

2020 - 2021



**Swimming
Officials
Packet**

SWIMMING OFFICIALS TABLE OF CONTENTS

The Interscholastic Swim Program November 2020 Online

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Attendance at the WVSSAC sponsored rules clinic is a requirement to officiate the 2020-21 season. (see Additional Option for Clinic Attendance in your Officials' Handbook) located on our website.

Officials' Registration Due Date is June 15, 2021 for All Sports. All Registrations are completed on ArbiterSports.com

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For additional information related to sports medicine issues concerning athletic participation, please click the “Sports Medicine” tab on the opening page of our website.

My Officials' Packet! Where is it?

1. Go to www.wvssac.org
2. On the SSAC homepage. Locate and click on Officials
3. Once the Officials page opens look for Officials Packets and click on the sport. Example: Football Officials Packet

How Do I Login To The WVSSAC Officials' Management Page?

1. Go to www.wvssac.org
2. Click on Admin Login
3. Type in your Registration Number and password. Remember both are case sensitive.
4. Click on Login
5. This will take you to the officials management page.

How to Login to the WV Central Hub/Arbiter Site for Part 1 and Part 2 Tests:

1. Go to www.wvssac.arbitersports.com
2. Enter your email address and password
3. Click Sign in
4. Your accounts on Arbiter should show up, if not, click on Switch Views in the upper right hand corner.
5. Click on the WV-Central Hub - Account Type - Central Hub
6. Click on the Testing Tab
7. Look under Open Test
8. Find the appropriate test
9. Click on Take Test

How to Login to Register Online on the WV Central Hub/Arbiter Site:

1. Use Google Chrome as your browser
2. Go to www.wvssac.arbitersports.com
3. Enter your email address and password
4. Click Sign-in
5. Click on WV-Central Hub - Account Type - Central Hub
6. Click on "Registration"
7. Select the Registration that pertains to your specific sport/s
8. Complete ALL of the Steps of the Registration Process. Then click "Next"
9. Verify information, then enter payment information, agree to the "Terms and Conditions", then select "Make Payment" press only once or you will be charged each time. A copy of your receipt will be sent to the email address your provided.

DO'S and DON'TS:

DO read, follow and understand the instructions before you log in to the WVSSAC and/or WV Central Hub site on Arbiter Sports!

DO write down your password after you change it. They are case sensitive!

DON'T PROCRASTINATE!

DON'T use Auto Complete to remember passwords. All passwords are reset each year!

DON'T share your email address with other officials!

REMEMBER:

If you are having difficulty in logging into the WVSSAC site as an Official contact Alice Goodwin at 304-485-5494. If you are having difficulty in logging into the WV Central Hub site with Arbiter Sports please contact Arbiter at 1-800-311-4060.

Part I Test Window

Basketball-Wrestling-November 2, 2020 through November 16, 2020

Swim –September 30, 2020 through October 31, 2020 (Must have passing score of 75)

*Swim - All swim officials must take the Part 1 Test and attend a WV Swim Rules Clinic

Part II Test Window

Basketball-Wrestling – November 23, 2020 through December 7, 2020

Swim – No Part II Test

Deadline For Self Nomination Forms-Online

Basketball – September 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020

Wrestling – September 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020

Swim – November 1, 2020 through January 15, 2021

Deadline For Game Reports-Online

Basketball-Wrestling – April 1, 2021

Swim – No Game Reports Due

Note: Failure to take Part I – Loss of 5 points on classification scale
Failure to take Swim Part 1 will result in suspension for the current year.
Failure to take Part II – Suspension the following season



