

From: **Washington County Homeschool Athletics** <mailer@demosphere.com>

Date: Fri, Aug 7, 2020 at 9:12 PM

Subject: Monday Parent Meeting-UPDATE

To: <tjandjmkahrs@gmail.com>

Dear High School Volleyball families~

We have important information to share with you at the parent meeting on Monday. One parent from each family must attend, before your high school daughter will be allowed to enter the facility for practice on Monday.

We are aware that some families may be unable to attend. If you are unable to attend, you need to reach out to Coach Julie before Monday at julieanna.anderson@gmail.com. There is important information that must be shared with you before she can participate in practices. We are counting on the parental involvement that makes this organization so great.

Please review the message below from the WCHSA Board in preparation for the parent meeting. There will be a Board member at the parent meeting if you have any issues to discuss with the group. Also, if you have any concerns you would like to have addressed prior to the meeting, we highly encourage you to reach out to Coach.

Thank you.

-Volleyball Staff

From the WCHSA Board of Directors, 8/7/2020:

We know you will join us in working to ensure that there is a volleyball season for the athletes that wish to participate. Additionally, if we can include as many athletes and families as possible in our mission to display the glory of God through organized sport, that would be excellent.

While the members of the Board have varying and diverse personal opinions on many of the issues of the day, we are entirely committed to having a volleyball program this year, if at all possible, and to making it a quality experience, in line with our mission statement. Similarly, we know that many of you have personal passions that you fight for, publicly and privately, and that you are willing to accept the consequences of those convictions. In line with that freedom and free choice, we need to be sure to communicate some facts, so that each of you can decide if you truly wish to participate.

1- There were VERY FEW available facilities that would offer us a schedule of dates for practices and games. Few were open, and even fewer wanted to commit to making a "home court" happen. *Without Adversity-Wisconsin Volleyball Club in Germantown, it is likely we could not have started this season.* Also, in WCHSA's recent history, the Christian character displayed by our athletes, families, and staff have played a great part in witnessing Christ's love and working a new faith in people at Adversity. This has led to great opportunities for our volleyball program through the leadership at Adversity, who now wish to help our Mission. We absolutely appreciate the extra level of service and the financial considerations we receive there. Out of thanks for these blessings, we praise God, and intend to honor Adversity Training Center's COVID-19 Response. We don't wish to do or encourage anything that may put their business, livelihood, and reputation at risk.

2- WCHSA has many new families this season, for a variety of reasons. WCHSA actively seeks to respect all who are in line with our Mission Statement and Statement of Faith and who agree to operate within our By-laws. Therefore, if we can make accommodations that make more individuals comfortable to participate, we believe we will be more successful in building Godly Character and Witness. Some people may need more reassurance than others that it is safe for their child to participate.

3- Our volleyball staff has diligently and consistently reached out to our opponents, other homeschool groups, and other experts to craft the Board approved policy. This encourages everyone involved to act in an ethical, moral, and honest way, The volunteer coaching staff will be focused on making the sport a successful, character building experience, not enforcing health policy. Each athlete and family must be accountable for their own actions. Please see the text of the health order, partially detailed below, for some legitimate exceptions and alternatives.

As an organization, we will keep “glorifying God through organized sport” at the top of our priorities. We aim to be safe, respectful, and thankful for our blessings while doing it. Should the situation change or conditions become altered, WCHSA always offers refunds up to the date of the first practice. We have also agreed to prorate any registration fees throughout the season for families that choose to leave the team, this season only, if requested, due to extreme circumstances.

Sincerely,

WCHSA Board

current.board@wchsaeagles.com

Included below are the attachments that were included in the previous message. Please become familiar with them, these are the guidelines the girls must follow for us to have a volleyball season.

WCHSA Volleyball Covid-19 Response

In light of the regulations and mandates associated with Covid-19, the WCHSA board, and especially our coaches have worked tirelessly at finding a way to have a volleyball season and are committed to providing our girls with meaningful and safe volleyball opportunities.

We have listened to how other home-schooled athletics in WI and IL are responding, read the government mandates and FAQs, listened to the input of people in the medical profession and taken into account what our and other athletic rental facilities are doing. Our coaches also have a unified strong opinion that playing in masks is UNHEALTHY.

WCHSA’s plan for this season is based on the desire to keep our girls SAFE AND HEALTHY.

- *additional court time and splitting grade school into two teams to allow for greater distancing
- *sanitizing equipment before and after our time on the courts (in addition to Adversity’s cleaning protocols)
- *pumping hand sanitizer on and off the court
- *wearing masks from the point of entering and throughout the building, on the sidelines and in huddles
- *face coverings may be lowered/removed during active drills and play

Note: parameters for face coverings is based on the request of Adversity:

“In addition to the precautions we have in place, we would like to ask anyone entering ATC to wear a mask into the locker room, in the hallways and into the gym. If you feel comfortable wearing a mask during exercise and sports, that is totally your choice. If you feel wearing a mask while moving and exerting energy will inhibit your performance or create an additional health concern, I would encourage you to leave it on the sidelines. All participants need to honor everyone's beliefs and respect their decision (athletes and coaches alike). Any parents or spectators dropping off the girls already trust in our training and should utilize the room 4 media lounge that has 8 tables and 48 chairs, wi-fi and more. If you want to peak in the gym and watch various segments of our training, please pull out a chair as they are folded up to support social distancing and various other precautions.”

WCHSA will purchase neck gaiters for each girl, or an 'easy breathing' mask style face covering. The gaiters can be pulled down around the neck when on the court, and very easily pulled up at the edges/sides when girls are gathering or off court. If there are teams that we end up playing this season that require a face covering during play, the coaches are most comfortable with the breathability of these fabrics.

Note: We do have a number of girls with conditions that would preclude them from necessarily wearing a mask at all. The following excerpts may bring some clarity for those who haven't read the mask mandate. If there are players that prefer to wear a mask throughout practices and games, the coaches will respect that and trust the girls will self-monitor their personal safety during exertion.

As stated in the governor's mandate and FAQ sheet:

****“Face covering” means a piece of cloth or other material that is worn to cover the nose and mouth completely. A “face covering” includes but is not limited to a bandana, a cloth face mask, a disposable or paper mask, a neck gaiter, or a religious face covering. A “face covering” does not include face shields, mesh masks, masks with holes or openings, or masks with vents”**

****Exemptions include: “Individuals who have trouble breathing”**

****Q: What do I do if I see someone not wearing a mask, even though they should be?**

A: Nothing. Some people have conditions or circumstances that would make wearing a cloth face covering difficult or dangerous. Just wear your mask and stay six feet away.

****Q: I have a medical condition that prevents me from wearing a face covering. Do I need documentation to prove that I don't need to wear a face covering in public?**

A: No. You are not required to carry documentation to prove that you do not need to wear a face covering in public

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