Triple Crown NIT Safety Protocols

May 28-31, 2021

Dear Club Directors, Parents, & Coaches,

The current COVID-19 pandemic has altered many daily activities and routines. Our mission to return will be done by taking multiple steps to ensure all programs are conducted in a safe environment to play.

We have been in constant dialogue with Kansas City Convention Center, local health departments, and Visit KC, to ensure the Triple Crown NIT will be safe and successful for everyone traveling to KC. Triple Crown will continue to work closely with these organizations and monitor the COVID-19 pandemic as we lead up to the event dates.

Our goal is to keep the format the same as previous years, but we will limit team numbers to ensure our safety measures are met. These measures will ensure every participant (athletes & spectators) will have the most successful experience possible. We are taking these measures/protocols independently and proactively, based on current information provided to us. They are subject to change and are based on the most current guidelines provided by the Center of Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), convention center, and local authorities.

Convention Center Onsite Plan:

- Comply with all State and Local directives.
- Limit the number of people in the facility to comply with local guidance to ensure safety measures are met. (We are not limiting the number of college recruiters, spectators, or roster sizes, but rather the number of teams.)
- The entrance and exits will be clearly marked for each Hall, including walkway signs.
- Create and display signage outlining the event and convention center COVID-19 guidelines.
- Ample hand sanitizer will be available throughout the event areas and courtside on all scorers' tables.
- Volleyball Courts will be spaced a minimum **of 15 to 25 feet apart.**
- Entrants will enter through an assigned set of doors, and then exit through a completely different set of doors based on the court assignments for their team.

PLEASE follow signs at the Convention Center and use the specific entrance and exit point for your team.

- Spectator seating will be available every other 2 seats, for social distancing.

Work Team and General Team Information:

- Player masks are optional while their team is actively playing in a match, but when anyone is off the playing surface (SportCourt), officiating, or “being a spectator” you must have your mask on at all times!
- No handshaking before or after matches. All teams will wave and do a cheer with their opponent’s club name following the match.
- Teams and Spectators will not rotate sides of the court. They will stay on the same side throughout the entire match.
- Practice proper hygiene! WASH YOUR HANDS!
- Water Stations will not be provided in 2021. Highly encourage teams to bring extra water bottles in their bags. No large outside coolers will be allowed in the facility.
- Teams are responsible to provide their own warm-up balls & ball-carts in 2021.
- The officiating team must provide their own writing utensils. The same two people must be at the score table during the entire match. The libero tracker will also flip the score.
- The team bench area will consist of 3 convention center chairs on each side of the court.
- Table and flip score must be wiped down after the match. TC will provide wipes and cleaning solutions. The R1 or R2 will provide this service.
- Officiating teams will only provide line judges (2) and table staff (2). No line judge flags will be used.
- R2 for each match **MUST BE AN ADULT** on the roster who is wearing a mask. We prefer this official have a hand held whistle. This official is responsible for wiping down the table, flip score, and any game ball entering the game before or after the match.
- Our TC Sanitization Team will be floating between 10 to 12 courts in one area. They will spray down chairs and highly contacted areas throughout the duration of all waves/sessions. They will set up a tournament desk in each hall of the convention center.
- Courts to be cleaned & sanitized in between AM & PM waves – extra time will be built into the schedule to allow this time. AM wave will start at 7:30am and doors will open at 6:30am. PM teams and spectators will not be allowed to enter the facility until 2:30pm. PM wave will start at 3:30pm and ALL spectators must leave once their session is done.
- Game Balls to be wiped after each match. 2 Game Balls to be on each court so if a ball is hit away from the court, it is wiped down before it can be used in the game.
- Teams who are off or officiating must utilize space in Lobby 2100, 2200, hallways, or outside while waiting for their match. No migrating around the court!
- During Monday bracket play: Once your team is done playing in the tournament and

your referee assignment has been completed, you are **REQUIRED TO LEAVE** the convention center playing area floor.

Attendance and Spectator/Ticket Info:

There are currently no spectator limits, but we HIGHLY encourage 1 to 2 spectators per rostered player in attendance.

- All spectators must purchase gate passes online. **No tickets** will be sold on site. NO CASH ON SITE at TC Digs Store. We recommended a maximum of 2 spectators per player on roster. Any spectators that are high risk should consider refraining from attending this event.
- Tickets will be on sale through the Triple Crown Sports website from April 19 through May 10th. All wristbands will be mailed to your Club office and given out by your team parent or club administration. **NO WAITING IN LINES!**
 - Use this link below for more information regarding the ticket process.
 - <https://www.triplecrownvolleyball.com/event-detailsregistration.html>
- TC Digs Store will allow 35 shoppers in the store at one time.
- All college recruiters must sign up to recruit through Triple Crown Sports.
- Teams will be limited to one head coach and two assistant coaches per team. NO other adults are allowed on a team bench.
- All spectators will be traced through online roster process and gate pass purchase.

Attendance Guidelines:

- Spectator Face Masks must ALWAYS be worn inside the Convention Center. This applies to anyone allowed entrance into the facility. **Mouth AND Nose must fully be covered.**
- Please don't attend if you are showing symptoms or feel sick!
- Teams may be subject to disqualification for the rest of the event if a participant or attendee shows multiple symptoms or test positive for COVID-19.
- Wash and Sanitize your hands often.
- When in lines please maintain social distance guidelines and be aware of others.

Watch Remotely

- MVP Cast Info – One Videographer per team to video each game. Two video stream will be allowed for each game. The Team Manager who is the videographer will be trained on their duties and will receive a complimentary pass to the NIT.

Hotel Room Precautions – Stay to Play:

- The hotels contracted through Triple Crown have committed to a thorough cleaning of

rooms prior to each guest's arrival. As always, we encourage athletes to share hotel rooms with their parents or close family members only if at all possible.

- Hotel staffs are taking each and every precaution on a daily basis to ensure that they meet the latest guidance on hygiene and cleaning. The contracted hotels' health and safety measures are designed to address a broad spectrum of viruses, including COVID-19, and include everything from hand-washing hygiene and cleaning product specifications to guest room and common area cleaning procedures.

Visit your hotel's website for specific protocols

- Triple Crown NIT is a stay to play event and we have taken extreme caution regarding COVID protocols when contracting hotels and placing teams at those properties.

Transportation to from Airport:

- NIT staff is currently working with Overland Chauffeured Services to provide safe and clean transportation for spectators to use from MCI Airport to the Convention Center on Friday, May 28th and Monday, May 31st. [More details on the TC Volleyball website in the coming weeks.](#)