West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission



2875 Staunton Turnpike, Parkersburg, WV 26104-7219

BERNIE DOLAN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

GREG REED, ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

WAYNE RYAN, ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

DR. CINDY DANIEL, ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

TELEPHONE: 304-485-5494
FAX NUMBER: 304-428-5431

E-MAIL: wvssac@wvssac.org
W. WEB SITE: www.wvssac.org

HOW TO ENTER SELF NOMINATION FORMS

1. Go to our website and click on Admin Login
2. At User Name enter your registration number IN ALL CAPS.
3. At Password enter your password that you have created.
4. Once you're on the Officials Management Page click on Self Nomination Forms
5. In the upper left hand corner of the screen check and see if you are on the correct sport. If you are, Click on Load Self Nomination Form.
6. Once you're on the Self Nomination Form page you enter the month, day, and year.
7. Click if it's boys or girls.
8. Click if its college, varsity, jv, middle/other.
9. Click your position.
10. Click and select the Home Team. If the team is a non-member school you need to click in the box that says Non-Member School and type in the school name.
11. Click on and select the Visitor Team. If the team is a non-member school you need to click in the box that says Non-Member School and type in the school name.
12. Click on Add Game. This Key will start a new entry below the one you just entered.
13. When you have entered in all the games you need to qualify for tournament assignment, Go to and READ the Section on How to Submit Application. You must check mark all the boxes. When all boxes are marked the Save Application button will appear.
14. Click on the Save Application button. This is the same as Submit Application.
15. The screen will go blank and you need to click on the back to menu button in the upper left hand corner.
16. Click on the Load Self Nomination button again and check all the games you have entered. If everything looks ok you don't need to do anything else just logout. If you need to make any changes or corrections, make your corrections and click save application again.

If you have followed the Instructions above correctly you will receive an e-mail confirmation that you're Self Nomination Form has been received.

You don't need to contact this office if you have received an e-mail.

Please remember to update you e-mail address if you have any changes.

2020-2021 Winter Sports Clinics

**Winter Clinics for 2020-21 will be online.
Schools and Officials will be emailed the link
when the clinics are available.**

WEST VIRGINIA SECONDARY SCHOOL ACTIVITIES COMMISSION



2875 Staunton Turnpike, Parkersburg, WV 26104-7219

TELEPHONE: 304-485-5494
FAX NUMBER: 304-428-5431

E-MAIL: wvssac@wvssac.org
WEB SITE: www.wvssac.org



BULLETIN

YEARLY REQUIREMENTS FOR REGISTERED OFFICIALS

1. **MUST BE A** CURRENTLY REGISTERED OFFICIAL AND **MUST BELONG** TO A LOCAL BOARD, IN ORDER TO OFFICIATE ANY SPORT. **(NO OFFICIAL MAY OFFICIATE UNTIL REGISTRATION IS COMPLETE.)**
2. **MUST ATTEND** THE WVSSAC SPONSORED RULES CLINIC IN THE SPORT FOR WHICH HE/SHE IS REGISTERED. FAILURE TO ATTEND THE STATE CLINIC WILL CAUSE YOU TO FORFEIT REGISTRATION FEES AND SUSPEND YOU THE CURRENT SEASON IN THAT SPORT.
3. **ATTEND A MINIMUM** OF FOUR (4) LOCAL BOARD MEETINGS. FAILURE TO ATTEND THE MIMIMUM MEETINGS WILL RESULT IN SUSPENSION FOR THE NEXT FOLLOWING SEASON IN THAT SPORT.
4. **MUST TAKE NF PART I TEST ONLINE.**
5. **MUST TAKE THE NF PART II EXAM.** (Not required for swim officials)
6. **MUST SUBMIT** GAME REPORTS BY THE SPECIFIED DATES AS LISTED ON THE BACK OF THE GAME REPORTS, IN THE OFFICIALS HANDBOOK, AND IN YOUR SPORT BULLETIN.

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BULLETIN

TO: SWIM OFFICIALS
FROM: Dr. Cindy Daniel, Assistant Executive Director
DATE: September - 2020
SUBJECT: 2020-21 SWIM SEASON

Officials are asked to bring all packet materials, found on the WVSSAC website, with them to the State Rules Clinic. Officials are asked to familiarize themselves with all materials prior to the clinic.

*Note-The rule clinic for this year will be recorded and made available on the WVSSAC website. There will be no "face to face" clinics.

POINTS OF EMPHASIS

Season Dates

First Practice: October 26, 2020
First Meet: November 11, 2020
Regional Meet: February 6, 2021
State Meet: February 18-19, 2021

1. Registration

2. Registration is required for all starters, stroke and turn, and referees.
3. Registration is recommended for timers, scorers, etc.
4. Join a local officials' board – We now have four officials' boards – Eastern Panhandle, North Central, Ohio Valley, and Southern West Virginia.
5. New Officials – If you know individuals, who would like to become officials, please encourage them to contact Alice Goodwin immediately at 304-485-5494, so that we can register them before the Rules Clinics. Registration fee is \$40.00.
6. Officials Registration for 2021-22 (next year). The registration is due June 15, 2021. **State Rules Clinic** – required for all registered officials. Failure of the official to attend one of the clinics will result in suspension for the current season. Clinic attendance requirement will not be granted if the official is late in excess of ten (10) minutes.
7. **Part I Test** – All officials will be required to complete this test on the Arbiter web site. See the insert in your online packet. **You must make a score of 75 to pass.**
8. Only WV registered officials may officiate (starter, stroke and turn, referee) West Virginia high school regular season swim meets.
9. Dual or tri meets – minimum of two registered officials
10. Four or more teams – minimum of three registered officials
11. **Officials' Contracts** – Schools are required to contract officials. Schools should have these forms. Contracts are available from the WVSSAC office.

