

Saskatchewan High Schools Athletic Association



Return to Sports Plan

Fall 2021

(Golf, Cross-Country, Soccer, Football, & Volleyball)

As of September 17, 2021

Introduction

The fall of 2021 has brought the return of High School Sport. This has created a lot of excitement and enthusiasm across the province. SHSAA recognizes that Covid-19 is still a concern in Saskatchewan and acknowledges that the safety of our student-athletes, coaches, spectators, officials, and everyone involved is the number one priority.

At the September SHSAA Board of Directors meeting, parameters were created for each of the five fall provincial playoffs (Golf, Cross-Country, Soccer, Football, and Volleyball). The goal is not to interfere with the competition; rather, control the events around the competition to ensure safety remains priority.

SHSAA will continue to monitor the Public Health Measures that the Provincial Government has in place to combat the spread of Covid-19. Furthermore, SHSAA will collaborate with the local School Division hosting the event to stay up-to-date with their return to sport plans. SHSAA will not implement any measures that are a lower standard than the host school division. Additionally, schools coming from a School Division with a more stringent return to sport plan would be required to follow the direction of their own policy.

General Considerations

There are many considerations that must be accounted for when attending an SHSAA Provincial Event.

- **Government of Saskatchewan Public Health Measures**
 - [Public Health Measures](#)
 - [Public Health Orders](#)
- **Host School Division Return to Sport Policies**
 - School teams need to be aware of the policies in place at the school hosting an event. The host school division policy will be made available for every team attending an SHSAA Provincial Championship
 - Teams will be required to follow the host policy
- **Participating School Division Return to Sport Policies**
 - School teams need to be aware of the policies in place within their School Division. At a minimum standard, these policies will need to be followed when competing in SHSAA events.
- **Host Facility Policies**
 - When using public facilities schools, must follow the rules and restrictions of the facility.
- **Host/Facility/Division Policy**
 - This term will be used throughout the document. It references that teams must follow the policies that are in place by the Host School, specific Facility, and the team's School Division.

Golf

There are several parameters that have been approved for the 2021 SHSAA Provincial Golf Championship and playoffs leading up to the championship.

General:

- **Coaches Meeting:** The Coaches meeting will take place on Wednesday, September 22 at 3:30pm through Zoom. Coaches will be emailed a link to the meeting the morning of September 22nd.
- **Opening Ceremonies:** To avoid a large gathering and potential for limited physical distancing capability, opening ceremonies will not occur.
- **Awards:**
 - Individual medals will be presented to the gold, silver, and bronze winners immediately after the event on Saturday.
 - Team awards will not be presented. Team awards will be sent to the schools of the winners following the event.

Event:

- Groupings will be created based on District scores. The groupings will remain the same Friday and Saturday in order to reduce the number of contacts the competitor has.
- Registration will take place outdoors (weather permitting). Please respect physical distancing while waiting to register.
- Come prepared for the event. There will not be access to change rooms.
- Practice physical distancing at all times
- Golfers will be able to chip and putt prior to the shotgun start. If they begin on hole 8, they will have access to the green on hole 7. Details to be provided at the coaches meeting.
- Acknowledge your opponent in a non-contact fashion (handshakes are not permitted)
- The facilitator will collect and submit the groups' scorecards on behalf of the golfer's

Mask Requirements:

- Required when in the clubhouse
- Required when registering
- Required for facilitators when physical distancing is not possible
- Masking per Host/Facility/School Division Policy

Spectators:

- Must follow the SHSAA Coaches and Spectators Policy:
 - Stay at least 20 yards behind the last golfer
 - Follow your group by walking and staying in the rough
 - When the players are putting, stay well back of the green and out of the line of sight of the person putting
 - Be quiet prior to and immediately following the athlete hitting the ball
 - No conversations may take place with the golfers and/or officials during the round
- Follow the policies in place by the host facility

Cross-Country

There are several parameters that have been approved for the 2021 SHSAA Provincial Cross-Country Championship and districts leading up to the event.

General:

- ***Coaches Meeting:*** The Coaches meeting will take place on Wednesday, October 13 at 3:30pm through Zoom. Coaches will be emailed a link to the meeting the morning of October 13th.
- ***Opening Ceremonies:*** To avoid a large gathering and potential for limited physical distancing capability, opening ceremonies will not occur.
- ***Awards:***
 - Individual medals and ribbons will be presented to the top 10 finishers immediately after each race on Saturday.
 - Team awards will not be presented. Team awards will be sent to the schools of the winners following the event.

Event:

- Come prepared for the event. There will not be access to change rooms.
- Practice physical distancing at all times
- Acknowledge your opponent in a non-contact fashion (handshakes are not permitted)
- Athletes are encouraged to leave the venue at the conclusion of their race, if possible

Mask Requirements:

- Required during registration
- Required when accessing Sport Logo
- Required during the course walk-through
- Required while approaching the start line and left on until instructed by the starter to remove. (Masks can be worn during the race if desired or if school division policy requires it)
- Volunteers should have masks available if they are unable to socially distance or if they are in close contact with athletes
- Masking per Host/Facility/School Division Policy

Spectators:

- Spectators should follow the direction of the host committee, signage, and be respectful of physical distancing
- Spectators are not allowed on the course
- Spectators are encouraged to leave the finish line area once the race has concluded

Soccer

There are several parameters that have been approved for the 2021 SHSAA Provincial Soccer Championships and regionals leading up to the event.

