



MASSACHUSETTS INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

33 Forge Parkway • Franklin, MA 02038

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MIAA COVID-19 TASK FORCE RECOMMENDATIONS

August 19, 2020

- 1) *The MIAA Covid-19 Task Force recommends the MIAA Board of Directors adopt September 18, 2020 as the start date to the fall athletic season. (T. Arria/D. Davis) **APPROVED 23-0***

- 2) *The MIAA Covid-19 Task Force recommends the MIAA Board of Directors endorse the general health and safety protocols and practices developed by the MIAA Sports Medicine Committee. (J. Pignataro/S. Sibley) **APPROVED 23-0***

- 3) *The MIAA Covid-19 Task Force recommends the MIAA Board of Directors endorses the following season structure for the 2020-2021 academic year:*
 - Sept 18th – Nov. 20th - Fall Sports-** B/G Soccer, Fall Gymnastics, B/G Cross Country, Field Hockey, Girls Volleyball, Swim & Dive, Golf and Dance
 - Nov. 30th - Feb. 21st - Winter Sports-** B/G Basketball, B/G Hockey, Wrestling, Winter Gymnastics, B/G Indoor Track & Field; Alpine Ski, Nordic Ski, Winter Cheer, Dance, Swim & Dive
 - Feb. 22nd - April 25th - Fall Sports II (“Floating Season”)-** Football, Fall Cheer, Unified Basketball, sports not played in fall season because of remote learning model/other
 - April 26th - July 3rd - Spring Sports-** Baseball, Softball, B/G Lacrosse, B/G Tennis; Boys Volleyball, B/G/U Outdoor Track & Field, Rugby, Sailing, Girls’ Golf, Crew*Regions have the ability to adjust dates with the approval of their District Athletic Committee (DAC). (T. Arria/L. von Holtz) **APPROVED 22-0***

- 4) *The MIAA Covid-19 Task Force recommends the MIAA Board of Directors endorse the following process to arrive at the modifications necessary for B/G Soccer, Fall Gymnastics, B/G Cross Country, Field Hockey, Girls Volleyball, Swim & Dive, and Golf to be played this fall:*
 - Respective Sport Committees and the Sports Medicine Committee collaborate to arrive at guidelines/modifications for respective fall sports to meet level 3 play requirements outlined in EEA guidelines by Tuesday, August 25.*
 - MIAA Covid-19 Task Force reviews work by Sport Committees and Sports Medicine on Thursday, August 27.*
 - MIAA Covid-19 Task Force shares finalized fall sport modifications by Friday, August 28 with MIAA President and Executive Director for final consideration and action by Tuesday, September 1. (D. Shine/M. Miville) **APPROVED 22-0***

- 5) *The MIAA Covid-19 Task Force recommends the MIAA Board of Directors encourage schools to create a fall season schedule within leagues, or geographic regions to limit travel and number of opponents. (L. von Holtz/D. Davis) **APPROVED 22-0***



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- 6) *The MIAA Covid-19 Task Force recommends the MIAA Board of Directors eliminate MIAA sponsored post season tournaments for the fall 2020 season.* (T. Arria/M. Trahan) **APPROVED 22-0**
- 7) *The MIAA Covid-19 Task Force recommends the MIAA Board of Directors allow out of season coaching from September 18th, 2020 through July 3rd, 2021, as approved by the member school principal.* (S. Sibley/C. Conefrey) **APPROVED 13-7** *MIAA BOD amended this recommendation with, “as approved by the member school principal.”
- 8) *The MIAA Covid-19 Task Force recommends the MIAA Board of Directors notifies member schools that if schools opt to engage in out of season sport activities that the MIAA has not attested to sport specific guidance and modifications per EEA guidelines that it is the school/district’s responsibility to comply with all EEA and DESE guidance regarding levels of play.* (T. Arria/L. von Holtz) **APPROVED 20-0**
- 9) *The MIAA Covid-19 Task Force recommends the MIAA Board of Directors requires member schools to report to the MIAA and their scheduled opponents if their designation according to public health metrics requires them to cease play.* (T. Arria/P. Rittenberg) **APPROVED 19-0**
- 10) *The MIAA Covid-19 Task Force recommends the MIAA Board of Directors charge the Executive Staff with the task of creating professional learning opportunities for school staff and game officials related to return to play modifications, health and safety protocols, planning and implementing practices, facilities usage and management and event management. In addition, the MIAA Covid-19 Task Force recommends the Executive Staff develop and implement a communication strategy to educate student-athletes and their parents on what sports will look like this fall and the general public health and safety guidelines related to Covid-19 and athletic participation.* (B. McCann/M. Miville) **APPROVED 19-0**
- 11) *The MIAA Covid-19 Task Force recommends the MIAA Board of Directors set aside time on their October 29, 2020 meeting agenda to consider the recommendations from the MIAA Covid-19 Task Force regarding the next season of play.* (D. Bauer/T. Arria) **APPROVED 19-0**

Additional motions made by the Board after the conclusion of the COVID-19 Task Force presentation:

Motion: Any school that has their fall 1 season cut short due to COVID-19 designation may bring a request to their District Athletic Committee (DAC) to allow for that sport to take place during the fall 2 season. (P. Rittenberg/G. Smith) **APPROVED 19-0**



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Motion: Allow for student-athletes to participate in all four sport seasons during the 2020-2021 school year. (D. Bauer/L. von Holtz) **APPROVED 19-0**