

OVR Club Directors Conference Call July 30

What are other states allowing:

Illinois allows up to 50 people together (mass gathering).

Pennsylvania (PIAA) is waiting for the Governor's office to make a decision on sports.

Bob welcomed Emily Gates, Volleyball Director at the OHSAA, to the call.

Emily thanked the OVR for working so well together with the OHSAA to promote volleyball in Ohio.

Bob said that there are 88 county Department of Health's making recommendations to their respective school districts. It is very difficult for the OHSAA to try to coordinate with the schools also.

General Questions:

If sports do not go off for the Fall, what are the OHSAA contingency plans? The OHSAA has been working on plans but the virus situation changes so much that many organizations have had to pull back plans as health policies change. As of now, the OHSAA plans on having a Fall season and a tournament. They do have alternative plans if required.

Would OHSAA allow some sports to play if others, such as football, is not allowed? The OHSAA has discussed this but the decision still comes back to the Governor's Office and the 88 County Departments of Health. She did note that some large school districts across the state have announced postponement of their Fall sports.

Emily noted that some county Departments of Health have declared volleyball to be a High-Risk Contact Sport in their county. That means that a stricter level of requirements/recommendations must be followed. This is different from the Ohio Department of Health.

Bob asked what might happen if the Governor's Office pushed the start of volleyball back to September 1st for practice: The OHSAA has worked on contingency plans for condensing (rather than extending) the Fall season on a sport by sport basis.

Bob commented that if the school volleyball season gets pushed back to the Spring, the OVR might be able to offer some club activities during the Fall. Provided the OVR abides by state and local health orders. Bob noted that some states have already announced that they are pushing their Fall sports seasons to the Spring.

This past Spring season, since all sports were canceled, the OHSAA did make exceptions to some of their rules to allow kids to play club.

What is the current status of Boys HS Volleyball approval? The approval has been delayed due to the virus situation. The approval is not off the table, just delayed. Bob stressed that the OVR will help in any way we can.

Bob asked If the NFHS is offering any help with information? They have provided some Return to Play recommendations to the OHSAA. They have also offered some possible rule changes like not changing sides of the court between sets, etc.

Bob commented that we believe the current Mass Gathering limit is set at 10 by the Governor's Office. OHSAA is waiting for a clarification on the limit. This is published on the coronavirus.ohio.gov site.

Pennsylvania will have a Fall sport schedule but no spectators allowed.

Brian asked if the OHSAA is watching what the area colleges and universities are doing? The OHSAA is reviewing other states' high school policies more than colleges.

If the school season gets postponed how would that affect the OVR tryouts? OVR tryouts would have to wait until after the school season finishes. At this time, the OHSAA does not see going past the Nov. 14th ending for the State Finals.

Might the OHSAA allow schools to play matches with other schools after they both have been eliminated from the Tournament? Probably provided it is played before the end of the Tournament (Nov. 14th).

If a school district will only offer online classes for the first grading period (or some other period of time), would that eliminate sports also during that time? This would be up to the district. It would make sense.

Might OHSAA waive the 28 day coaches no contact period after the season? There is always a possibility of recommendations being made to accommodate any changes on the season due to the pandemic

If the Fall season allows spectators, would the OHSAA allow concession stands to be open? The OHSAA would not have jurisdiction over concession stands. This would be up to the local health department and school.

Bob commented that most of the policies will be coming from the health departments more than the OHSAA or OVR. Emily agreed and gave an example of locker room access would be local decisions.

Bob had mentioned that Illinois schools have moved their Fall season to February through April. How is that impacting the Great Lakes Region? Bob has talked with the GLR Commissioner and she is worried about her Windy City Qualifier in April. She is not sure if Illinois will allow the kids to play both club and school at the same time.

Bob added that Kentucky has move their Fall school season to start practices on August 24th.

Bob reiterated that the OVR will try to help fill any void in volleyball if possible. If the school season moves, the OVR will be flexible but with safety in mind.

Tom Kohl confirmed that more tournament entry fees have been returned to clubs. Bob stressed that if any club is still owed for entry fees, please contact Tom Kohl (kohl@ovr.org) and Bob Price (price@ovr.org).

Jeff asked why the OVR would allow OVR tournament directors to charge spectator admission fees? Bob said that the OVR did put a cap of \$5 per day and 18 years or younger are exempt. Bill commented that some tournament directors lost a lot of money this past season due to the cancelations. Jim included

that tournaments may not be able to run concession stands due to health department rules. He also said that there will be more expenses for sanitizing facilities. Bob said that the Tournament Schedule webpage will note which tournaments charge fees. So, club directors can decide to only sign their teams up for tournaments that do not charge admission. Club directors need to communicate with their parents as to whether or not the tournament will charge a fee.

The OVR Board of Directors will have an online meeting Monday, August 3rd. If you have topics you would like them to discuss, please send them to Bob Price (proce@ovr.org).