General:

- **Coaches Meeting:** The Coaches meeting will take place on Wednesday, October 27 at 3:30pm through Zoom. Coaches will be emailed a link to the meeting the morning of October 27th.
- **Opening Ceremonies:** To avoid a large gathering and potential for limited physical distancing capability, opening ceremonies will not occur.
- **Awards:**
 - Medals will be presented at the conclusion of the gold and bronze medal games
 - Coaches will be given the medals to present to their team

Event:

- Come prepared for the event. There will not be access to change rooms.
- Practice physical distancing on the sidelines
- Acknowledge your opponent in a non-contact fashion (handshakes are not permitted)
- Athletes are encouraged to leave the venue at the conclusion of the game
- Consider a ball rotation that involves sanitizing

Mask Requirements:

- Required when dealing with injured players
- Required if accessing indoor facility
- Masking per Host/Facility/School Division Policy

Spectators:

- Spectators should follow the direction of the host committee, signage, and be respectful of physical distancing
- Fans should make every attempt to stick to their bubble
- Masks are required at the admission gate
- Spectators should be aware of public use facilities masking requirements

Admission Gate:

- Masks are required for people working the admission gate
- Hand sanitizer should be readily available
- Physical distancing markers should be in place to assist with the flow of spectators entering the facility

Football

There are several parameters that have been approved for the 2021 SHSAA Provincial Football Championship and playoffs leading up to the championship.

General:

- **Opening Ceremonies:** To avoid a large gathering and potential for limited physical distancing capability, opening ceremonies have been cancelled.
- **Awards:**
 - Medals will be presented at the conclusion of the championship game
 - Coaches will be given the medals to present to their team

Event:

- Change facilities will vary based on Host School Division Policy.
- Practice physical distancing on the sidelines
- Acknowledge your opponent in a non-contact fashion (handshakes are not permitted)
- Consider a ball rotation that involves sanitizing
- There should be no handshakes during the coin flip and post-game

Mask Requirements:

- Required when dealing with injured players
- Required if accessing indoor facility
- Masking per Host/Facility/School Division Policy

Spectators:

- Spectators should follow the direction of the host committee, signage, and be respectful of physical distancing
- Fans should make every attempt to stick to their bubble
- Masks are required at the admission gate
- Spectators should be aware of public use facilities masking requirements

Admission Gate:

- Masks are required for people working the admission gate
- Hand sanitizer should be readily available
- Physical distancing markers should be in place to assist with the flow of spectators entering the facility

Volleyball

There are several parameters that have been approved for the 2021 SHSAA Provincial Volleyball Championship and playoffs leading up to the championship.

General:

- **Coaches Meeting:**
 - **1-5A girls, 5A boys:** Coaches meeting will take place Wednesday, November 17 @ 3:30pm
 - **1-4A Boys:** Coaches meeting will take place Wednesday, November 24 @ 3:30pm
 - The Coaches meeting will occur through zoom. Coaches will be emailed a link to the meeting the morning of their meeting.
- **Opening Ceremonies:** To avoid a large gathering and potential for limited physical distancing capability, opening ceremonies will not occur.
- **Awards:**
 - Medals will be presented at the conclusion of the gold and bronze medal games
 - Coaches will be given medals to present to their team

Event:

- Rooms will be assigned to assist in keeping a team bubble during the competition
- Practice physical distancing when possible
- Acknowledge your opponent in a non-contact fashion (handshakes are not permitted)
- During the coin flip, physical distancing should occur. No handshakes will occur with officials
- A rotation should occur at the end of a set. The non-playing personnel and extra athletes will follow the on-court athletes around the net to avoid contact on the sidelines
- Warm-up:
 - Teams will be given 5-5-5 for warm-ups
 - The first 5 will allow both teams to warm-up on their side of the court
 - Each team will then have 5 minutes. During that time, the other team will remain on their bench. There is not enough room in most facilities to allow enough spacing on the end line
 - The serving team would get the first 5 minutes
 - The receiving team would get the last 5 minutes
- Develop a ball rotation that involves sanitizing
- Teams will not shake hands at the end of the game. They will proceed to their assigned room in preparation for their next match.

Considerations:

- Ensure hand sanitizer is available on the sidelines
- Provide extra masks on the sidelines for players to use when they are not on the court
- There should be extra garbage cans in the gym and near the player benches
- Coaches should bring their own writing implement to use for the scoresheet

Mask Requirements:

- Required when entering facility, on the sideline, or moving throughout the school
- Required for minor officials
- Required for all spectators
- Required for coaches and athletes not on the court
- Required for athletes 18+ while on the court
- Required for officials
- Masking per Host/Facility/School Division Policy

Spectators:

- Spectators should follow the direction of the host committee, signage, and be respectful of physical distancing
- Hosts will develop a plan to create team spectator bubbles
- Masks are required upon entering the facility
- Contact tracing may occur based on host School Division Policy