



SOUTH CAROLINA HIGH SCHOOL LEAGUE

Jerome P. Singleton, Commissioner
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To: Superintendents, Principals and Athletics Directors

From: Jerome Singleton, Commissioner
SC High School League

Subject: Guidelines for Return to Play/Practice Team Sports

Date: May 28, 2020

Greetings,

I trust that this day finds you healthy and safe. Please find attached “**Guidelines for Return to Play/Practice Team Sports**” with supplemental information. The return of team sports comes with specific guidelines to be followed. This information has carefully been compiled and surmised by a task force of representatives from the League staff, SC Superintendents, member school athletics directors and coaches, and the SCHSL Sports Medicine Advisory Committee (SMAC). Additionally, the information has been reviewed and vetted by the SC Department of Education’s AccelerateED Task Force, DHEC, and discussed with a representative from the SC Governor’s office.

The goal is to allow the athletes, coaches, and staff to begin in-person training and group workouts while maintaining a safe environment. It is imperative that if schools choose to begin implementing **Phase 1**, they do so under the guidelines set forth. Schools continue to have the option of utilizing technology to communicate and train student-athletes if they decide not to implement in-person, on-campus contact currently.

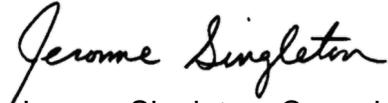
Please understand that some families may not feel it is safe or appropriate to begin in-person workouts at this time. Also, many families may have plans for the previously scheduled summer dead weeks. In both instances, student-athletes should be allowed to return to team activities without repercussions when they feel it is appropriate to do so. In these unprecedented times, please allow for participation without mandatory attendance requirements during the summer period.

As part of the process, the League will conduct a member schools online meeting on Thursday, June 4, 2020, at 2:00 p.m. to discuss guidelines in more detail. **Please email any questions referencing these guidelines to Tammie Newman at tnewman@schsl.org by 12:30 p.m. Wednesday, June 3, 2020. Questions need to stay on topic and pertain to the 2020-21 guidelines attached.**

Sports will most certainly be a tremendous catalyst for our communities to return to a much-welcomed sense of normalcy. We must be purpose driven in implementing these guidelines to return to play.

If we each do our part during this phase, we can return to play this fall sports season and beyond.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jerome Singleton". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jerome Singleton, Commissioner
SC High School League