

New Hampshire Interscholastic Athletic Association

251 Clinton Street Concord, NH 03301 Office: 603-228-8671 Fax: 603-225-7978

Press Release

For Immediate Release March 16th, 2020 RE: NHIAA Updates

While it was the intention of the NHIAA to play the remaining games left in the tournaments, given the guidelines specified by Governor Sununu, the NHDHHS, and the CDC in response to the escalating public health issue, this plan is no longer feasible. Because of this, the NHIAA has made the difficult decision to cancel the remainder of the 2020 Winter Tournament events.

We recognize that this decision will be a disappointment to our student-athletes, coaches, and fans; yet given the uncertain nature of the weeks to come, we feel that there is no alternative. The NHIAA shares in the frustrations of our student-athletes, yet we hope this decision will allow them to move forward and adjust to the new normal of their educational experience for the next several weeks. A decision will be made later this week on how to best recognize State Champions in tournaments that were cancelled.

Regarding spring sports, as Governor Sununu has issued guidance for schools to be closed until April 3rd, the start of the spring season will be delayed. As of now, the first date to practice spring sports will be Monday, April 13th, 2020. The first date to play will be Monday, April 27th, 2020. We will closely monitor developments with the COVID-19 pandemic and should we need to adjust these dates, we will do so as necessary. It is our intention to hold open tournaments at the end of the regular season for each division.

As stated last week, we ask for everyone's patience, cooperation, and understanding as we navigate these uncharted waters. The NHIAA will keep its member schools updated on any further developments. Thank you for your understanding and patience as we join the effort to plateau the spread of COVID-19 in New Hampshire.

Contact:

Jeffrey Collins Executive Director (603) 228-8671

The New Hampshire Interscholastic Athletic Association is a private not for profit organization that has served as the leader of high school athletics for its member schools in New Hampshire since 1947. The Mission of the NHIAA is to ensure fair play in competition and equal opportunity in interscholastic athletics. Located in Concord, NH the NHIAA joins 49 other state associations and the District of Columbia in statewide oversight of high school interscholastic athletics. The NHIAA follows the rules and regulations of the National Federation of High School Associations based in Indianapolis, IN.