12. **Regional Tournament Officials** – Selected by tournament director.
13. Minimum of seven registered officials – four stroke and turn, starter, referee, back up official.
14. State Tournament Application – Due January 15, 2021
15. Selected by WVSSAC
16. Minimum of twelve registered officials – meet referee, three deck referees/starters, eight stroke and turn.
17. 2020-21 registration fee will be waived.
18. Officials meeting for State Tournament will be February 17th at 6:30 pm at Mylan Aquatic Center.
19. **Officials' Handbook** – It is each official's responsibility to read and understand its contents, deadline dates, etc. The Officials' Handbook is located on our web site.
20. **Apparel – Regular season and tournament meets.** White Apparel. The officials' shirt shall be a white golf/polo style shirt, short sleeve with collar. The shirt must have 2 to 4 buttons at the neck, and the material of the shirt must be non-see-through. Navy blue long pants; shorts, culottes or skirts are permitted during regular season, regional meets and state prelims. In State Tournament finals, all officials shall wear a white polo shirt (with the WVSSAC emblem on the left breast), navy blue pants, white socks and white shoes.

The WVSSAC subscribes to the uniform recommended by the National Federation of state High school Associations: Officials may only wear shirts adopted by the WVSSAC Officials' Advisory Committee. Said logo/sublimation must be worn on the left breast of the shirt. The official patch will be eliminated from all sports except swim and soccer by the fall of 2020. In the sports of track, swim and volleyball, the logo can be embroidery as long as it is placed on a white polo shirt and it must be done by Officials Call.
21. **Special Report Forms** – Officials are to submit these forms to notify the school principal and the WVSSAC of any rule infractions, unsportsmanlike conduct, facility problems, etc. The Special Reports are to be filed online.
22. **Meet Committee Procedures for Regional and State Meets** – Special emphasis is directed to this section of The Interscholastic. Meet Committee Protest Form is enclosed.
23. **Change of Address** – If the WVSSAC is not notified of an address change before the sport packet is mailed, the official will be charged the postage for the return to this office and the mailing to the proper address.
24. **NFOA** – Registration fee includes each official's membership in the National Federation Interscholastic Officials' Association (NFOA).
25. Officials should carefully review The Interscholastic program with particular emphasis on the following items:
 - A. Meet Committee procedures
 - B. Deck regulations
 - C. Signs
 - D. Relay Entry Procedures
 - E. Diving Regulations
 - F. Warm-up Procedure
 - G. Meet Referee Responsibilities
 - H. Scoring Errors
 - I. Scratch Regulations
 - J. Infractions and Penalties
 - K. Water Depth
 - L. Regular Season Scoring
26. Thank you for being a WV registered swim official. I know that you will enjoy this exciting profession and will assist us in promoting and improving our swim program.

3.7. *Statement of Policy.* Insofar as unsportsmanlike actions by students, school administrators, officials, coaches, faculty members, and spectators are concerned, the identical items under the Sportsmanship Rule along with the following guides will be referred to by the WVSSAC:

3.7.a. The school whose coach behaves in a manner likely to have adverse influence on the attitudes of students or spectators may be provided with the choice of taking disciplinary action against that coach or having the entire school disciplined by the WVSSAC.

3.7.b. Any student who in protest lays hands or attempts to lay hands upon an official may be declared ineligible by the principal or by the WVSSAC for up to one year. Any student who strikes an opponent, coach, or a spectator during or following an athletic event may be declared ineligible by the principal or the WVSSAC for a specified period of time up to one year, depending on the seriousness of the act.

