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# Parks and Recreation Department Resumes Youth Sports Activities

EL PASO, Texas — After receiving guidance from the Office of Emergency Management and the Public Health Department, the Parks and Recreation Department will resume all independent, outdoor Youth Sports and activities beginning Friday, February 12.

Parks and Recreation will follow all current COVID-19 guidelines as well as health and safety protocols implemented by the Public Health Department and the Office of Emergency Management.

“Sports promote physical fitness and mental wellness, both of which are necessary in a time of uncertainty for our youth athletes. Because of these and other recognized benefits, the City recommends resuming youth sports,” said Cultural Affairs and Recreation Director Ben Fyffe. “Participants, parents and coaches are reminded to follow health and safety recommendations to keep our athletes and community safe and, most importantly, reduce the spread of COVID-19 that is still very active in our community.”

At the discretion of the Office of Emergency Management and the Public Health Department, the return of Adult Sports activities and tournaments will remain on hold. Reactivating adult sports will be considered based on data suggesting a downward trend and improvement of COVID-19 pandemic situation.

## Health and Safety Guidelines for Youth Sports

- No spectators allowed
- Only one parent/guardian allowed per player
- Face coverings must be worn when not actively participating in physical activity
- Temperature checks and health questionnaires at facilities and complexes
- Additional installation of hand sanitizing stations
- No congregating before, during and after games

To discourage gatherings of large crowds, youth tournaments will not be allowed until further notice. Parks and Recreation Department will require and enforce the required permits and safety protocols provided to the independent leagues (samples attached).

For more information on Youth Sports, including COVID-19 safety protocols, visit the Parks and Recreation Department at [www.elpasotexas.gov/parks-and-recreation](http://www.elpasotexas.gov/parks-and-recreation) or [www.epstrong.org](http://www.epstrong.org).

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