



Oregon School Activities Association

25200 SW Parkway Avenue, Suite 1
Wilsonville, OR 97070
503.682.6722 <http://www.osaa.org>



December 17, 2021

To: Superintendent, Principals, and Athletic Directors
From: Peter Weber, Executive Director
Subject: Protocol Reminders and Recommendations

As schools begin the holiday break, Winter sports and activities are continuing. Coaches and students will be convening for practices and competitions, which may include experiences in multi-team formats with hundreds of spectators.

Maximizing participation opportunities for students moving forward is going to require all of us working together and adhering to the state-mandated administrative rules that continue to be in place for all indoor activities.

Recent headlines related to multiple outbreaks from wrestling tournaments in Washington and the subsequent suspension of the sport in several Washington school districts is concerning. The loss of participation opportunities for students in any activity is something none of us want to occur here either.

Schools should carefully consider the number of teams involved, bracket size, and event length for future indoor events to allow for participation opportunities while minimizing potential exposures.

Additional strategies, including but not limited to reducing cross-over between programs, separating practice times within programs, and cohorting levels of programs, have shown to be effective measures in reducing the chances that a team's season is disrupted.

Regardless of event format the OHA's indoor mask mandate remains in effect with [OAR 333-019-1025](#) and [OAR 333-019-1015](#) outlining the state-mandated masking requirements.

- Students are not required to wear a mask indoors when practicing or playing a competitive sport.
- Officials actively officiating a competitive sport that requires a high level of physical exertion by the official are not required to wear a mask (i.e., basketball and wrestling in the Winter).
- Students not actively participating (i.e., on the sideline during an indoor or outdoor competition, etc.) are required to wear a mask.
- Indoor spectators (5 years or older), coaches and support staff, regardless of vaccination status, are required to wear a mask in an indoor setting, except when actively eating or drinking.
- Remember that a school, county, or facility may institute more restrictive requirements and a visiting school, and its supporters, must adhere to the more restrictive measures in place from their hosting opponent.

Information related to Test to Stay, Communication Expectations, and Non-Compliance Protocols was previously outlined in the Winter Activities Reminders and Updates memo posted to the OSAA website at <https://www.osaa.org/docs/osaainfo/COVID%20Update%20November%2029%202021.pdf>.