

# **KSHSAA SCHOLARS BOWL**

7-22-20

## **2020-21 CONSIDERATIONS**

### **For COVID-19 Risk Mitigation at In-Person Competitions and Practices**

With support of the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS), the Kansas State High School Activities Association (KSHSAA) Sports Medicine Advisory Committee (SMAC), the KSHSAA Executive Board, and the **Kansas Association of Scholars Bowl Coaches (KASBC) Board**, we offer this document as guidance to the member schools of the KSHSAA to consider for the 2020-21 Scholars Bowl 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. The KSHSAA believes these considerations will help with risk mitigation during the upcoming Scholars Bowl Season.

***Always be in compliance with the most up-to-date state, local, and school health guidelines/protocol.***

#### **Competition Scheduling Considerations:**

- School Administrators/Scholars Bowl Coaches should prepare to be flexible with contracts regarding late cancellations of schools/teams given current health status of schools/team members. If a school/team is unable to compete due to health concerns/COVID-19, no forfeit will be required.
- Remind participating schools that substitutions are allowable, even at regionals and state.
- Schedule/host schools/teams from a closer geographical area for invitational tournaments; reduce travel from other regions of Kansas and surrounding states.
- Schedule/host smaller competitions for invitational tournaments; reduce number of schools/teams; consider revisions to traditional tournament formats to allow teams to play each other more than once.
- Allow for competitions to take longer due to safety/sanitation protocol; may need to consider more Saturday tournaments for invitationals.

#### **Transportation Considerations:**

Adhere to local Board of Education/District policies for transportation to/from practices and contests; clean/sanitize vehicles before and after each usage; considerations include single individual per bus seat; staggered bus seating as available; parent support for transporting own child (if within BOE policy).

#### **Competition/Tournament Hosting Considerations:**

##### Cleaning/Sanitizing

- Have hand sanitizer, disposable gloves, disinfectant wipes, and sanitizing cleaners in each room/area being used.
- Clean/Sanitize equipment, tables, and chairs between each round or when a new team enters.
- Encourage participants to use hand sanitizer or wash hands before each round.
- Consider cleaning/sanitizing of restrooms and other common areas before, during, and after a competition.

##### Pre-Competition Health Screen and Temperature Check

- Consider having each individual involved (workers, students, coaches) completing a health screening/questionnaire and a temperature check immediately prior to a competition. These could either be done off-site under the supervision of each participating school or on-site as schools arrive and check in.
- Health screening/questionnaire including temperature should be turned in by all individuals to host. The tournament host will keep track of the records should they be needed for tracking.

## Masks

- Communicating to workers and participating schools current mask regulations per local requirements.
- Ask all involved to wear mask/protective face shield. Have masks on hand for workers/participants.
- May consider having plexiglass/clear plastic barrier in front of the moderator, so their mouth may be seen, and they may be clearly heard. This may allow the moderator to not wear a mask when reading questions. Consider clear face shield for moderators rather than masks.
- Remind participants to speak loudly and enunciate clearly when speaking with a mask on.
- If properly social distanced (moderator is 6 feet from participants and the two teams are 6 feet apart), consider masks not being worn by the moderator and/or participants.

## Social Distancing

- Team arrival/registration: Only head coach checks in at registration table. Provide coach writing utensils for each participant to keep and use throughout the tournament. School/Team goes directly to their homeroom or designated team area.
- Pre-Competition Welcome/Announcements/Instructions may be made using the school's intercom system, via social media/website, or given to coaches at check-in rather than gathering everyone together in a common area (auditorium/gym).
- Provide clear instructions for transitions (entry/exit of competition rooms and hallways) to maintain 6 feet social distancing.
- Competition Room Arrangement: Place team tables as far apart as possible. Consider using larger rooms and utilize rooms that are spread out through the building to reduce transition congestion in one hallway area or section of the building. Helps with social distancing.
- Results may be shared via electronic tabulation boards, social media/website, and announced using the school's intercom system.
- Any awards may be given directly to a school's coach for them to distribute to their team members.

## Homerooms/Team Areas and Food/Beverages

- Provide a homeroom for each school/team to utilize when not competing or designate team areas spread out in a large cafeteria/common area/gymnasium.
- If any hospitality food and beverage items are being provided, they should be pre-packaged and distributed to each school/team separately for consumption in their designated homeroom or team area. May encourage schools/teams to bring their own food and beverage items and not provide any.
- Bottled beverages with names on them are recommended. Each participant should have their own drink container. Water fountains may be off limits in schools.
- **Concessions:** If having, follow CDC guidelines. Consider only bottle drinks and pre-packaged items.

## **Competition Play Considerations:**

- Schedule schools/teams to remain in competition rooms for multiple rounds to reduce exposure and need for sanitizing of buzzers, tables, etc. Encourage teams not to switch sides between rounds.
- **Spectators:** Consider limiting numbers to abide by social distancing requirements (6 feet apart) and set up any spectator seating accordingly in competition rooms. Follow local mask protocol. Consider not allowing spectators.
- Minimize number of room workers to Moderator, Judge/Official Scorekeeper, and Timer/Unofficial Scorekeeper.
- Eliminate room runners and use electronic reporting instead.
- Modify Electronic Devices Rule to allow coaches only to utilize electronic devices to view electronic tabulation boards if available.
- End of Round: Suspend handshaking and physical interactions of schools/teams.

**Practice Considerations:**

- Consider conducting in-person practices in “pods” of the same students always training and rotating together in practice to ensure more limited exposure if someone develops an infection.
- Health screening prior to practice. (see general guidelines)
- Keep accurate records of who attends practice – days and times.
- Consider temperature checks prior to practice. (see general guidelines)
- Students are responsible for their own supplies.
- Athletes bring/have their own beverage container/water bottle.
- No sharing of materials/equipment. Sanitize and disinfect items after each use.
- Covered face cloths/masks are permitted and should be worn by all in accordance with local requirements.
- Consider limiting the number of students coming to practice.
- Practice social distancing (6 feet apart) whenever possible even during team meetings.
- Refer to cleaning/sanitizing considerations provided in this document.

**NOTE:** The Kansas Association of Scholars Bowl Coaches (KASBC) Executive Board is working with the KSHSAA to develop protocols for **Virtual/Online** Scholars Bowl Competitions as an option or requirement if necessary due to COVID-19 as the school year progresses. *Once these are completed, they will be shared with the KSHSAA Executive Board and/or Board of Directors for approval of any changes regarding the KSHSAA Scholars Bowl Manual and/or the KSHSAA Handbook.*