



Ohio High School Athletic Association

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Basketball Coaches Memo November 23, 2020

Our mission: To serve our member schools and enrich interscholastic opportunities for students.

We live this mission every single day and will continue to do so even in these trying times. As thrilled as we are that some girl's programs began their season on Friday, and some boys will begin this Friday, we feel equally heartbroken for those on the sidelines unable to partake in this opportunity. Please know that each school district and county health department is trying to make the best decisions with the information they have available. There is NO ONE who wants to take opportunities away from students. We all have the power to continue to fight this virus. We must continue to work together across the state to mitigate spread. We want to see every student-athlete get their opportunity to participate in a safe manner throughout the entire year. We want to have a full season and a full year of sports, but the ONLY way to do that is to continue to decrease numbers. Let's do this together!

Return to Play Form:

<https://ohsaaweb.blob.core.windows.net/files/Sports/2020/RTPCoronavirus.pdf>

The form at the link above was developed in conjunction with our medical advisors for schools to use as a tool to maintain compliance with the current ODH directive, which is consistent with CDC requirements, that any individual who tests positive for the novel coronavirus be evaluated by a physician for possible cardiac involvement before being released to RTP.

This requirement does not mean that a student must be seen by a cardiologist or other specialist, but it does require that your school receive written confirmation by a physician, or other medical examiner (just as is required with RTP for concussion) before the student can resume participation. If you don't wish to use this form, you must still have written authorization for the student's RTP. We understand that some physicians may be reticent to sign the form. That's fine, and is, quite frankly, anticipated. Our physicians on our committee, all of whom work with schools and the adolescent population and one of whom is a cardiologist, agree that if a primary care doctor such as a pediatrician or family practitioner, does not feel comfortable signing off, that doctor will always refer the student for more definitive evaluation.

COVID-19 Observers Program:

The governor has instructed our office to extend the "Observer Program" to the winter season. Your Athletic Administrator will be notified if a home contest will be evaluated. Please remember that this is educational in nature and meant to help ensure that all best-practices and mandates are being followed. We truly want to be able to have a safe and full season and tournament—thank you for all the work you have done thus far!

Multiple Opponents in One Day:

In the fall, there was an ODH order that prohibited multiple opponents in one day. However, this has since been amended. Therefore, if your JV team is playing one opponent, and your varsity is playing a different opponent, your swing players are able to participate in both contests.

Face coverings:

There will NOT be any requirement for face coverings to match with other team members. However, no offensive messaging will be tolerated. If the gaiter style will be worn, it must be worn the way that the manufacturer intended (for example, if a gaiter style is worn, it must be covering the nose and mouth, not pulled down around the neck, as this would be a safety concern).

Non-Interscholastic Reminder (Again)

This is the number one violation of the sport regulations: player participation in non-interscholastic events during the season. Please remind your players they are NOT permitted to practice, tryout, or compete in any non-school basketball while members of the school team (AAU, Church, Recreation, Intramural, Etc.). You cannot remind them enough.

Individual Skills Workouts during the season:

A player may receive skill training any time during the year, sometimes these can be done on in a group setting, but still MUST be individual skills ONLY.

OHSAA Covid-19 Page: <https://www.ohsaa.org/Home/OHSAA-COVID-19-Correspondence>