



2020-21 Wrestling Considerations

In support of the Guidance for Opening Up High School Athletics and Activities, the NFHS Wrestling Rules Committee offers this document for state associations to consider whether any possible rules could be altered for the 2020-21 season. The considerations outlined in this document are meant to decrease potential exposure to respiratory droplets by encouraging social distancing, limiting participation in administrative tasks to essential personnel and allowing for appropriate protective equipment.

Note: This is not an exhaustive list and there might be additional steps in each school, city, and state to help prevent the spread of virus. Even when taking all precautions, there will still be risk of transmitting illnesses. Everyone should stay vigilant about the health of members of their teams. Lastly, the situation with Covid-19 is rapidly changing. These considerations may quickly become outdated. Please keep up with the latest from the CDC and other health officials in your state.

Return to Competition

General Considerations:

- Have hand sanitizer and wipes available at the table.
- Wash stations or sanitizer at mat side.
- No one touches the score sheet except the scorer.
- If writing implements are used, they should be sanitized and not shared with anyone.
- Disinfect the mats prior to competition.
- Do not allow fans.
- Athletes and Coaches wears masks off the mat.
- Participate/host smaller events (more duals, less larger tournaments)
- Check the fans' temperature prior to admission.
- Minimize the number of spectators.

Considerations for Coaches:

- Wear masks on and off mat.
- Eliminate handshakes post-match.

Considerations for Wrestlers:

- Submit to COVID-19 testing as part of your pre-participation physical.
- Take the temperature of the wrestlers before weigh-ins.
- Showers after weigh-ins.

- Shower after each round and put on a fresh uniform.
- Stagger weight classes, so not everyone is in chairs mat-side.
- Wear masks off the mat when not competing.
- Eliminate handshakes pre- and post-match.
- Eliminate handshakes with coaches' post-match.

Considerations for Referees:

- Bring personal hand sanitizer. Wash hands frequently
- Don't share equipment.
- Change whistle several times during the day.
- Follow social distancing guidelines. Consider six feet minimum distance when talking to others (players, coaches, other officials).
- Consider using electronic whistle.
- Do not shake hands and follow pre- and post-game ceremony guidelines established by state associations.
- Off mat officials may wear masks at all times.
- Wear masks on the mat.
- May wear disposable glove. If so, then they must change after each match.

Considerations for Parents

(A family's role in maintaining safety guidelines for themselves and others):

- Make sure your child and immediate household members are free from illness before participating in practice and competition (if there is doubt stay home),
- Provide personal items for your child and clearly label them.
- Disinfect your students' personal equipment after each game or practice.