3.7.c. Any coach, student, or bench personnel ejected by an official will be suspended for the remainder of the game, match, meet or contest. The coach, student, or bench personnel ejected by an official will also be suspended in additional contest(s): the suspension will be assessed based upon ten (10) percent of the allowed regular season contests or post season progression in a playoff tournament for each sport. Any tenth of a percentage from .1 to .4 will be a suspension equal to the whole number of the percent. Any tenth from .5 to .9 will be an additional contest added to the whole number. The suspension will include the number of indicated contests in that sport and at that level and all other sport contests in the interim at any level. A second ejection will result in the doubling of the suspension assessed for the first ejection. If an individual is ejected for a third time during the same sport season, the individual will be suspended from participating or coaching for 365 calendar days from the date of ejection. In accordance with rule 127-3-15.3, an individual ejected by an official may not appeal that ejection, or any subsequent suspension that is a consequence of the ejection by an official..

3.7.c.1. Any coach, player or bench personnel who has been ejected shall not be permitted to attend any contest(s) during said suspension. He/she shall not be affiliated with the team in any capacity. This would include but not be limited to transportation to or from the contest, meeting with the team before, during or after said contest. He/she is not permitted to be in sight or sound of said contest venue. Regular practice or team meetings not affiliated with a contest are permitted.

3.7.c.2. If suspensions are imposed to a student or bench personnel at the end of the sport season and no contest remains, the suspension is carried over to that particular sport until the next school year. In the case of a senior student, the penalty will continue to the next WVSSAC sponsored sport.

3.7.c.3. Any coach suspension that cannot be enforced during the sport season in which the ejection occurs will be enforced at the beginning of the next season of that same sport.

3.7.d. In case of spectators physically molesting an official, administrator, coach, or student, the school may be given one of two options: 1) file charges against the offender (s) or 2) accept discipline from the WVSSAC. Any person found guilty of W.Va. Code §61-2-15(a) Assault, Battery on Athletic Officials, while these individuals are working or as a result of working an athletic contest, shall be banned from all WVSSAC athletic events for a minimum of 365 days from the date of being found guilty. The school filing charges shall notify the WVSSAC of the incident and outcome of any legal action.

3.7.e. The school that does not lend complete cooperation in the host school's effort to promote the spirit of good sportsmanship may be disciplined by the WVSSAC.

3.7.f. A coach may be considered as committing unsportsmanlike conduct if they make degrading remarks about officials during or after a game either on the field of play, from the bench, or through any public news media, argues with officials, or goes through motions indicating dislike for a decision, protests the decision and actions of officials pertaining to the game during and after the contest, or detains the official on the field of play following a game to request a ruling or explanation of some phase of the game. If a coach feels he/she has a legitimate criticism of a penalty call or a request for a rule interpretation, such criticism or request should be made in the privacy of the coach's office or the official's quarters and should be made in a courteous manner.

3.7.g. A student or team attendant shall not leave the bench area, team box area, or their designated off-field area during a game or contest other than during that time permitted by game or contest rules. A coach shall not leave the bench area, team box area, or the designated off-field area during a game or contest other than during that time permitted by game or contest rules unless a student altercation is taking place and the official requests assistance. Violation of this rule shall cause the coach, student, or team attendant to be immediately ejected from the contest, team penalized according to game or contest rules and that coach, student, or team attendant will not be eligible to participate in the next contest as outlined in §127-4-2.3.

3.8. *Procedure.* Unsportsmanship action must be reported in detail to the WVSSAC. A copy of the complaint must also be filed with the principal of the school involved. Each principal involved shall report such information or answers to the report as they deem appropriate. Upon receipt of all reports, the Executive Director and/or the Board of Directors of the WVSSAC shall investigate and adjudicate such reports in accordance with the powers afforded in §127-1-8.6 and 8.7 and §127-1-12.2 and 12.3 of the Constitution. Penalties up to and including suspension of member schools may be made in accordance with §127-4.

3.9. The following defines the different types of disciplinary action which may be assessed for violation of any WVSSAC rule by a member school, administrator, coach, athlete or contest official:

3.9.a. *Warning.* A warning may be given by the Executive Director or Assistant Executive Director. It is official notice that an inexcusable, unethical, or unsportsmanship action has occurred, is a matter of record, and that such an occurrence must not be repeated.

3.9.b. *Probation.* Probation is a much more severe type of warning and may be expressed two ways: 1) a school, coach, student, or team attendant on probation is told that further violations will lead to a fine or suspension; and/or 2) a school on probation is on conditional WVSSAC membership but may engage in its regular schedule, sanctioned events, and all WVSSAC tournament play, providing a program is filed with the Executive Director of the WVSSAC indicating measures to be taken to alleviate this problem which caused the school to be placed on probation.

