

## **2020-2021 Basketball Update (Email sent October 8, 2020)**

The basketball season is right around the corner. The WCHSA Board would like to take this opportunity to provide an update on the upcoming season.

If you have not registered an athlete and are still interested in participating this season, we have extended the registration deadline through Wednesday, October 14th. Spread the word to any homeschoolers who could be served by our programs to visit <http://wchsa eagles.com>

There is still some uncertainty about large gatherings, masks, travel, and many other aspects of our season, but we have elected to move forward and provide beneficial programs this season as in the past. WCHSA fall sports have wrestled with these same questions, and learned many lessons along the way that will help guide us forward. There is no uncertainty, however, about WCHSA's mission to provide athletic programs for homeschool athletes in our area where they can grow in their spiritual lives. Both volleyball and cross country this season have shown that the work and commitment by the coaching staff and athletes are well worth it. The coaches and staff from these teams have been shining examples of integrity, commitment, and love.

In order to provide a basketball program this year, WCHSA must comply with the regulations of the facilities where we practice and host games. Without these facilities, we can not have a season. Therefore, the Board would like to strongly encourage anyone that does not intend to follow the protocols below not to register this season. Full refunds are available for those that have already registered and choose not to participate.

A. Temperature checks will be completed by team staff for everyone entering the facility for practice and games. A no-touch thermometer will be used upon entry, and anyone exhibiting a fever will be denied entry. Hand sanitizer will be available for all to use.

B. Most of our practice facilities are currently requiring a cloth face covering when entering and exiting the building and when not actively playing. For consistency, we will be requiring this procedure at all practices and games.

C. There is likely to be a limit on spectators based upon state mandates. Exact specifics for each facility are unknown at this time.

D. WCHSA does not have any plans to have games or practices in any situation where players would be required to wear a mask DURING athletic activity. If facility policies change, we will work to find alternative opportunities of getting together to further develop skills. The Coaches, Board, and parents surveyed all agree that this would be unhealthy and potentially dangerous.

E. Until further notice, these protocols will be in place for all age groups, and there may be more specific requirements for away games, as each facility and program may set their own protocols.

F. WCHSA already posts each of our COVID-19 related communications on our website, for consistency and transparency <http://wchsa eagles.com/covid-19-information>. We encourage everyone to seek answers to any questions up front, and to carefully consider these points before committing to this season. Our finalized basketball procedures will be detailed prior to

parents' meetings.

**In conclusion, WCHSA asks our coaches and staff to lead athletes in growing in a Godly life and to coach them during practices and games on how to improve their basketball skills. The coaches should not have to develop protocols, "police" procedures, or manage compliance. If anyone does not intend to follow these points, which are only in place to make sure we have facilities available to us, PLEASE do not put the coaches in a difficult position. WCHSA coaches are all men and women of integrity, who have your childrens' best interests at heart. We know that many of them have stressed the importance of respecting our facilities, honoring the God-given authorities, and treating one another with love. While we respect differing opinions and individual families' freedoms, WCHSA is not able to allow participants that do not agree to follow the protocols above, and we would invite them to re-join us next season.**

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