

KSHSAA Board of Directors Agenda, May 1, 2020 - Addendum

#12 - OPEN AGENDA - In response to the COVID-19 impact on school activities, the Executive Board has maintained a continual review process to approve additional items for the agenda. These items are designed to modify existing rules in an effort to mitigate some negative aspects arising from this public health issue and the eventual resumption of interscholastic activities. The following items will be subject to approval of support for requirement to waive the 40-day agenda item submission. Items A, B, C, and D are generated by staff, and are supported and approved for placement on the agenda. Item E and F are submitted by Board of Director members and respective schools.

A. Rule 7 – Physical Examination Parental Consent – Possible date change in required physical exam.

Recommendation: With a recommendation from the Kansas SMAC to maintain current system and continue to monitor the situation, there is no recommendation for change to the required PPE to be conducted after May 1, 2020, for all athletic participants per 7-1-1. This item will be re-evaluated in first week of June.

Rationale – without support of the SMAC, it is difficult to support a change to basic risk minimization standard; per SMAC, it is too early to make this decision.

B. Rule 18 – Transfer – Possible modification of the implementation of change from 18 weeks to one year of ineligibility following a transfer.

Recommendation: Maintain the planned implementation date for the transition from 18 weeks to one year as designated by BOD adoption (Sept., 2019). Note: this rule change is for High School only.

Rationale – students have not been prevented from transfer opportunities during the final quarter of the 2019-20 school year; if a student transferred, enrolled and virtually attended this semester, the 18 week transfer period was initiated this school year; those students transferring and not enrolling/attending would be subject to the new one-year transfer ineligibility period.

C. Rule 9 – Moratorium – possible elimination of summer moratorium.

Recommendation: No matter when “summer” begins (no earlier than **May 30 June 1**), we propose the rule change to modify the summer moratorium rule by suspending the restrictions detailed in 9-1-5 for the summer of 2020.

Rationale – even if schools get a complete summer, their spring has been disrupted to the point where this extra week may be beneficial for some students/schools. It also eliminates the need for us and our board to keep re-evaluating throughout the summer.

D. Rule 10 and Rule 30 (combined for action as both deal with coach and athlete restrictions)

Rule 10 – Qualifications of Coaches (Athletic, Spirit, Scholars Bowl, Debate and Speech) and Music Directors

– Possible modification of allowable summer contact with students.

Recommendation: set aside relevant components of Rule 10, Section 1, Article 6 and 8 restricting football, volleyball, and basketball coaches/coaches’ aides to restrictions detailed below.

Rule 30 – Seasons of Activities – Possible modification to summer opportunities for students including extension of period of time allowed for coaches one-week summer camp. **Recommendation:** set aside relevant components of Rule 30, Section 1, Article 6 and 7 restricting student/coach contact to restrictions detailed below.

Recommendation for Summer 2020 Guidelines

When permitted by your community's local health authorities AND your school district administration, while following all group gathering restrictions and social distancing expectations, school employed coaches may begin their summer programs with their prospective student participants no earlier than ~~May 30~~ June 1. As always, participation by a student in the summer program is voluntary. Similarly, schools may choose what, when, and how often programs are available to their students. The following conditions apply for any summer activity taking place in a school facility and/or under the guidance of a school employee:

1. The first ~~five days~~ calendar week (minimum five days of conditioning) of a summer activity program for any sport are limited to a maximum of three hours of physical activity per student per day. Physical activity includes any warm-up, stretching, conditioning and weight-lifting activities. Organized competition sanctioned by an outside organization or between students from different schools shall not take place during this time.
2. Beginning ~~on the sixth day~~ second calendar week (minimum five days of conditioning) of a summer activity program, cumulative physical activity time as defined in #1 should not exceed five hours per student per day. Organized competition sanctioned by an outside organization or between students from different schools shall not take place during this time.
3. Students may begin organized competition under the guidance of their school coaches ~~on the 11th day~~ beginning the third week of a summer activity program.
4. One-week school coach team camps may begin after the ten-day acclimatization period detailed in 1 and 2 above and take place through August 15.
5. Traditional fall school practices begin, and Handbook restrictions resume, on August 17, 2020.

****Additional Recommendations for basketball***

6. Basketball coaches may not hold team camp or work with their players between August 3 and August 16 as that time is dedicated to final fall season preparations.

*****Additional Recommendations for Football***

7. Football must complete three calendar weeks of conditioning (minimum 15 days of conditioning)
 - a. During the first week, focus on strength and conditioning; limited individual football specific drills are allowed
 - b. During the second week, strength and conditioning continues; football related non-contact drills are permitted
 - c. During the third week, strength and conditioning continues; football related drills permitted; intra-squad 7 on 7 or 5 on 5 permitted; one-week coaches camp permitted (helmet only)
8. Following conditioning period defined in number 7 and through August 3, the following may be conducted:
 - a. Coaches working with their athletes in football related activities
 - b. 7 on 7 competitions
 - c. 5 on 5 competitions
 - d. Coaches one-week team camp (helmet only)
 - e. Strength and conditioning continues
9. From August 3 through August 15, the following may be conducted:
 - a. Coaches working with their athletes in football related activities
 - b. Coaches one-week team camp (helmet only)
 - c. Strength and conditioning continues
10. ~~No One~~ team vs team camps, including college contact camp, is permitted for this summer; must be conducted by third party; maximum of two days; may be conducted anytime after the 15 day conditioning period until August 15

Rationale - Many students have not had the opportunity to train on a regular basis this spring. A gradual acclimation to physical activity has been shown to lower risk of injury. If summer is delayed, a team camp right before the start of fall practice would probably be beneficial.

These recommendations are based upon an anticipated practice start date of August 17 for fall sports; if there is a delay in the start, the calendar of recommendations may be modified.

E. Scholarship Rule 13 - Proposal (from Olathe)

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic students are at an academic disadvantage. Virtual learning and academic growth has been inhibited due to lack of computer hardware, poor bandwidth, absence of home supervision, and students having to take care of younger siblings.

Per KSHSAA policy, current 6th and 8th graders will have immediate academic eligibility for the fall semester of the 2020-21 school year. Current seventh graders will not have this same opportunity. The Covid-19 pandemic has prevented some of these students from reaching their academic potential and should not be withheld from KSHSAA activities for something that is beyond their control.

Note: At least one neighboring activity association granted relief of the academic standards for the fall semester of 2020-21 due to the unprecedented challenges that students have experienced.

Recommendation - Kansas school districts shall be granted local control to determine the academic eligibility standards for 7th grade students who will participate in activities at the beginning of the 2020-21 school year by setting aside **Rule 13 Scholarship Requirements** Section 1, Article 3a and Section 3, Article 1a for first quarter/semester only of the 2020-21 school year.

Submitted by Dr. Rod Smith, Principal, Frontier Trail Middle School, Olathe and the Olathe Public Schools USD 233

F. Follow up Proposal to Rule 13 (from Hays)

Recommendation - Kansas school districts shall be granted local control to determine the academic eligibility standards for 7th, 10th, 11th, & 12th grade students who will participate in activities at the beginning of the 2020-21 school year. *This allowance would be a one semester district determination for participation during the Fall Semester of 2020.*

Extension of original item submitted by Dr. Rod Smith, Principal, Frontier Trail Middle School, Olathe as edited by Mr. Martin Straub, Principal, Hays High School, Hays