3.9.c. *Suspension.* A school/coach suspended from the WVSSAC may not meet in interscholastic competition of any kind with a WVSSAC member school or a school that is a member of another state associated with the National Federation of State High School Associations.

3.9.d. *Fine.* A fine may be levied by the Executive Director.

3.9.e. Each of these sanctions (Warning, Probation, suspension and Fine) may be imposed or levied separately, or in a combination of one or more sanctions.

3.10 *Appeals.* All cases involving disciplinary action against member schools, coaches, students, team attendants, or officials may be protested in accordance with §127-6. However, disciplinary action imposed by an official, including disciplinary action that is a consequence of a decision by an official, such as a suspension for an additional game or games as a consequence of an ejection, is governed by rule 127-3-15.3 and is not subject to appeal.

3.11 *Review of Ejections.* Disciplinary action imposed by a contest official, including disciplinary action that results in a suspension for an additional game or games as a consequence of an ejection, is not subject to appeal pursuant to Rule §127-6. However, if the individual ejected believes the ejection was improper, he/she may request a review of the ejection by his/her principal. If the principal believes there is merit in the requested review, the principal shall complete and submit the WVSSAC Ejection Review Form within 24 hours or the next business day of the ejection to the Executive Director of the WVSSAC. If a review is properly requested, the WVSSAC will review the officials' special report, the WVSSAC Ejection Review Form, and such other information as the WVSSAC deems appropriate. Upon review, the WVSSAC Executive Director or the designated Assistant Director will either sustain the ejection and any consequent suspension(s), or will determine the ejection was improper and void any consequent suspension(s). A decision by the WVSSAC upon reviewing an ejection is not subject to appeal pursuant to Rule §127-6.



**WEST VIRGINIA SECONDARY SCHOOL ACTIVITIES COMMISSION
2875 STAUNTONTURNPIKE, PARKERSBURG, WV 26104**

BODY FLUID HANDLING PROCEDURES

PURPOSE

The West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission has adopted this policy in an effort to minimize the possibility of transmission of any infectious disease during a high school athletic practice or contest. The policy primarily addresses blood-borne pathogens such as Hepatitis B virus and the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV). However, it also discusses common-sense precautions against the spread of less serious contagions such as the Influenza virus and the Common Cold virus.

Much of this policy has been written with contacts sports such as football, wrestling, and basketball in mind. However, it is applicable for all sports.

BLOOD-BORNE PATHOGENS

Blood-Borne pathogens such as Hepatitis B and HIV are serious infectious diseases which are present in blood as well as other bodily fluids; such as semen, vaginal secretions and breast milk. While there are a number of other such blood-borne diseases, Hepatitis B and HIV are the most commonly known.

Hepatitis B is a virus which results in a dangerous inflammation of the liver. Its victims suffer long-term consequences and reoccurrences, and the disease can be deadly if not treated. HIV is the virus that causes Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS), which weakens the immune system, thus making a person susceptible to infections their immune systems would normally fight off.

The precise risk of HIV transmission during exposure of open wounds or mucous membranes such as the eyes, ears, nose, and mouth to contaminated blood is not known. However, evidence would suggest it is extremely low. In fact, the possibility of contracting HIV in this manner is much less than the possibility of contracting Hepatitis B and other blood-borne viral infections.

Therefore, student athletes, coaches, and officials must understand that while it is possible for HIV to be transmitted by blood from one individual to another through an open wound or a mucous membrane, the probability is very low. However, since the chance of this occurring is not zero, the appropriate precautions should be taken to ensure no transmission can occur.

PRECAUTIONS AGAINST TRANSMISSION OF BLOOD-BORNE PATHOGENS

The proper handling of body fluid spills should be a concern of teachers, coaches, officials, and student athletes. All concerned individuals must be aware that any time there is blood and/or other body fluids present, there is the possibility of an infectious disease being present. However this possibility can be nearly eliminated if the following precautions are observed.

General Procedures:

- 1) Wear latex or vinyl disposable exam gloves before making contact with body fluids during care, treatment, and cleaning procedures.
- 2) Discard gloves after each use.
- 3) Wash hands after handling any body fluids, whether or not gloves are worn.
- 4) Discard disposal items in plastic lined containers with lids. Close bags and discard daily.
- 5) Do not reuse plastic bags.
- 6) Use disposable items to handle body fluids whenever possible.
- 7) Use paper towels to pick up and discard any solid waste materials such as vomitus and feces.

