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MEMORANDUM

From: LHSAA Executive Director/ Eddie Bonine
Subject: LHSAA Spring Sports - COVID-19 Update
Date: March 13, 2020

The LHSAA will adhere to the Louisiana Governor's 30 day closure of the K-12 public schools by postponing remaining Winter and Spring athletic events to include, but not limited to Powerlifting, Bowling, and Bass Fishing State Championships. The LHSAA Executive Committee will meet April 7th and 8th at its regularly scheduled meeting to discuss the LHSAA's direction after the April 13th mandate by the Governor of Louisiana.

Scheduling and participating in practices during the mandated time period (from March 16th to April 13th) will be left to the discretion of the administration and/or LEA of the schools involved. We will continue to monitor the situation and we encourage each member school to consult with their local health department and medical professionals to help with these decisions.

We realize that the situation is rapidly evolving and events around the country are influencing what discretion can or cannot be given to administrators or LEA. Please continue to review key planning considerations for events should you decide to allow regular season play this weekend and then after the April 13th mandate. If you plan to continue with regular schedule play through this weekend please adhere to the Governor's restrictions limiting crowd capacity.

Key Planning Considerations for Athletic Events:

These are best practices schools should consider when preparing to host an athletic/activity event:

- Emphasize that participants, staff and spectators should stay away from the event if they feel unwell (have fever and cough).
- Prioritize that all frequently touched surfaces throughout the venue are properly cleaned prior to the event with approved disinfectants and that adequate cleaning supplies are available for use during the event.

LHSAA... Beyond the Game



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- Provide easily accessible soap and water or alcohol hand-sanitizers and tissues in all venue common areas and consider having additional hand-sanitizer stations available to promote proper hand hygiene.
- Promote appropriate respiratory etiquette and hand hygiene practices prior to and during the event through signage and announcements.

Everyday Health Precautions

Louisiana Department of Health officials recommend people in Louisiana help themselves by taking everyday preventive precautions to reduce the risk of getting and spreading viral respiratory infections, including the flu, the common cold and COVID-19:

- Cover your mouth with a tissue, sleeve, or elbow (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze, and then throw the tissue in the trash and wash your hands.
- Wash your hands often with soap and warm water for 20 seconds. If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol. It is especially important to clean hands after going to the bathroom, before eating, and after coughing, sneezing, or blowing your nose.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Clean and disinfect surfaces that are often touched (cell phones, door handles, etc.).
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- If you are sick, stay home and seek medical care immediately if symptoms, such as high fever or difficulty breathing, become more severe. This will help to keep from spreading respiratory illness to others.
- Parents are advised to keep students home if they display any signs of illness.
- Build your body's overall health resilience by eating well, exercising, getting plenty of rest, and staying up to date on vaccines. It is recommended to get a flu vaccine each year and it is not too late to be vaccinated.

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