



THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF CHESTER COUNTY

509 DISTRICT OFFICE DRIVE
CHESTER, SOUTH CAROLINA 29706

Clear Bag Policy for Athletic Events

Effective **July 1, 2020**, All Chester County Schools, CCSD, will enforce a clear bag procedure for all athletic events. Spectators will be permitted to carry **one** large clear bag (a gallon size Ziploc style bag or a 12" x 6" x 12" clear bag, plus a small clutch purse 4.5" x 6.5").

Due to COVID-19, CCSD will utilize this policy for all sporting events in order to implement bag searches with minimal contact. This is to ensure that lines into events move more quickly, and greatly reduce the chance of potential exposure.

CCSD is continually reviewing safety and security procedures and policies. Utilizing a screening process that includes a clear bag procedure will enhance safety inside athletic venues and speed the screening process along. The clear bag is easily and quickly searched and greatly reduces faulty bag searches.

CCSD is adopting the process to enhance security and further assure the safety of students and fans who will attend events at the high school and middle schools. The new procedure is similar to those already in place at university stadiums, local arenas and school districts worldwide.

Any visitor, spectator or patron attending an event held at one of these locations will be required to follow this procedure. Any guest entering a venue with a non-conforming or prohibited bag will be asked to return the items to their vehicles.

Prohibited bags include, but are not limited to:

- Purses - larger than a clutch bag
- Camera cases
- Briefcases
- Backpacks
- Cinch bags
- Tinted/printed pattern plastic bags
- Diaper bags
- Mesh bags

Diapers and other baby supplies can be carried into the stadium in a clear bag. Infant formula, milk, or medicine needing refrigeration is allowed in a small soft-side cooler, but will be searched in the bag check area. Folding chairs and blankets are allowed, but subject to be searched.

Prohibited items include weapons, drugs, alcohol, tobacco and electronic cigarettes. Outside food and drinks, laser pointers and non-service animals are also prohibited at all events.

Visit the [Chester County Schools website](#) for more information.



Clear Bag Policy FAQs

How many bags can each person bring into a Chester County School District athletic event?

One large clear bag – either a one-gallon Ziploc style bag or a 12" by 6" by 12" clear bag – plus a small purse-type clutch. The larger clear bag must be a standard 12" by 6" by 12" made of clear PVC vinyl and is easily searched. The one-gallon Ziploc bag is readily available, inexpensive and easily searched. The small clutch allows privacy for small personal items and also is easily searched.

What happens if I show up at the athletic event with a bag that is not permitted?

Fans carrying bags that do not meet the criteria will be turned away from the venue at or near the gates. They will have the opportunity to return the prohibited items to their car.

Can fans carry cameras, binoculars, smart phones or tablets separately from what they put in a clear bag?

Yes. Binoculars or a camera can be carried into the stadium as long as they are not in their own bag. This is not a restriction on items that fans have previously been able to bring into the stadium. It is only a restriction on the type of container used to carry items.

If I have certain items that I need to bring into the stadium for medical reasons and they won't fit in the clear bag, what do I do?

An exception will be made for medically necessary items after proper inspection.

What about bringing blankets in cold weather?

Yes, but they will be subject to a search.

Are seat cushions or camp/folding chairs allowed to be carried into the CCSD venues?

Yes, but they are subject to search. They should not be in a bag or other container. Seat Cushions must not have a pocket.

Are all purses prohibited?

No. Small clutch purses, with or without a handle or strap, are permitted along with either the 12" by 6" by 12" clear tote bag or the one-gallon freezer bag. This should enable you to carry the same items you have in previous years and speed entry into the stadium for all fans because it will take less time to screen bags. Shorter lines means fewer hassles. We encourage fans not to bring any bags, but have created procedures that balances fan needs with improved public safety and convenience.

What about diaper bags?

Diaper bags are prohibited. Diapers and wipes can be carried in a clear bag. Each person entering the venue, including children, is allowed to bring an approved clear bag and/or a clutch purse into the venue.

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 stadium, not items that you normally bring to a game. Therefore, you can carry in your pockets or jacket keys, makeup, feminine products, comb, phone, wallet, credit cards, etc., if you choose not to put them in a clear bag or clutch. And you can carry a blanket over your arms, and binoculars and/or 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 stadium. Every member of your group may carry in one approved bag.

What will happen if a gun, knife, or other prohibited item is found during a bag search?

As before, law enforcement authorities will be on site and will handle violations of this nature.

Will the media be allowed to bring bags into the venue?

Yes, appropriately credentialed members of the media will be allowed to bring bags into the venues, but may be subject to search.