



Ohio High School Athletic Association

Jerry Snodgrass, Executive Director
Monday, April 20, 2020
Administrator Update

To: All OHSAA Member Schools Superintendents, Principals and Athletic Administrators
From: Jerry Snodgrass, Executive Director

Today's Announcement to Cancel Schools

As we have stated in our previous communications, today's announcement by Governor DeWine to close schools for the remainder of the 2019-20 school year also **will now result in the cancellation of OHSAA-sponsored spring sports seasons including tournaments.**

Moving Forward

I want to stress the 'uncertainties,' but as we now look into the summer and the fall, we will communicate plans/adjustments to our regulations as uncertainties become realities. I want to assure you that we are looking at everything. For example, when the first decision to close schools was made, we looked at eligibility concerns. About three weeks ago we began looking at all models if fall sports' seasons were affected – still an uncertainty. We are looking at everything from 'physicals' (and the potential difficulty of getting them) to the possible need to treat/disinfect artificial surfaces. We will pass along guidance and regulation adjustments as uncertainties become better understood. We are drawing on a long-established OHSAA Sports Medicine Advisory Group for professional recommendations for many of these concerns and issues. ***This is a reminder the current no-contact period remains in effect at least through May 3.*** Any adjustments/extension to this will be communicated in advance of that date. Ninety-four percent of current respondents to Friday's survey of member school administrators would expect this to be extended to June 1.

Moving Forward Part II

One of my main concerns moving forward lies with non-school programs attempting to fill the void of school sports. While our job representing the member schools is to organize and conduct SCHOOL sponsored events, I realize also that many non-school club/travel/community programs utilize school facilities. Many also use other facilities. I am concerned with non-school programs putting our students at risk and filling the void left by the cancellation of spring sports as well as current shutdowns that prohibit out-of-season training/open gyms by school coaches. The State Superintendent of Schools, through a meeting with the Governor, requested a meeting on Thursday to discuss concerns over this. I hope to be able to update you sometime soon after this meeting. Additionally, the findings from Friday's survey will be shared with you as well since they relate to this issue. If you have not completed this VERY short survey, please take a few minutes to do so. I will leave it open until 3:00 Tuesday, and you can access it at:

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=0JfOirc_aEGwtJKAb57hpMglQtzAnc5Br6dU0RoPbb9UMTZNM1VXTIZMU1JaSkQzOFMyQIVNMVc2MC4u

Referendum Voting

As you know, referendum voting will open up on May 1. One of the items in which we call your attention is Issue 7-C that would provide us the option to adjust various bylaws and sports regulations that are only related to the current crisis without going to be membership for voting each time. This would include any adjustments to the current eligibility requirements.