



## Ad Hoc COVID-19 Discussion

May 14, 2020

### 1. Call to Order.

Rob Younger called the meeting to order at 4:05 pm ET. Thanks everyone for participating today and a recording will be distributed following the meeting.

### 2. State Updates on COVID-19.

Younger asked representatives to provide a brief update on the following:

- How are you keeping in contact with your coaches?
- What are the plans for the Summer Season?
- What is being discussed concerning the Fall Season?
  - Regular Season
  - State Playoffs
  - Acclimatization Period – minimum timeline needed to safely restart after a delay

State representatives provided the following updates:

#### Arizona

- Wild west in Arizona right now
- Governor is driving all decisions for the entire state
- High school activities and resource availability are based on schools opening
- Considering travel restrictions for schools prohibiting out-of-state travel

#### Colorado

- Virtual coach clinic via Zoom
- Summer period is opening for counties at various dates over the next couple months
- Waiting to see on the fall season
- Acclimatization is an on-going conversation with SMAC

#### Connecticut

- Similar boat as southern New York and New Jersey
- Weightlifting will be a district-by-district decision
- Sending regular update communications on on-going conversations with state athletic association
- Thinks they will not allow them to start practice until they know they are returning to school
- Some fears about getting cut off again before championship in December

Florida (Shelton by earlier email)

As far as Florida is concerned, I think we have fared well other than Miami Dade has over 60% of all cases. Many of our rural areas are doing really well. Thank goodness our Governor is not a one size fits all type of guy and he is letting the local communities open based on their stats, not the stats of the state. We are shutdown just like everyone else and all Spring Championship events were cancelled. We cancelled all of our events too as well as our June Clinic. That's not a big deal, since we have multiple clinics, our sports can be absorbed into the others. Our state is slowly opening up again and everyone is turning towards the fall sports season. We are hopeful coaches and athletes can get in some summer workouts in June or July. The FHSAA does not regulate the summer and they have turned it over to the individual schools or school districts as long as they follow the Governor's guidelines. The FHSAA is looking at all options but nothing has been decided yet. Personally, I think the FHSAA is not working fast enough with their options and not listening to the front line people. I envision going to FB games with marked seating as to where you can sit to ensure the distancing that is required. Definitely crazy times for everyone.

#### Georgia

- GFCA Board is meeting weekly to discuss issues; wanted to present state athletic association with a proposal of what they would need to have a season including a 4-week preseason and moving the state championship back a week
- Approached the questions as "what is the least amount of time we would need to prepare for a season" and settled on 4 weeks
- Have grandfathered in old physicals for the coming year due to ability to get them done

#### Idaho

- June 1 allowed to begin lifting and conditioning
- Hoping things open-up in July and can start activity August 10 like normal
- Still waiting on decision regarding dead week

#### Illinois

- State is divided into sections by county and can reopen in phases based on governor's criteria
- Likely southern Illinois could be playing while Chicago-area is unable to do so
- No set date on when things open; all based on meeting the criteria from governor
- Cancelled all-star game; facility closed until June 28

#### Indiana

- Sends a weekly "news and notes" email
- Using SportsYou app and Zoom
- IHSAA – no activity until July 1; parameters are forthcoming
- Coaches are in contact about what they think parameters should be
- Uncertainty around regular season and playoffs
- Hoping to start practice with normal cadence for acclimatization

#### Kansas

- Summer plans released May 1 with a start on June 1; available online through KHSAA
- Resumption of activity includes 2 weeks of conditioning before beginning weightlifting
- Moratorium week eliminated
- KHSAA wants 3 weeks of conditioning and lifting before beginning football activities
- Metro area districts are looking at a delayed start date

#### Kentucky

- Same holding pattern as everyone
- Maintaining the summer dead period
- Earliest activity would be July 10
- Some schools/districts have fired coaches to avoid paying them if there is not a season
- Youth sports to begin June 15 per the governor; looking at definition of “youth” and application to high school with athletes under 18 years old
- No 7-on-7s to occur in July
- Looking at limiting activities to groups of 10 initially
- No indications of schools not reopening

