



REGION 5 OF THE ALASKA SCHOOLS ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION

April 28, 2021

TO: Ketchikan High School
FR: Region 5 of ASAA Executive Committee
RE: Mitigation Policies for Wrestling

To Whom It May Concern:

Due to recent events that have evolved from a COVID-19 positive participant on Ketchikan High School's wrestling team, it has been brought to the attention of the Region 5 Executive Committee that Ketchikan High School did NOT follow the Mitigation Plan for Region 5 Wrestling Events during the Ketchikan/Bill Weiss Tournament. Region 5 bylaws and policies state any event that is on the Region 5 adopted calendar is considered to be a Region 5 event.

It is clearly stated in the Region 5 Mitigation Plan that COVID-19 testing is required for all Region 5 wrestling events. This verbiage was adopted by the Region 5 Board of Directors at the March 16, 2021 meeting as well as the April 13, 2021 Region 5 Board meeting. The voting on the mitigation plan passed unanimously on March 16, 2021. The April 13, 2021 board meeting mitigation plan passed 15-1. It should be noted Ketchikan was present at both meetings and voted in favor of the policy both times.

During both meetings it was repeatedly stated that all wrestlers must be tested prior to **attending** any wrestling event that takes place within Region 5 schools.

Below is a copy of the mitigation plan approved by the Region 5 Board of Directors on April 13, 2021 (emphasis added):

Objective	This document is designed to guide our Region V schools to prevent the spread of COVID-19, in accordance with Public Health recommendations, ASAA recommendations, and NFHS guidelines.
Community Risk Levels	Each team will follow their District/Community Smart Start plan
Testing	Testing will be required . Before Travel to A Meet - A negative COVID -19 test is required before traveling - Week of Competition After Traveling to A Meet -

Jaime Cabral, President
PO Box 289
Petersburg, AK 99833
PHONE 877-526-7656
jcabral@pcsd.us

Karen Morrison, Secretary/Treasurer
PO Box 289
Petersburg, AK 99833
PHONE 877-526-7656
business@pcsd.us



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	<p>Follow school Smart Start plans</p> <p>Requirements for testing may be met by also meeting the following requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A PCR test taken within 72 hours of arriving at the host site and proof of a negative test result. • Twice-Weekly Antigen testing done for a minimum of 2 weeks and last antigen test taken within 48 hours of arriving at the host site.
<p>Masks/Face Coverings</p>	<p>Masks are required for all competitions until further notice.</p> <p>At Practice - follow school guidelines</p> <p>Following ASAA State Competition Requirements: Due to Teams Testing prior to any attendance at a Region 5 Wrestling Event - Masks are NOT required while actively competing. Participants must be masked while on the sidelines or moving about the tournament site and at all other times. Coaches, Administrators, and other team personnel must be masked at all times. It shall be noted that HOST SCHOOL DISTRICTS may have masking requirements that will require masks at all times including competition and vigorous activity.</p> <p>Testing specific requirements must meet the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A PCR test taken within 72 hours of arriving at the host site and proof of a negative test result. • Twice-Weekly Antigen testing done for a minimum of 2 weeks and last antigen test taken within 48 hours of arriving at the host site.
<p>Practices</p>	<p>Essential Personnel only (coaches, athletes, administrators)</p> <p>When possible, keep practice squads into pods of 6 or less.</p> <p>Wrestlers should shower, wash and sanitize all practice gear, headgear, and other protective equipment, daily.</p> <p>No sharing of personal equipment.</p> <p>Mandatory breaks to sanitize during practice.</p>

Jaime Cabral, President
 PO Box 289
 Petersburg, AK 99833
 PHONE 877-526-7656
 jcabral@pcsd.us

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	Have disinfecting wipes, spray, or foam available for wrestlers for use before, during, and after practice.
Meets	<p>Temperature & Screening of the wrestlers will be taken before weigh-ins.</p> <p>Teams will limit interaction with other teams. The host school will give every school attending the meet:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. School mitigation plan <p>Spectator capacity in accordance with the host school mitigation plan & if in agreement with visiting teams.</p> <p>Concessions stand closed - Wrestlers need to bring their own drinks and food and each host school designates an eating area.</p> <p>Hand sanitizer and disinfectant wipes available at each mat side and scores table.</p> <p>Weigh-ins will be segregated by teams to avoid mixing teams and to limit exposure</p> <p>Host schools will get a list of wrestlers and notify participating schools of weight class matchups. If a wrestler does not have a person in their weight range, then that wrestler will not attend the meet</p>
Travel	Each team will follow their District/Community Smart Start plan
ASAA COVID - 19 Wrestling Recommendations	https://asaa.org/wp-content/uploads/Wrestling-Recommendations.pdf
ASAA COVID - 19 Resources	https://asaa.org/covid-19/
NFHS 2020 - 21 Wrestling	https://asaa.org/wp-content/uploads/NFHS-Wrestling-Considerations.pdf
Region V Rule Modifications	The rule that mandates a wrestler must compete in at least one (1) region event will be waived for the Wrestling season of 2020-2021.

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 Petersburg, AK 99833
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The actions of not following the Mitigation Policies violates the Bylaws and Constitution of Region V under the following; Article II; Section 2.

ARTICLE II: MEMBERSHIP

Section 1: Any high school in Southeastern Alaska is eligible for membership in Region V, provided the school is a member of ASAA.

Section 2: Being a member constitutes recognition by the member of Region V's authority over the membership and agreement to comply fully with Region V's bylaws and policies.

Due to Ketchikan High School's actions, Region 5 schools and communities have been subjected to unnecessary health and safety risks related to COVID-19. This letter is to be considered a "warning" from the Region 5 Executive Committee. The undue stress on all communities and participating schools could have and should have been avoided. Ketchikan High School's failure to follow the plans as set forth by the Region 5 Board of Directors created a situation that put both the Region and participating schools in an unsafe and unnecessary situation. These actions may jeopardize other schools academic in-person schedules and future activities. This is unacceptable and future violations of Region 5 policies may result in Ketchikan High School being denied membership in Region 5 in the 2021-2022 school year.

Right to Appeal

An appeal to this decision can be made to the Executive Committee of Region 5 within thirty (30) days of this decision.

Respectfully,

Mr. Jaime Cabral
Region 5 President

cc Billy Strickland, ASAA Executive Director

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PO Box 289
Petersburg, AK 99833
PHONE 877-526-7656
jcabral@pcsd.us

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