



Ohio High School Athletic Association
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OHSAA Tournament Postponement Policy

In accordance with advice from Ohio health professionals, the OHSAA Board of Directors has adopted the following policy with respect to OHSAA tournaments in the event of a public health/safety concern including, but not limited to, an influenza or H1N1 influenza outbreak. This policy shall be observed for all OHSAA sponsored tournaments.

1. Ohio health professionals have advised that it will be the decision of each local health authority in Ohio or each Board of Education/Governing Board as to whether or not to close a school or university due to an influenza outbreak. However, at this time the Centers for Disease Control are not recommending closures except in extreme circumstances.
2. For purposes of this policy, “closure,” “closed” or “school closing” shall mean that the local health authority or Board of Education/Governing Board has cancelled all high school classes and school sponsored extracurricular activities for a minimum of 24 hours due to a specific public health/safety concern.
3. **For Team Sport Contests (baseball, basketball, field hockey, football, ice hockey, soccer, softball and volleyball)** – In the event of a school closing within 48 hours of a tournament contest in which the school is scheduled to participate, the OHSAA, in collaboration with the administrative staff, District Athletic Boards and/or Board of Directors and tournament personnel, shall attempt to reschedule the tournament contest for the schools thus affected provided that such rescheduled dates do not adversely affect the next round of the tournament competition/tournament schedule.
4. **For Individual Sport Contests (bowling, cross country, golf, gymnastics, swimming & diving, tennis, track & field and wrestling)** – The tournaments shall proceed as scheduled*.
* **Note:** The OHSAA reserves the right to modify article 4 of this policy when all factors related to the severity of the situation are considered.
5. In the event that schools remain open, competitors and teams shall be expected to play tournament contests on the dates scheduled.
6. Information on any changes regarding OHSAA tournaments will be posted on the home page and specific sport page of the Association’s web site (www.ohsaa.org).

HELPFUL REMINDERS

1. Wash your hands frequently with soap and water or use alcohol-based hand cleaner when soap and water are not available.
2. Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when coughing or sneezing.
3. Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.

4. If you are sick with an influenza-like illness (ILI) (fever plus at least cough or sore throat and possibly other symptoms such as runny nose, body aches, headaches, chills, fatigue, vomiting, and diarrhea):
 - a. Stay home.
 - b. Keep away from others as much as possible, including avoiding travel, for at least 24 hours after fever is gone except to get medical care or for other necessities. (Fever should be gone without the use of fever-reducing medicine).
5. More information on public health/safety concerns can be obtained from the Ohio Department of Health's web site (www.odh.ohio.gov) or its information line (1-866-800-1404).