



THE EWING PUBLIC SCHOOLS

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

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Ewing Schools Reopening Update: EHS Winter Athletics

Dear Ewing School Community,

As we continue to navigate the COVID-19 public health crisis, the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association has made the decision to conduct a winter high school athletic season.

Again, the Board and administration received and reviewed this decision cautiously, as our foremost priority is the health and safety of our students and staff. That being stated, acknowledging the many educational and emotional health benefits of scholastic athletics, we have made the decision to move forward cautiously with Ewing High School's participation in NJSIAA's winter interscholastic sports season.

Our emphasis will be on student and health and safety and providing our student-athletes the opportunity to benefit from the educational and mental health benefits of school-based athletics. Stringent policies and procedures will be put in place to emphasize the well-being of everyone involved. Hygiene and sanitary practice must take place at home and be reinforced constantly. Masks must always be worn according to guidelines.

It also must be emphasized that this is a very tenuous, fragile situation. The reality is that one COVID-19 case could potentially end the season for a particular team. Furthermore, we will not hesitate to terminate the season if the public health situation deteriorates or if there are problematic developments within a program. If this is to work, it is vital that all our student-athletes follow best practices with regard to public health by avoiding indoor gatherings, always practice social distancing, wearing masks and embracing proper hygienic approaches.

Following is the NJSIAA Winter Sports Seasonal Schedule:

Sport	Practice Start	Competition Start	Competition End	
Ice Hockey	Postponed	TBA	TBA	
Basketball Winter Cheer	Bowling	January 11th	January 26th	March 6th
Swimming	Winter Track & Field	February 1st	February 16th	March 27th
Wrestling		March 1st	March 16th	April 24th

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Athletic Registration for the Winter season is now open through Genesis for our prospective winter athletes.

Student-athletes who have not submitted their required paperwork should drop off their necessary paperwork to the main office of EHS. Parents or guardians must register all student athletes that are participating in athletics this winter through Genesis on the parent portal. All students must have an up to date physical on file with the high school to participate in athletics. Students who have pre-existing health conditions and/or are immunocompromised must provide a note stating clearance from their Doctor's office. Preexisting conditions include but are not limited to preexisting conditions of Asthma, Diabetes, Adrenal Insufficiency, Heart Conditions, Sickle Cell, and Lupus.

An example of a note is below. Please make sure the note is on the official letter head of the doctor's office:

The doctor's office of (insert doctor) has cleared (student athlete) with the pre-existing condition (enter pre-existing condition), and that he/she is medically cleared to play sports while adhering to all Covid-19 precautions.

Once the nurse has reviewed the physicals, the athletic office will send an email home regarding anything that is still needed for the student athlete to be cleared, or an email confirming the student athlete is cleared to start practice. Only student athletes that have received a clearance letter are allowed to attend practices.

Due to health and operational concerns, there is a possibility of a limited schedule for many teams. More sport-specific information will follow as we make our way into the winter season. Our goal is to find an opportunity for as many athletes as possible to participate in a safe manner. **Due to current state mandates, parent/spectator attendance at winter high school sporting events will be extremely limited, and most likely, prohibited.** We will strive to livestream as many athletic events as possible.

Winter Sports Student-Athletes would be responsible for the following daily:

- All student athletes would be required to fill out a daily pre-screen form (online) at home before arrival.
- All student athletes would be required to fill out a daily check-in form after temperature has been taken upon arrival (online or paper).
- All student athletes would be required to get their temperature checked upon arrival. Any student who has an elevated temperature will be sent home.
- Parents are required to wait until the athlete has passed the daily screening checks before leaving, in the event your athlete needs to be sent home.
- All student-athletes will be required to bring their own water bottles or they will be sent home.
- All student athletes are required to be promptly picked up after practices to avoid breaking social distancing guidelines.
- All student athletes are responsible for sanitation of personal equipment.

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We will continue to follow the guidance of the NJSIAA and keep all athletes updated with any information as it becomes available as it relates to the high school winter sports season.

Thank you, and we wish our student-athletes the very best.

Sincerely,

Michael Nitti

Michael Nitti
Superintendent

Edward Chmiel

Edward Chmiel
EHS Principal

Ernie Covington

Ernie Covington
Athletic Director

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