

## **District implements new clear bag policy at football games to promote safety**

To promote the safety of fans, players and everyone else attending Alachua County high school football games, Alachua County Public Schools is instituting a new clear bag policy that will take effect immediately.

Under the new policy, fans will only be permitted to bring clear bags to any football game played at an Alachua County Public Schools facility, including Citizens Field and district schools. Prohibited items will include but are not limited to purses, backpacks, coolers, fanny packs, camera bags, computer cases, diaper bags and binocular cases.



Storage will not be available for prohibited bags at the games, which means fans will have to return them to their vehicles before entering a district stadium.

The policy is part of the district's overall strategy to improve security in schools and at school-related activities.

"We recognize that this will create an inconvenience for some fans, but in light of everything that's happening these days, we believe it's necessary to promote the safety of everyone attending the games," said Casey Hamilton, the district's chief of security.

The families of all high school students have been notified of the new policy through automated phone and email messages.

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