

Voyd St. Pierre

From: Mark Beckman <mbeckman@mhsa.org>
Sent: Tuesday, May 05, 2020 9:58 AM
Subject: MHSA Update



MONTANA HIGH SCHOOL A

PROMOTING SUCCESS ON THE COURT, ON THE FIELD
AND EVERYWHERE ELSE UNDER THE BIG SKY

May 5, 2020

TO: MHSA SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS
FROM: MARK BECKMAN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
RE: MHSA UPDATE

Good morning:

- 1) I wanted to share with you once again the interpretations the Executive Board approved recently regarding the status (out-of-season and summer) for MHSA sports:
 - Before May 7th – no activities including out-of-season activities – with schools not in session we are not in-season or out-of-season during this period.
 - After May 7th – it will be up to the school (if the school allows out-of-season contact) in relation to the following:
 - From May 7th until June 1st it will be considered out-of-season for all MHSA sports.
 - During this time:
 - Team sports must follow the open gym/field rules until June 1 (existing rule)
 - Individual sports can work with their kids if participation it is not required/mandated (existing

rule)

Local districts will determine the use and access to their facilities and will be responsible for enforcing social distancing and any other health guidelines/requirements at the local level if they allow out-of-season contact.

- June 1 – July 31 – current MHSA rule summer rules will be in effect – again local districts will determine the use and access to their facilities and it is up to the local school and coaches to follow any health requirements in place during this time for MHSA practices or one-on-one contests allowed by current rule. For out-of-season camps/tournaments etc., during this period there isn't MHSA oversight/involvement including insurance coverage (by current rule schools cannot be involved in any way with those events however they can rent their facilities to coaches/outside groups).
- August 1 – back to out-of-season restrictions until fall sport practices begin.

The Executive Board approved the following for music (pending two-week notice to member schools)

- All state music auditions are allowed after May 7th with school approval. The deadline for those auditions has been extended to September 1st.

The Executive Board approved the following interpretation regarding the MHSA academic rule:

- Incompletes for COVID-19 related issues (such as internet accessibility, illness, etc.) can be given, determined by the school and those COVID-19 related incompletes must be completed and posted on the 2019-20 second semester transcript by the start of the first semester next fall.

2) MHSA Staff –The staff, following the most recent Governor’s directive of encouraging remote work, however allowing some onsite work, will be working both remotely and spending some time in the office. Staff will work two days in the office and the other days remotely. You can contact them by leaving a message on their office phone (they will be checking voicemails remotely if not in the office that day), calling their cell number, or sending an email. They will respond as soon as possible.

3) Dragonfly School Platform - many schools participated in Dragonfly’s recent webinars and many schools are starting to prepare for the launch of the program this fall. If you have any questions on this new platform, please contact Brian Michelotti at bmichelotti@mhsa.org.

4) MHSA Executive Board Meeting – The April Executive Board meeting that was scheduled for April 20-21 has been postponed and is tentatively scheduled for May 18-19, 2020. The format of that regular meeting of the Board will depend on the directives from the Governor, State Health Department and CDC at that time. I will keep you informed. If you have any items for the agenda, please send those to me by this Thursday.

5) MHSA Co-op Renewals – the schools that have completed three years in their current co-op(s), are up for renewal. Greta Buehler sent out those renewals yesterday. If you have any questions on the forms please contact Greta, if you have any questions on numbers etc. please contact me.

6) NFHS – OPI Participation Report for 2019-2020 – Scott Wilson recently sent the participation count report for athletics and activities to your school to complete for the [2019-2020.school](#) year. This report is required by Montana law (20-7-104, MCA) and the MHSA and OPI work together to collect this data for OPI and the NFHS. The report is due by May 15, 2020. If you have any questions please contact Scott at swilson@mhsa.org.

If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact me. Thank you and please stay healthy and stay safe.

There are moments when troubles enter our lives and we can do nothing to avoid them. But they are there for a reason. Only when we have overcome them will we understand why they were there. – Paulo Coelho, ‘The Fifth Mountain’

Mark Beckman
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Wherever You Play, MHSA Is On Your Team
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