

Kansas State High School Activities Association

Frequently Asked Questions re COVID-19

Updated May 22, 2020

1. When do the restrictions end?
Governor Kelly has closed schools through this school year (May 29). At this time, it is too early to know if this period will be extended.
2. Will spring activities be conducted this summer?
No, spring school activities will not be conducted in the summer. Time does not allow for the spring activities to be moved to summer.
3. Will summer activities be allowed?
At this time, we are planning on those activities, but we are continuing to monitor CDC and KDHE restrictions and will keep you posted; at this time, there have been some specific summer activities canceled. Please refer to additional guidance at <http://www.kshsaa.org/Public/pdf/SummerGuidelines.pdf> and additional FAQ's. (FAQ response revised 5/7/20)
4. Is there leniency for academic eligibility for students who do not pass five classes this spring semester?
At this time, it is not anticipated an academic waiver would be approved for students regarding scholarship eligibility for the fall season. Students will be expected to pass five classes this spring in order to be eligible in the fall. The KSHSAA Board of Directors set aside components of Rule 13 and empowered each local school district to determine eligibility for first semester/quarter of the 2020-21 school year. This is not a waiver of academic accountability but rather allows schools to set aside the state-wide one size fits all standard of passing five or more this spring to earn the right to participate next fall. This action by the KSHSAA empowers the local district to develop and uniformly apply to all students in their district a local standard of accountability re student achievement for next fall only. The KSHSAA expects discussions within the school district to ensure any decision on the acceptable levels of academic achievement required for eligibility would be supported by the MS/JH and HS administration, the Superintendent, district administration, and the local BOE. (FAQ response revised 5/7/20)
5. Will students be provided an extra (fifth) year of eligibility at the high school level?
No. As difficult as it was to cancel the state basketball tournament while it was in progress, and the challenges encountered by not having a spring season, there is no plan for an extra year.
6. What is the impact of closing schools on the new one-year period of ineligibility for transfer students?
There is no change to the newly adopted one year window of ineligibility following a transfer; any student that enrolls and takes classes this school year (attending virtually and receiving grades) is under the 18 week transfer window; those students whose first class is next school year (virtual or face to face) in a new district are subject to one year transfer window.
7. What can school coaches do with their athletes?
Most school facilities are closed except for small groups of instruction (no more than ten in a room, social distancing maintained); when appropriate and in compliance with local health department guidelines, school coaches in spring sports may provide individual instruction until the moratorium is lifted on ~~May 29~~ June 1. Fall and winter sport coaches may not work with students they coached this year until the ~~Saturday prior to Memorial Day~~ June 1. A coach may provide one on one instruction to graduating seniors. For additional guidance, please refer to the FAQ's for Summer Activities (FAQ response revised 5/7/20)

8. What can athletes do with their club teams/coaches?
Student-athletes are discouraged from participating in club teams as this would be contrary to current practices adopted to minimize spread of Coronavirus. If an athlete joins a club team, all students must adhere to the risk mitigation protocols put in place by CDC and KDHE which limit group size follow social distancing expectations. KSHSAA regulations restrict any fall or winter team participants with sport specific roster limits. For spring team sports, the roster limits are waived through the Tuesday following Labor Day. After Labor Day, roster limits for spring sports will be based upon rosters established at the time of the shutdown.
9. What will catastrophic insurance cover this spring?
School catastrophic coverage covers school activities. Athletes working individually with their spring sport coach would be covered until the date of the calendared championship.
10. What about summer moratorium?
~~If the COVID-19 restrictions extend into the summer, the KSHSAA summer moratorium may be adjusted; such action would need to be approved by the Board of Directors. At this time, the Summer Moratorium dates will be July 2-8, 2020. At the May 1 Board of Directors meeting, the Summer Moratorium was suspended for the summer of 2020. (FAQ response revised 5/7/20)~~
11. Will supervised Rule 10 coaches be required to be supervised again next year (if this spring was their first season)?
Yes, a coach must complete a full season to be considered for unsupervised status in the following year. If a supervised coach only completed the first two weeks of their first season in supervised status, they need to be supervised next year.
12. Can we use the school weight room?
COVID-19 lives for extended periods of time on metal and plastic surfaces. Before using weight room (for less than ten individuals in the room), please consult your local county health department. Note: this previous response was in conjunction to a weight-lifting class and continuous learning. Executive Order 20-07 closed schools for face to face instruction through the school year with the final day to be May 29; using the weight room for activity purposes would be contrary to the order and is not considered an extension of the continuous learning protocol. (FAQ response revised 5/7/20)
13. Can coaches send workouts to student-athletes?
Yes, coaches are encouraged to send non-mandatory individual workouts for students to complete; in fact, we encourage minimum weekly check-in from coaches to student-athletes on their teams throughout the spring.
14. Can music directors and speech coaches send copyrighted materials to students for individual practice and performance?
Yes, music directors and speech coaches are encouraged to send individual performances (virtually) for students to complete and share in non-public domains (Google-classroom would be OK, but a public YouTube platform would be contrary to copyright compliance); in fact, we encourage minimum weekly check-in from teachers to students in all activity programs.
15. How should spirit squads be selected when we cannot meet in person for tryouts?
If you have not yet selected your team, we encourage virtual tryout utilizing Google Classroom or other school delivery methods but do not use public domains such as YouTube. Please refer to the KSHSAA Spirit Activities web page for more information.

