# Pike County Safety Policy for Pike County High School Athletic Events:

This policy will only apply to Pike County High School Football and Basketball games.

### Why has this policy been adopted?

Safety for all is a primary goal of Pike County Schools. Public safety and stadium security policies are reviewed each year as we look for ways to improve them. These proactive measures are meant to enhance safety inside the stadium and speed the security screening process for all fans to ensure an enjoyable experience as we strive for a safe and secure environment. Please remember, this is to enhance the safety of you, your children, and the entire community. Go Pirates!

## **Clear Bag Policy / Security Screening**

Prior to entering the stadium, all spectators will be asked to walk through a weapon detection system. This is for the safety and protection of all in attendance.

For quickest entry into the stadium, we strongly recommend that you do not bring a bag on event day. If a bag is necessary, the bag must meet the following criteria in order to enter the stadium/venue:

Bags must be CLEAR plastic, vinyl, or PVC and not exceed 12" x 6" x 12". Bags cannot be tinted with color or include oversized content that prevents visibility into the clear bag. Clear book bags are acceptable for use as diaper bags for adults who have infants or toddlers. Exceptions will only be made for medically necessary items after proper inspection by security personnel. Please ask for assistance at the gate. Small clutch bags with or without a handle or strap, no larger than approximately the size of your hand, can be taken into the stadium. All bags are subject to search by staff.

Guests with non-complying bags can store their items in their car and return to the gate for entry. Spectators will not be allowed to enter the event site if they do not comply with these policies.



# **Prohibited Items**

The following items are prohibited from Pike County Schools Athletic Events:

- Non-Clear Bags (except for clutch style purses)
- Coolers
- Alcoholic beverages
- Cigarettes or vapes
- Non-Service Animals/Pets
- Artificial Noisemakers
- Laser Pointers
- Laptops/Laptop bags
- Offensive clothing
- Projectiles: footballs, frisbees, etc.

 Any other items deemed dangerous or inappropriate by security or game management

### Frequently asked questions:

# Are other venues limiting bags or doing enhanced screening?

Yes. A clear bag policy is in alignment with best practices in various school districts and has also been adopted by numerous college stadiums, the NFL, MLB, NBA, and other venues that host other entertainment events. The limitations on bag size and style is a further enhancement for safety.

# How does the new policy improve public safety?

The clear bag is easily and quickly searched and greatly reduces faulty bag searches. It also supports the Department of Homeland Security's "If You See Something, Say Something" campaign.

### Do I need to empty my pockets and remove all metal items, such as belts?

No. Spectators will walk through the detection devices, but emptying pockets is not necessary with our detection devices.

### Are all purses prohibited?

No. Small clutch purses, with or without a handle or strap, are permitted.

### What about diaper bags?

Diapers may be carried in clear bags or clear backpacks.

Do I have to put everything I'm carrying into the permissible bags? No. We are limiting only the type of bags carried into the venue, not items that you normally bring to a game. Therefore, you can carry items in your pockets or jacket (such as keys, makeup, feminine products, phone, wallet, credit cards, etc.) if you choose not to put them in a clear bag or clutch. You can carry a blanket over your arms and binoculars and/or a camera around your neck or in your hands without the case. You can use the clear bag and clutch to carry other items. You will continue to have the flexibility to bring a wide variety of approved items into the venue.

#### **Guest Safety**

Guests should not access areas of campus other than where the event is being held.

**Guests under the age of 14** are expected to be supervised by an adult at all times while attending an event.

Guests are not permitted to use the common areas of the facility to engage in "recess-style" activities.

Guests are not permitted to enter the playing area before, after, or during an event.

Pike County Schools uses the Perry Weather Monitoring System. Excessive temperatures and severe weather is continuously monitored for the duration of each event.