

GTCYS' COVID-19 PROTOCOLS: 2022-23

Updated August 24, 2022

Throughout the pandemic, GTCYS has adapted its program activities and policies to support students' ongoing participation. This year, we look forward to returning to the full scope of regular activities, though COVID is still with us. Families should follow the policies and procedures outlined below. We will adapt if needed during the season.

Health Screening & Attendance: Anyone who is ill should stay home from GTCYS. Rather than completing a health screening, we will trust families to gauge their individual health and attendance for each GTCYS activity. Livestreams of rehearsals are discontinued this year; rather than tuning in from home to orchestra rehearsal if absent, we encourage students to devote extra time to practice before the next activity. Refer to our full attendance policy for additional details.

Hygiene Protocols

- Upon arrival and before entering the activity space, everyone must sanitize hands (sanitizer provided by GTCYS)
- Everyone must continue practicing proper respiratory etiquette (cover nose and mouth with your elbow when coughing or sneezing).
- The use of disposable pads to collect condensation water will be required for all brass players. GTCYS will provide the pads and require students to dispose of the pads at the end of the activity and sanitize their hands immediately thereafter.

Masks: Anyone is welcome to wear a mask at any time, and masks are strongly recommended for anyone who has had a known exposure to COVID-19. Winds/brass players who wish to wear a mask may remove them when playing their instrument or wear an adaptive mask.

Remember that wearing a mask or choosing not to is a personal decision, and no one should be questioned or penalized for their choices. Please uphold this level of respect and support for all your GTCYS peers.

Exposure: If an individual has been exposed to someone confirmed to have COVID-19, they should monitor for symptoms and consider testing. They may still attend GTCYS activities, though we strongly recommend wearing a surgical or KN-95 mask (no cloth masks, please).

Positive cases: If an individual has a confirmed case of COVID-19, they should **stay home for a minimum of 5 full days from the date symptoms started or the date they took the test if they didn't have symptoms**. Individuals may return to GTCYS on day 6 if symptoms are gone (without using fever-reducing medication) and we strongly encourage wear a surgical or KN-95 mask (no cloth masks) through day 10 per CDC guidelines.

Case reporting: At this time, families do not need to report positive cases of COVID-19 to GTCYS, and we will trust families to abide by the 5-day isolation period described above before returning to GTCYS.

Contact tracing: We will no longer send communications about positive cases to the orchestras.