



KSHSAA STATE BASKETBALL PUBLIC HEALTH/SAFETY INFORMATION

KSHSAA state basketball tournaments tip off Wednesday in six locations across Kansas, marking the beginning of one of the most exciting four day stretches on the Kansas sports calendar. These tournaments bring hundreds of participants and thousands of fans together from across the state. Concerns have increased in the United States over the past few weeks regarding the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19). The Kansas State High School Activities Association has been actively monitoring this rapidly evolving situation for several weeks. We continue to evaluate information from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) and local healthcare professionals, including members of the KSHSAA Sports Medicine Advisory Committee. Public health experts in the United States currently acknowledge there are a lot of unknowns about this virus. Even with the unknown, there are several things participating schools and their fans should keep in mind as they prepare to attend and/or participate in these events to keep the risk minimized for themselves and others.

- ❖ According to the CDC's current risk assessment, the immediate risk of being exposed to the virus that causes COVID-19 is thought to be low for the majority of people. There is not widespread circulation in most communities in the United States.
- ❖ Hand hygiene is one of the best ways to prevent the spread of illness.
 - Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom; before eating; and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
 - If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol. Always wash hands with soap and water if hands are visibly dirty.
- ❖ Cover your coughs and sneezes with a tissue and avoid touching your face.
- ❖ If players, coaches or fans are sick, **STAY HOME!**
- ❖ Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- ❖ Older people and individuals with serious chronic medical conditions have the highest risk of contracting this virus.
- ❖ Facemasks are not meant to be worn preventatively by the general population. They should be used by people who show symptoms of COVID-19 to help prevent the spread of the disease to others and by healthcare workers or caregivers.

The KSHSAA remains in constant communication with our tournament host sites to ensure they have the support and resources necessary to minimize risk for everyone involved in the upcoming events.

Additional Resources:

KDHE COVID-19 Resource Center: <http://www.kdheks.gov/coronavirus/index.htm>

CDC Coronavirus Information: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

**BE INFORMED AND PREPARED, AND ENJOY THE WEEK SUPPORTING YOUR STUDENTS, SCHOOLS
AND COMMUNITIES!**