

March 4, 2020

Re: NWISA response to the ongoing coronavirus outbreak



In response to the unknown risks presented by the COVID-19 coronavirus outbreak in Washington State, the Northwest Interscholastic Sailing Association (NWISA) is taking the following steps to minimize the chance of the virus spreading through or within the NW high school sailing community. While evidence has shown that youth and teens are at low risk for serious symptoms associated with the virus, NWISA is taking these steps to protect the health of those at higher risk in our communities:

Precautionary measures at regattas: Event hosts will work with NWISA to ensure proper hand-washing/sanitizing stations for participants. Additionally, hosts will ensure extra precaution with any food handling by volunteers/staff. Event hosts will not utilize volunteers/staff who are exhibiting signs of respiratory sickness, or at a higher risk of viral infection in their event workforce.

Coach screening of sailors: NWISA requests that all coaches and programs monitor their sailors for signs of respiratory illness (cough, sneezing, shortness of breath, fever over 100.4°F) and bar these sailors from continued participation in the program (practices/regattas/scrimmages) until they have sufficiently recovered to return to school/group activities (24-48 hours after last exhibiting symptoms). Programs are encouraged to provide education to sailors and parents in regards to proper hand hygiene and cough/sneeze etiquette to avoid viral infection.

If a member school has a coronavirus related closure: Depending on the reason and duration of the closure, NWISA reserves the right to bar students who attend these schools from participating in NWISA organized events and regattas. If the host of a scheduled regatta has member schools participating in their program that are closed for a coronavirus related issue, the event may be relocated, cancelled or rescheduled at the discretion of the NWISA officers. In the case of a member school being unable to attend a ranking or qualifying event due to a school closure, NWISA, upon request, will attempt to provide adequate redress, as allowed under the ISSA Championship General Conditions.

As the situation develops or changes we may offer additional guidance.

Signed: the NWISA Officers

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