#### Louisiana

- Distributing resources and coach education materials, conducting webinars, scheduled to have convention in July but leaning toward a virtual clinic due to speaker concerns with traveling
- Athletic Association has changed summer rules to begin June 8<sup>th</sup>
- Some equity concerns have been raised about when schools are able to return to activity
- Will have 8 weeks before formal practices begin

#### Maryland

- Still under stay-at-home orders
- Schools were officially closed for school year last week
- School will lead way before sports
- Phase 2 considers schools reopening in a limited fashion with social distancing currently projected around September 1
- Athletics projected to resume sometime between October to January as part of Phase 3

#### Michigan

- Bi-weekly blog delivering information to coaches; greater use of social media; also using online clinics
- Waiting on governor to release public facilities for use
- Planning to run regular summer and fall seasons; any alterations will be updated June 15
- Seems to be serious conversation about flipping fall and spring seasons

#### Minnesota

- Has attached a sponsor to virtual clinics
- All signs indicate for July 1 start for training with schools to open normally in September
- All-star game held in December rather than the summer like most associations

#### Missouri

- “State of the Game” meeting conducted virtually
- MHSAA did not want coach feedback on plans
- MHSAA is leaving it up to local school districts and county regulations
- Rural schools starting as early as May 22
- Thinks most will hold off on activity until at least July

#### Nebraska

- June 1: weight rooms open
- June 18: baseball/softball begins summer games

#### New Jersey

- Weekly newsletters and sponsored clinics to keep coaches engaged
- Have put together schedule scenarios based on when things can start
  - o If they can start in July or the first week of August, it will not require modification
- NJHSAA wants a 4-week preseason as opposed to normal 3 weeks due to the potential lack of summer workouts

#### New Mexico

- School closed until Memorial Day
- Experiencing significant financial issues due to the impact of COVID on oil and gas industry
- Still have all-star games scheduled for July

#### New York

- Executive committee is engaging coaches within their respective areas
- COVID task force created to help inform decisions
- Trying to minimize speculation at this time
- Discussed the drastic differences between rural and urban areas
- Waiting on a governor executive order that will influence what happens

#### North Carolina

- Still deciding on summer clinic and all-star game
- Announcement last week that all public schools in the state will open on August 17
- Dead period for summer will end June 1 but all guidelines from government and LEAs need to be observed
- Also using SportsYou for communication
- Physicals will be good for an additional year if done before April 1 like Georgia

#### Ohio

- Hopeful that school weight rooms can be opened on the same timeline as gyms in the state
- Holding until July 1 for summer/fall
- Discussion around how many days would it take to be ready: settled on 18-24 days with 1 scrimmage

#### Oregon

- Trying to get coaches onto SportsYou
- Task force meetings are on-going
- Hearing that KSI is coming with proposals on acclimatization
- Awaiting NFHS report is released next week
- Looking at 17-25% deficit in budget for schools next year
- Lifted moratorium week to allow coaches to work with athletes as soon as allowed and maximize time with them
- Governor has said no large gatherings until at least October 1

#### Pennsylvania

- Cancelled the Big 33 Classic
- PHSAA has closed everything for now
- Committee has been formed and are putting together various scenarios using 2-week increments
- Determined they need at least 3 weeks for acclimatization

#### Vermont

- School is preparing to start online
- Thinking is without school there will not be football
- Thinks northeast could see a domino effect on cancellations and/or allowed activity

#### West Virginia

- School superintendents are waiting o governor to determine transition back to school setting
- 3-week out of school window has been moved from June to July
- All-star games are being cancelled/moved

#### Wisconsin

- Dealing with interesting political situation due to recent state Supreme Court decision
- WIAA has said no summer contact; earliest would be July 1
- In Phase 3 would allow for 5 days of contact after following acclimatization guidelines
- Cancelling banquet but hopeful to have all-star game
- Doing twice weekly clinics via Zoom beginning June
- School superintendents are reluctant to start school on September 1

### **3. Questions.**

Younger opened the floor for questions and general discussion. Questions included:

- Who will be responsible for increased costs of sanitization, etc.
- How to recognize athletes selected for now cancelled all-star games
- Emphasizing the health and well-being of athletes
- Role of contact tracing and how to handle a positive test on your team

### **4. Adjournment.**

Younger to coordinate the scheduling of regional meetings soon. Meeting adjourned at 5:54 pm ET.