

# ***COVID-19 PROTOCOLS FOR INDOOR STATE EVENTS 2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR***

The following bylaws and policies are in place for the rest of the 2021-22 school year

## **ARTICLE 6 Contest Rules**

ASAA will not consider the inability to fulfill a contract due to concerns with COVID a contract violation. ASAA hopes all schools will operate in “good faith” and let other schools know their intent as soon as possible

## **ARTICLE 11: Physical Examination**

Medical examination may be completed and certified within the last 24 months for the remainder of the 2021-2022 school year

## **ARTICLE 12: Eligibility Requirements**

Schools may ask for a blanket academic waiver for the first semester.

## **INDOOR EVENTS: Mask Policy**

Masks or face coverings are always required for all athletes, players, coaches, officials, spectators, and anyone else at all ASAA State Championship indoor events. Exception: Masks may be removed when actively participating or officiating in matches or games but must be worn at all other times. All participants should try to maintain six foot (6 ft.) physical distancing when not on the mat or court.

*Question: Do individual on the bench or sidelines, need to wear mask? Yes*

## **INDOOR EVENTS: Pre-participation COVID Testing**

Unless exempted below, **all participants for indoor events** must obtain pre-competition testing. Participants need a negative test result to be cleared to attend competition. There are three methods for meeting this requirement.

Participants includes all rostered student participants (included but not limited to athletes, managers, musicians, etc.), coaches, trainers, and officials.

### **1. Molecular Test:**

The testing requirement may be satisfied by taking a molecular test for COVID-19 within 72 hours prior to competition. Participants need to receive a negative test prior to competing.

- If Molecular test results have not come in by the day of competition, a same day negative antigen test result may be used instead, with the prior approval of the ASAA Executive Director.

*Question: Does a negative molecular test clear the athlete for competition for the following 5 days from the date of the test. For example: does a test taken on Tuesday, allow the student to participate without re- testing on Friday and Saturday?*

We encourage molecular test samples to be collected within 48 hours of competition but in order to accommodate logistical challenges the molecular test samples may be collected up to 72 hours before competition. Therefore, a negative test result from a test sample collected on Tuesdays allows an athlete to compete on Thursday, Friday and Saturday without another test.

## 2. Twice Weekly Antigen or Molecular Testing:

Alternatively, the testing requirement may be satisfied through routine twice-weekly antigen or molecular testing prior to competition. To satisfy the “twice-weekly” requirement, tests must be taken on two non- consecutive days within each week, ideally separated by at least 72 hours. A minimum of two tests on this schedule are required prior to first competition.

- As long as participants have obtained negative results from all routine testing over the preceding two weeks, participants are cleared for competition.
- If a participant misses an antigen test, a molecular test within 72 hours prior to competition may substitute.
- Positive antigen test results MAY be confirmed with molecular tests due to lower reliability of antigen tests. If a positive antigen test is followed by a negative molecular test and the participant has no symptoms, the participant is permitted to compete.

*Question: How many days after the test may a student participate without having to re-test?*

Answer: If an athlete continues to receive negative test results from twice-weekly antigen or molecular test, with test samples collected on non-consecutive days, that athlete may compete as often as they like once two weeks of testing with negative test results has been completed. If an athlete misses the weekly testing, a molecular test may be substituted following the same guidance provided in item 1 above.

## 3. Once Weekly Antigen:

The testing requirement may alternatively be satisfied by routine once-weekly antigen IF the antigen testing is conducted not more than 24 hours prior to each event and with a minimum of two weekly antigen tests required prior to first competition. If a participant is participating in multiple games within a 24-hour period, an antigen test result within the proper window for the first game satisfies the testing requirement for the rest of the 24- hour period.

- Positive antigen test results MAY be confirmed with molecular tests due to lower reliability of antigen tests. If a positive antigen test is followed by a negative molecular test and the participant has no symptoms, the participant is permitted to compete.

*Question: This participant would be required to re-test every 24 hours to continue to participate. Is that correct? For example, if I test Wednesday, I'm good for Thursday's competitions, but would then need to test Thursday for Friday's and Friday for Saturdays.*

Answer: Once weekly antigen testing is envisioned for athletes who compete just one day a week. The sample may be collected the day before competition and then the athlete may compete in as many games, matches, races, etc. as they like the next day. The goal is for competition to take place no more than 48 hours after the test is conducted. Since rapid antigen test may be complete the day before or the day of competition, if the test is completed at the beginning of the first day of competition, a negative test result would clear the athlete to compete during the next 24 hours. However, if the test is completed the day before competition, then a second test would be needed for the second day of competition. Athletes completing more than once a week should consider twice-weekly antigen testing.

#### 4. Other Considerations

- Positive Test Results:

*Question: If a participant test positive, are all close contacts eliminated or only the one participant?*

*Answer: Only the participant testing positive is required to quarantine.*

- Fully vaccinated participants are **not** exempt from pre-competition testing.
- Exemption for Previously Diagnosed Person: If a person has had a diagnosed case of COVID-19 within the last 90 days, they are exempt from pre- competition testing provided:
  - The athlete provides proof of a previously positive result of a molecular based test for SARS- CoV2 within 90 days of participating.
  - The athlete is currently asymptomatic.
  - The athlete has completed the isolation period as specified in the CDC guidelines.

#### Reporting to ASAA

Participating Schools will be required to submit verification that all their participants are in compliance of this policy. This verification must be from the school's administration.