

# Cerro Gordo County Joint Information Center

## COVID-19



### MEDIA RELEASE

(Mason City) – Thursday, June 4th, 2020

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## COVID-19 Joint Information Center Update

### Data Snapshot

- 20,706 total lab-confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Iowa (06/04/2020).
  - 32 total lab-confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Cerro Gordo (06/04/2020).
- 580 deaths in Iowa
  - 1 death in Cerro Gordo
- 4,065 COVID-19 tests administered at the mobile testing unit (06/03/2020).

A status report of monitoring and testing of COVID-19 in Iowa, including county-level data, provided by the Iowa Department of Public Health can be found at <https://coronavirus.iowa.gov/#CurrentStatus>.

### Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Considerations for Youth Sports

With summer youth sports programs beginning, it is important now more than ever to remain vigilant in the prevention and spread of COVID-19. While local officials will do everything in their power to keep your children safe, it is important to keep yourself educated so you can make informed decisions whether or not to allow your children to participate in youth sports. The Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has laid out guiding principles to keep in mind.

- **Assessing risk of spread in your sport** – Consider the physical closeness and duration of proximity, the possibilities of shared equipment, and the ability to engage in social distancing while not actively playing. Consider age, older players may be able to better follow directions. Consider the size of the team, whether travel will be involved, and the ability to limit nonessential visitors, spectators, and volunteers.
- **Promoting behaviors that reduce spread** – Educate yourself on when it is appropriate to stay home and return to play. Stress the importance of hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette. Do not allow spitting and encourage everyone to cover their coughs and sneezes with the inside of their elbows or tissues. Immediately discard used tissues and wash hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Understand, teach, and reinforce the importance of cloth face coverings. Wearing cloth face coverings is the most important preventive measure available when physical distancing is difficult. Make sure adequate facilities and supplies are available. Make sure signs are posted referencing facilities and supplies, and COVID-19 prevention messages, in highly visible locations.
- **Maintaining Healthy Environments** – Make sure cleaning and disinfecting is a top priority, is there a schedule in place? Discourage sharing items that are difficult to disinfect and make sure there is an adequate supply of shared items to minimize sharing of equipment. Consider if ventilation and water systems are in good working condition. Consider whether youth sports officials have taken into consideration social distancing and modified layouts.
- **Maintaining Healthy Operations** – Are measures being taken to protect staff and players at higher risk for infection and are local regulatory policies observed? Investigate whether good systems of communication, consistent with applicable law and privacy policies, are in place.

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Are coaches, staff, back-up staff, and volunteers fully versed and trained in COVID-19 preventative measures?

It is entirely possible to participate in youth sports while following guidelines and preventative measures. It is up to you to be well informed and make that decision for you and your family. For more information on the CDC considerations for youth sports please visit <https://www.cdc.gov>

### JIC Partners Continue to Stress the Gravity of the COVID-19 Pandemic

Despite good news, businesses reopening, summer sports programming beginning, playgrounds returning to use, etc. it is important to remember the magnitude of our current situation. Community spread is still present, new cases are cropping up every day in significant numbers. COVID-19 does not discriminate, carriers can be asymptomatic, showing no signs of symptoms. With the onset of businesses reopening, and summer gatherings such as graduations, sports and outdoor activities, parades, weddings, etc. beginning, JIC partners continue to stress the importance of implementing COVID-19 preventative measures. It is up to you, the members of our community to own your own situation and stop the spread of this disease. Resources are available and can be found at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus>, <https://coronavirus.iowa.gov>, <https://idph.iowa.gov>, & <https://cghealth.com>

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