16. Do we have to complete the Loss of Instructional Time Survey?
Yes, please complete LITS for all fall and winter activities. There is no data to enter for spring activities. Please complete the fall and winter data entry no later than June 15.
17. Will Regional Entry Fees be refunded?
Schools will be issued partial credit for spring sport entry fees as the KSHSAA has incurred significant expense in all spring activities. Those expenses include, but are not limited to: activity specific manual writing, printing, and mailing; test and announcement packet writing, printing, and mailing; awards for each activity that cannot be modified; activity specific supplies that are date identified and cannot be modified. The credit for these specific activities will be applied for the spring 2021 season. Schools will receive 50% credit on the invoice to be received by schools for the spring 2021 activities (FAQ response revised 5/7/20)
18. In addition to LITS, what forms do schools need to complete this spring?
a. ~~ADM 12 – Spring sports participation survey (based upon numbers prior to shut-down); due April 3;~~
b. *ADM J-7 – MS/JH Participation survey for the 2019-20 school year; due April 3;*
c. *ADM 13 Athletic Participation for 2020-21; due April 14*
d. *Form C2 and CMJ2 – roster of ineligible students; due June 15*
(FAQ response revised 5/7/20)
19. How do I handle concussion reporting for students who had not yet been cleared to return to play?
Leave the date of return blank for these students. These days will not be calculated into the final analysis of days missed. Please review all reported cases from your school for this school year and be sure dates of return are provided for cases where clearance has been obtained.
20. Will there be any changes to the annual pre-participation physical exam (PPE) requirement for 2020-21?
~~*This topic is under consideration, and guidance will be provided by the Sports Medicine Advisory Committee. If any changes are proposed it will go to the Executive Board for consideration and to the Board of Directors on May 1 for a vote. Any changes to the PPE rule would be immediately communicated to member schools after the May 1 Board of Directors Meeting. No action was taken at the May 1 meeting on this issue, but the BOD expects an update from the SMAC by the end of May. (FAQ response revised 5/7/20)*~~
The KSHSAA SMAC met on May 20 to consider potential modification of requirement of the annual Preparticipation Physical Exam. Following extended discussion, a review of literature, and a geographic check of each represented area relative to local health care access, the SMAC supported a motion to maintain the current practice and require “new” PPE’s for every athletic and spirit participant. Accordingly, the KSHSAA will not request the BOD to consider further action in this regard and “Rule 7 Physical Examination Parental Consent” will not be modified. All student-athletes are required to get a new PPE for the 2020-21 school year. (FAQ response added 5/22/20)
21. How do I check the status of KSHSAA summer activities?
Please contact local school leaders for local events. For KSHSAA hosted events, you may review the “Status of KSHSAA Activities” document on our web page.

Please contact your school administrator for more information or contact KSHSAA staff for additional clarification.