




EDDIE BONINE, M.Ed., CA.
Executive Director

LEE SANDER
KAREN HOY
ADAM MACDOWEL
MICHAEL FEDERICO
Assistant Executive Director

MEMORANDUM

To: LHSAA Member School Principals / Athletic Directors
Parish Athletic Directors / Superintendents / Head Coaches

Subject: Summer Rules / 2020

From: LHSAA Executive Director / Eddie Bonine 
LHSAA Executive Committee / President / David Federico

Date: May 13, 2020

Today, Wednesday May 13, 2020 the LHSAA Executive Committee held a Zoom meeting to receive updates and discuss logistics surrounding LHSAA Summer Rules. After hearing updates from LHSAA Executive Committee Liaison for the Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE), the Director for Louisiana High School Coaches Association (LHSCA) and the Director for the Louisiana High School Officials Association the Executive Committee discussed the present status for permissive summer rules that are to commence May 17, 2020. Since the May 1, 2020 memorandum sent from this office addressing LHSAA Summer Rules and those activities permitted, we have received a plethora of good questions, comments and concerns regarding overall safety and start time equity. As I stated in the May 1, 2020 communication "my biggest concern was potentially the inconsistency in the implementation within our membership from public schools private schools, parish to parish." Plus, the information being disseminated from the LDOE, Louisiana Department of Public Health and the from the Governor's briefings seemed to focus more on attempting to balance public safety and re-opening the economy, as it should be.

LHSAA... Beyond the Game

12720 OLD HAMMOND HIGHWAY • BATON ROUGE, LA 70816
PHONE 225.296.5882 • WWW.LHSAA.ORG • BEYONDTHEGAME@LHSAA.ORG

This said, the primary concern of the LHSAA is to look out for the safety and well-being of all student athletes, coaches and anyone else who may be involved with the summer programs. As you all are now aware, Governor Edwards has issued a proclamation in which he has stipulated when Phase 1 and Phase 2 should go into effect. According to the proclamation issued, Phase 1 goes into effect day after tomorrow, Friday, May 15, 2020, for a period of 21 days. If all works smoothly, the Governor will issue Phase 2 in a proclamation on June 1, 2020, which would begin Friday, June 5 2020.

According to Louisiana's K-12 Supportive Guidance (see attached) and the American Academy of Pediatrics guidance, Phase I group sizes cannot exceed 10, including adults and there are no "Contact Sports" allowed, which includes Basketball, Football, Soccer and Wrestling. In Phase II, group sizes will be 25, including adults, and only "Limited Contact Sports" that include Baseball, Cheerleading, Gymnastics, Softball and Volleyball. The third category is "non-contact" sports, which are allowable during both Phase I and Phase II, consisting of Bowling, Cross Country, Golf, Powerlifting, Swimming, Tennis, and Weightlifting. The Louisiana Department of Education is continuing to consult with the Office of Public Health and will be issuing additional summer athletic and transportation guidance through the Governor's Resilient Louisiana Commission, which is charged with examining Louisiana's economy amid the COVID-19 pandemic and making recommendations for more resilient business-related activities and commerce in the coming months.

Today, the LHSAA Executive Committee took into account any / all information provided by updates, inter-committee discussion, and staff recommendation and made a decision to postpone the first day of permissive LHSAA Summer Rules to Monday, June 8, 2020 in all sports in all LHSAA member schools, regardless of the category defined above. This vote was unanimous.

In another but similar note, the committee had a thorough discussion related to Participation Physicals and their deadlines/expiration dates. A proposal was formulated by the committee, but prior to implementation, it will need review and clearance from the LHSAA Sports Medicine Advisory Committee Chairman and LHSAA Legal Counsel. Once we get guidance from these two individuals, another separate document specifically addressing physicals will be disseminated from my office soon to our membership.

In closing, during these very uncertain and unprecedented times, as we move forward your continued cooperation and communication with our offices is greatly appreciated.