



Missouri State High School Activities Association

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MSHSAA Updates on Winter Sports and Activities

Columbia, Mo.- Due to concerns with the COVID-19 virus and out of an abundance of caution, the Missouri State High School Activities Association (MSHSAA) has modified some post-season activities. These modifications include changes to some dates as well as some changes in locations in which games would be played.

At this time the post-season calendar for Wrestling is to be determined as the final site must be confirmed. However, to reduce the number of competitors and coaches and to potentially allow for spectators at any given site, the number of districts has been expanded from four (4) to eight (8). A sectional round has also been added to the post-season.

The wrestling state championships will be broken down into five (5) individual tournaments, one for each boys classification and the girls classification. Each event will be conducted in one day. To comply with NFHS wrestling rules regarding maximum number of matches in a day, the number of qualifiers in each weight class will be reduced to twelve (12).

The top four finishers in each weight class from each district will qualify for the sectional round. The top three finishers from each weight class at each of the four sectionals will qualify for the state championships.

As soon as the final site venue has been confirmed, MSHSAA will release to its member schools the finalized post-season calendar.

The Girls State Swimming and Diving Championships will be modified in the same manner in which the Boys meet was modified in the fall. There will be no spectators allowed in the facility to space out the qualifying teams in the available space within the St. Peters Rec-Plex natatorium. All sessions of the meet will be streamed on MSHSAA.tv.

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"The MSHSAA promotes the value of participation, sportsmanship, team play and personal excellence to develop citizens who make positive contributions to their community and support the democratic principles of our state and nation."

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Modifications have also been made to the schedule, format, and qualifying criteria. Each classification's meet will be a one-day meet, with diving each morning and swimming in a timed-final format each afternoon. There will be 24 qualifiers in each event, in each class. Other safety measures will be in effect for the meet, including social distancing of teams and workers and a requirement for face-coverings to be worn while in the facility.

Basketball modifications have been made to the district tournament, sectional and quarterfinal games. All rounds of the district tournament, sectional and quarterfinal games will now be hosted by a member-school.

District tournaments will be held from Feb. 20th to Feb. 27th for Classes 1-3. For Classes 4-6, the tournament window will be from Feb. 27th to March 6th. The sectional round games for boys basketball will be played Tuesday, March 2nd for Classes 1-3 and March 9th for Classes 4-6. The sectional round games for girls basketball will be played on Wednesday, March 3rd for Classes 1-3 and March 10th for Classes 4-6. Quarterfinal round games will be played on Friday, March 5th and 9th for boys, then Saturday, March 6th and 13th for girls.

The Show-Me Showdown will be hosted at the JQH Arena and Hammons Student Center, in Springfield. Showdown I for Classes 1-3 is scheduled for Thursday, March 11 through Saturday, March 13. Showdown II for Classes 4, 5, and 6 is scheduled for Thursday, March 18 through Saturday, March 20, 2021.

The MSHSAA Music Festivals for solos, small ensembles, and large groups will take place in the spring of 2021 but will be conducted virtually. MSHSAA will communicate with the school music directors and administrators, any adjustments to the festivals as a result of the virtual format.

The MSHSAA Speech and Debate Championships will also be held electronically. Earlier in the school year, the Speech, Debate and Theatre Advisory Committee voted to cancel the One-Act Play and Reader Theatre events, along with the Duet Acting event. The debate events and extemporaneous speaking event will be held "live" in a virtual setting, while the other events will be held asynchronously.

Specific information and details on these modifications will be supplied to member schools. Due to the ever-changing landscape, all aspects of the postseason are subject to change.

#MSHSAA#