



Ohio High School Athletic Association

Jerry Snodgrass, Executive Director
Thursday, May 21, 2020
Administrator Update

Good afternoon to each of you.

We are reaching out in order to keep you informed with the most recent information affecting school athletics and facilities. As we have done in previous communications, this will be distributed to school Superintendents, Principals and Athletic Directors prior to any other groups receiving this. While some choose to share with the media, we want YOU to receive this directly from us and not through other sources. Today's news conference provided some important developments that will impact your student-athletes, coaches, and facilities. The Governor just announced the following:

- The School Closure Order signed by the Director of the Department of Health has been amended to allow school districts to determine the usage of all school athletic facilities. This includes both indoor and outdoor athletic facilities.
- All sports not previously mentioned in past communications may begin **INDIVIDUAL SKILLS TRAINING ONLY** on May 26, 2020.
- This skill training may take place at school facilities **at the discretion of the respective school districts**. Skill training is defined and the mandated and recommended restrictions are posted at <https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/responsible-restart-ohio/Sector-Specific-Operating-Requirements/>
- Additionally, the **OHSAA will now remove the no-contact period for all sports beginning on May 26, 2020**.
 - In a previous correspondence, the OHSAA lifted the no-contact regulations beginning May 26 for just baseball, golf, softball, swimming & diving, tennis and track & field.

Important notes:

* Again, the permissions for the sports announced today are for **SKILL TRAINING ONLY**. Today's announcement does **NOT** permit competitions of any kind and there has been no date set for when competitions in these sports may begin.

* Previously, the Governor's office identified baseball, softball, golf, tennis and swimming & diving as "low/no-contact sports" that **MAY** begin competition and skill training on May 26 under the mandated and recommended guidelines provided at <https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/static/responsible/Baseball-Softball.pdf>.

* Please remember that all events after the conclusion of the spring sports season are considered "non-school events." While many club/travel/youth programs reach out to us, we remind them to check with their respective organizations for their own guidance.

* Please communicate directly with our respective sport administrators with any questions you may have. Administrative responsibilities can be found at

<https://ohsaaweb.blob.core.windows.net/files/About-the-OHSAA/Office-Information/WhoToContact.pdf>.

Odds & Ends:

As mentioned, due to the high volume of calls, we ask that you communicate this information to your coaches and, in turn, to student-athletes and families. Additional information will be provided by early next week with guidance on fall eligibility and other items that impact school athletic programs.

Thank you for your patience and cooperation as we continue to navigate this unfortunate pandemic.