

2020 KSHSAA DEBATE CONSIDERATIONS (8-10-20)

With support of the KSHSAA Executive Board, the KSHSAA Sports Medicine Committee, and the results from the NFHS Aerosol Disbursement Study, we offer this document as guidance to the member schools of the KSHSAA to consider for the 2020-21 interscholastic debate 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. With the considerations the KSHSAA believes these reasonable accommodations will help with risk mitigation for the upcoming Debate season.

Festival/Competition Judges/Adjudicators:

- Judges should wear masks and be seated at least 6 feet apart.

Event Staff:

- All staff should wear masks and social distance at least 6 feet apart.
- Conduct check-in by coach only (team does not report to table)

Equipment/Facility:

- Facility bathrooms should be cleaned multiple times throughout the day during all day tournaments.
- For in-person competition, set up rooms to allow social distancing
- Clean rooms between rounds

Practice:

- Masks should always be worn indoors.
- Social distancing of at least 6 feet when possible.
- Classes and practices should be moved outdoors when possible.

Festival/Competition “Virtual”:

- See [KSHSAA Virtual Debate Manual Supplemental](#)

End of event:

- In lieu of handshakes, please develop and utilize an appropriate sign of respect and sportsmanship that does not include a handshake or other physical contact; suggestions include head nod, chest thump, salute, etc.

If the only goal were to stop the coronavirus, school would not be in session. However, schools provide significant growth and learning opportunities that currently outweigh the associated risk. The NFHS, CNDNA and 100+ associations are funding extensive research about the spread of aerosols and preliminary results indicate there are ways to mitigate the risk while still having performing arts classes. Just like in other classrooms, the set-up may be different.

Through the NFHS study, performing arts activities have been found to create aerosol that is less than coughing, but more than talking. The following considerations are effective for music, speech, theatre, and debate activities.

- Outdoor practices and competitions are preferred with masks
- Distancing (6' x 6')
- Extra Ventilation (i.e. HEPA Filters = Air scrubbers)
- Indoor rooms and auditoriums with rehearsals and multiple people performing
 - 30 minute practices and then allow the HVAC system to exchange the air
- Straight chair rows not curved rows, everyone facing the same direction

When dealing with multi-layer masks:

- Wash your hands before putting on your mask
- Place it over your nose and mouth and secure it under your chin
- Try to fit it snugly against the sides of your face
- Make sure you can breathe easily
- Wear a mask correctly for maximum protection

Air Flow

- Outdoor is best
 - Open air
 - Tenting from elements
- Indoor air filtration
 - HEPA – Size of Room
 - Filtration Certification
 - CADR - Clean Air Delivery Rate
 - AHAM Certification - Association of Home Appliance Manufacturers
- Air Change Rate Per Hour (ACH)
 - 3 ACH is the standard used for the modeling presented
 - Increased ACH recommended if possible
- ASHRAE Guidelines - American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers

Resources

- [Main NFHS Coalition Page](#)
- [FAQ Page](#)
- Blog- [Submit a question](#)
- The University of Colorado Boulder has developed a risk assessment tool: <https://tinyurl.com/covid-estimator>
- [ASHRAE](#)

Next round of information

- Improving chamber performance
- Developing specialized emissions estimation capability
- Testing a recorder
- Narrowing the types of instruments we will study next and increasing study on mitigation

2020-21 KSHSAA (Online Only) Debate/Speech & Drama Rules Meeting

- Required annually for all 9-12 head Debate/Speech & Drama coaches
- Available August 17 - October 4