Procedures for Activities:

- 1) All athletes must cover any open wound.
- 2) Student athletes should treat and cover their own wounds whenever possible.
- 3) When administering first aid, disposable rubber gloves should be worn. A different pair of gloves should be worn for each treatment administered.
- 4) If an individual gets someone else's blood on his/her skin, the area should be washed with soap and water and wipe the area with disinfectant, such as isopropyl alcohol.
- 5) If a student athlete begins to bleed during activity, play must be stopped, the student athlete who is injured removed, and any potentially contaminated surfaces cleaned using a disinfectant. The surface should be wiped with clean water.
- 6) Any student athlete that is removed must have the wound covered and the bleeding stopped, prior to returning to contest.
- 7) Any individual who has treated a wound or cleaned a contaminated surface should wash his/her hands with soap and warm water.
- 8) A student athlete should take a shower using a liberal amount of soap and warm water following the contest.
- 9) Towels, which are used by athletes, coaches, or officials should not be used to clean off any potentially contaminated surfaces.
- 10) All soiled linens such as towels and uniforms should be washed in hot water and in a detergent containing bleach, if possible.
- 11) If a coach or an official gets blood on them they should first wash the area with warm water and soap, and then wipe the area with a disinfectant such as isopropyl alcohol.
- 12) All coaches, athletes, and officials should practice good hygiene. Towels, cups, and water bottles should not be shared.
- 13) Keeping locker rooms and other areas well ventilated and clean can also help in preventing other air-borne contagions from being transmitted.

REFERENCES

St. Joseph's Hospital, Sports Medicine Staff, Parkersburg, WV.
West Virginia Chapter of the American Academy of Family Physicians, Sports Medicine Committee.
"Blood-Borne Pathogens in the Health Care of the Athlete," The First Aider, Fall 1992, Vol. 62, No.1.
"Infectious Disease Policy of the Florida High School Activities Association." 8-8-92.
"Routine for Handling Body Fluids," Michigan High School Association.

Policy Adopted by the Board of Directors



Concussion Course Required

All Coaches are required to take the free course “Concussion in Sports” annually.

If the Coach took the course last year, he/she **MUST** take the course again before they are permitted to coach.

You must go through the purchase/checkout process for the free course in order to get credit for the current year and to be able to print the certificate.

All New Coaches must take the course now. Follow the directions “New to NFHS Learn? Register Now” on www.nfhslearn.com

Concussion in Sports - What You Need to Know Ordering Information at www.nfhslearn.com



Steps to access the FREE course:

1. Go to www.nfhslearn.com
2. Sign in with your e-mail and password if you have previously registered.
3. If you need to register, it will only take a couple of minutes. All users at www.nfhslearn.com must be registered with a unique e-mail address and password.
4. Toward the upper left-hand part of the screen , you will see the “Click to Access This Free Course” for “**Concussion in Sports — What You Need to Know.**”
5. You can order licenses as an individual to take the course yourself OR you can purchase courses in bulk if you intend to distribute the courses to others (there is a limit of 99 licenses per any one order).
6. Note: You will need to click on “Save” once you have put the course(s) in your cart and before you can proceed to Checkout.
7. As you go through the process you will see that you are using the “purchasing process” that is standard for NFHS Coach Education courses. You are not being charged anything for the Concussion courses. You do have the ability to order other courses at the same time, and you will be asked for payment for those.
8. You can then start the course if you ordered as an individual or begin distributing the licenses if you ordered in bulk.
9. If necessary, refer to the form regarding distributing bulk licenses. It can be found in the Locker Room at www.nfhslearn.com.

The online concussion course is offered at no cost to the user. Once you have finished, you will be added to the database as having completed the course. The name of the individual completing the course will appear in the “Coach Search” feature as having completed this course along with any other courses completed at www.nfhslearn.com.



WVSSAC

Return to Play (RTP) Protocol

An athlete removed from a contest that shows signs/symptoms of a concussion shall be immediately evaluated by an appropriate health care professional. If no appropriate health care professional is available, the athlete shall not be allowed to RTP.

