

2020-2021 BOWLING CONSIDERATIONS

As of November 1, 2020

KSHSAA RETURN TO SCHOOL ACTIVITIES – ACTIVITY SPECIFIC RISK MITIGATION STRATEGIES

With support of the NFHS, the KSHSAA Sports Medicine Committee and the KSHSAA Executive Board, we offer this document as guidance to the member schools of the KSHSAA to consider for the 2020-21 BOWLING season. The considerations outlined are meant to decrease potential exposure to respiratory droplets by encouraging physical distancing, limiting participation in administrative tasks to essential personnel and allowing for appropriate and reasonable protective equipment.

Note: This is not an exhaustive list and there might be additional steps in each school, city, and county to help prevent the spread of virus. Even when taking all precautions, there will still be risk of transmitting illnesses. Everyone should stay vigilant about the health of members of their teams. Lastly, the situation with Covid-19 is rapidly changing. These considerations may quickly become outdated. Please keep up with the latest from the CDC and other health officials in your state.

ATHLETE CONSIDERATIONS:

- Daily screening recommended.
- Consider temperature checks before each practice/competition for all athletes.
- Clothing/towels should be washed and cleaned after every practice and competition.
- Bowlers should have their own water bottle and ball towel—CLEARLY MARKED WITH THEIR NAME.
- Personal equipment should not be shared.
- Upon arrival, bowlers should report directly to their assigned pair of lanes.
- Wear masks when participating (competitions and practices)
- Eliminate handshakes, fist bumps, hugging and hi-fives.
- Bowlers should sanitize hands after each game. Bowlers are encouraged to have their own hand sanitizer.
- Each team is responsible for its own hand sanitizer, etc.
- Bowlers should refrain from touching other participants in any way unless they are from the same household.
- Bowlers should tell their coaches immediately when they are not feeling well.

COACH CONSIDERATIONS:

- Coaches must wear masks.
- Coaches must ensure that all team bowlers & personnel wear a mask at all times.
- Bowlers and team personnel in the settee area will practice social distancing and wear masks.
- Consider temperature checks before each practice for all coaches.
- Plan your practices to maintain social distancing guidelines whenever possible.
- Have a plan to mitigate the exposure potentials to give your athletes a chance to compete.
- Make sure equipment is sanitized before and after each practice.
- Eliminate handshakes before and after contests.
- Use hand sanitizer frequently.

BOWLING CENTERS/SPECTATORS:

- Regular season spectator capacity is at the direction of the local county healthy department guidelines.
- If allowed, proprietors must make sure spectators all wear masks while in attendance.
- Proprietors must make sure spectators maintain social distancing.
- Media in attendance must abide by general spectator expectations.
- Hydration stations (water fountains) should NOT be made available.

EVENT STAFF CONSIDERATIONS:

- Event staff, volunteers, managers, etc. must wear masks.
- The host should sanitize the settee area between competitions.
- Hand sanitizer should be available at the score table.

COMPETITION SCHEDULING CONSIDERATIONS:

- Tournaments, and other multi-team, multi-community events are discouraged.
- Consider conducting duals, tris or quads only.
- Schedule with teams /schools in the same geographic area.
- Post-season modifications to format will be made and possibly adjusted as conditions allow.

TRANSPORTATION CONSIDERATION:

- When transporting bowlers to events, schools should adhere to the district guidelines for transporting students to and from school.

PRACTICE CONSIDERATIONS:

- Consider having practice in “pods” of the same school/squad students.
- Players should practice social distancing when possible and always wear a mask.
- Before and after practice and competition, players will wash their hands, wear face masks and practice social distancing.
- Group coaching at practice should take place only where full social distancing is possible.

EATING/DRINKING:

- Ensure at least 6 feet distance whenever athletes and coaches are eating or drinking.
- Replace face coverings immediately after eating or drinking.

COVID-19 PROTOCOL FOR 2020-2021

The coronavirus pandemic resulted in thousands of Kansas students missing out on life shaping educational experiences last spring. The risk of coronavirus transmission is still present to some degree as school activities resumed this fall. Students and their families, along with school personnel must recognize these risks and implement best practices to reasonably mitigate these risks. Participation in school activities is voluntary and every individual will need to evaluate the risk versus the benefits of activity participation. Those immunocompromised students and staff, or those who live with family members with elevated health concerns, should evaluate associated risks of participation and may choose not to participate.

As we prepare to start another bowling season, the KSHSAA will provide Risk Mitigation/Best Practices Recommendations for schools and students participating in the KSHSAA Bowling program. The KSHSAA will work with Kansas Bowling Center proprietors to provide as safe an environment as possible for bowlers and coaches. Bowling centers may choose to limit the number of spectators allowed at a regular season event. At this time KSHSAA postseason tournaments will have a spectator capacity of 50% for the facility limit.

Information for the interscholastic Bowling program is forthcoming.