When the athlete is evaluated by the appropriate health care professional, if it is determined the athlete has suffered a concussion, the athlete shall not be permitted to RTP until successful completion of the progressions and clearance to RTP. If it is determined by the appropriate health care professional that the athlete did not suffer a concussion, the athlete may be returned to play as deemed appropriate by the health care professional. In all cases, when an athlete has been evaluated for signs and symptoms, the concussion report must be submitted within 7 days.

RTP shall be delayed until athlete is asymptomatic and has undergone a progression of tests to determine if they are able to RTP. **Each step / test in the progression takes 24 hours (1 per day)**

The progression shall follow: (Neuro-cognitive testing is strongly recommended.)

- No activity with complete physical and cognitive rest
- Light aerobic exercise (less than 70% of maximum heart rate)
- Sport specific exercise (drills specific to the athlete's sport)
- Non-contact training drills (more intense sport drills with no contact from other players)
- Full participation practice (following written medical clearance)
- Return to Play (normal game play)

If any symptoms occur during the progression, the athlete should rest for 24 hours before attempting the same progression again.

Appropriate Health Care Professional

Note: Any of the following who have appropriate training in the evaluation and management of head injuries.

- Medical Doctor (MD)
- Doctor of Osteopathy (DO)
- Doctor of Chiropractic (DC)
- Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner (ARNP)
- Physician Assistant (PA-C)
- Licensed or Registered Certified Athletic Trainer (ATC/R, LAT, ATC)
- Licensed Physical Therapist

Approved Board of Directors 5/06/10. Revised May 2019

**WEST VIRGINIA SECONDARY SCHOOL ACTIVITIES COMMISSION
WVSSAC Sports Medicine Committee**

Heat Acclimatization and Heat Illness Prevention Position Statement

Although deaths from heat illness are rare, constant surveillance and education of our student athletes and coaches is necessary in order to maintain the safety and health of our students and coaches. Students participating in high-intensity, long-duration or repeated same-day sports practices and training activities during times of high heat and/or humidity may be at risk.

Following the recommended guidelines and procedures as established by the WVSSAC Sports Medicine Committee can reduce the risk and incidence of heat illnesses and the resulting deaths and injuries in high and middle school athletics. The Sports Medicine Committee and WVSSAC Board of Directors recognize the importance of our coaches and other individuals responsible for supervising our students. They have the ultimate responsibility for the health and welfare of those students under their care.

It is required by SB40 that each member school have a written Emergency Action Plan for practice and games to deal with emergencies related to injury or illness to a student athlete. The plan should include involvement of local rescue agencies, medical doctors, hospitals and local law enforcement agencies.

National Federation of State
High School Associations



EAS
SPORTS NUTRITION

Heat Illness Prevention

Exertional heat stroke is the leading cause of preventable death in high school athletics. Exertional heat stroke also results in thousands of emergency room visits and hospitalizations throughout the nation each year. This free course, brought to you by EAS Sports Nutrition, a division of Abbott Labs, is designed to give you the critical information you need to minimize the risk of exertional heat stroke among your athletes. The course presents seven fundamentals, which when followed, will minimize heat related illnesses of the students who participate.

Course Objectives

- Recognize that Exertional Heatstroke (EHS) is the leading preventable cause of death among athletes
- Know the importance of a formal pre-season heat acclimatization plan
- Know the importance of having and implementing a specific hydration plan, keeping your athletes well-hydrated, and providing ample opportunities for, and encouraging, regular fluid replacement

Units

- Fundamentals
 1. Start Slow, Then Progress
 2. Allow for Individual Conditioning
 3. Adjust Intensity and Rest
 4. Start Sessions Adequately Hydrated
 5. Recognize Signs Early
 6. Recognize More Serious Signs
 7. Have an Emergency Action Plan

More

- Unlimited access to course & resources for one year from date of purchase
- FREE Course
- Use as an elective to fulfill  certification requirements
- Approved by NFHS for 1 course clock hour

More Information at nfhslearn.com!

HEAT INDEX (apparent temperature)

°F	RELATIVE PERCENT HUMIDITY								
	40%	45%	50%	55%	60%	65%	70%	75%	80%
102°	114°	119°	124°	130°	137°				
100°	109°	114°	118°	124°	129°	136°			
98°	105°	109°	113°	117°	123°	128°	134°		
96°	101°	104°	108°	112°	116°	121°	126°	132°	
94°	97°	100°	102°	106°	110°	114°	119°	124°	129°
92°	94°	96°	99°	101°	105°	108°	112°	116°	121°
90°	91°	93°	95°	97°	100°	103°	106°	109°	113°
88°	88°	89°	91°	93°	95°	98°	100°	103°	106°
86°	85°	87°	88°	89°	91°	93°	95°	97°	100°
84°	83°	84°	85°	86°	88°	89°	90°	92°	94°
82°	81°	82°	83°	84°	84°	85°	86°	88°	89°
80°	80°	80°	81°	81°	82°	82°	83°	84°	84°

CAUTION
 EXTREME CAUTION
 DANGER

Source: National Weather Service

STA

- 91 degrees Heat Index or under
- All Sports:
 - Provide ample amounts of water. This means that water should always be available and athletes should be able to take in as much water as they desire.
 - Optional water breaks every 30 minutes.
 - Ice-down towels for cooling.
 - Watch/monitor athletes carefully for necessary action.

- 104 degrees to 125 degrees Heat Index
- All Sports:
 - Same as above plus; Alter uniform by removing items if possible.
 - Allow for changes to dry t-shirts and shorts.
 - Reduce time of outside activity as well as indoor activity if air conditioning is unavailable.
 - Postpone practice to later in the day.
 - Suspend practice, or remove equipment and decrease practice intensity for sports and activities where additional equipment is required for contact or safety.

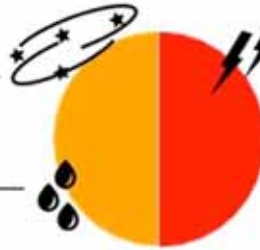
- 92 degrees to 103 degrees Heat Index
- All Sports:
 - See above plus; Contact sports and activities with additional equipment (ie), helmets and other possible equipment removed if not involved in contact.
 - Increase water breaks; a minimum every 30 minutes.
 - Reduce time of outside activity. Consider postponing practice to later in the day.
 - *Re-check temperature and humidity every 30 minutes to monitor for increased Heat Index.

- **Above 125 degrees Heat Index**
- All Sports:
 - ***Suspend all outside activity in practice and/or play, and stop all inside activity if air conditioning is unavailable.***
 - **Re-evaluate before resuming activities.**

HEAT EXHAUSTION

OR

Faint or dizzy



Excessive sweating



Cool, pale,
clammy skin

Nausea or vomiting

Rapid, weak pulse





W V S S A C

SUDDEN CARDIAC ARREST AWARENESS



All coaches are required to complete the NFHS Sudden Cardiac Arrest Awareness course annually.

What is Sudden Cardiac Arrest?

- Occurs suddenly and often without warning.
- An electrical malfunction (short-circuit) causes the bottom chambers of the heart (ventricles) to beat dangerously fast (ventricular tachycardia or fibrillation) and disrupts the pumping ability of the heart.
- The heart cannot pump blood to the brain, lungs and other organs of the body.
- The person loses consciousness (passes out) and has no pulse.
- Death occurs within minutes if not treated immediately.

What are the symptoms/warning signs of Sudden Cardiac Arrest?

- SCA should be suspected in any athlete who has collapsed and is unresponsive
- Fainting, a seizure, or convulsions during physical activity
- Dizziness or lightheadedness during physical activity
- Unusual fatigue/weakness
- Chest pain
- Shortness of breath
- Nausea/vomiting
- Palpitations (heart is beating unusually fast or skipping beats)
- Family history of sudden cardiac arrest at age <50

ANY of these symptoms/warning signs may necessitate further evaluation from your physician before returning to practice or a game.

What causes Sudden Cardiac Arrest?

- Conditions present at birth (inherited and non-inherited heart abnormalities)
- A blow to the chest (Commotio Cordis)
- An infection/inflammation of the heart, usually caused by a virus. (Myocarditis)
- Recreational/Performance-Enhancing drug use.
- Other cardiac & medical conditions / Unknown causes. (Obesity/Idiopathic)

What are ways to screen for Sudden Cardiac Arrest?

- The American Heart Association recommends a pre-participation history and physical which is mandatory annually in West Virginia.
- Always answer the heart history questions on the student Health History section of the WVSSAC Physical Form completely and honestly.
- Additional screening may be necessary at the recommendation of a physician.

What is the treatment for Sudden Cardiac Arrest?

- Act immediately; time is critical to increase survival rate
- Activate emergency action plan
- Call 911
- Begin CPR
- Use Automated External Defibrillator (AED)

Where can one find additional information?

- Contact your primary health care provider
- American Heart Association (www.heart.org)