

The town hall will begin shortly...



ASAA Town Hall

COVID-19, its impacts, and what
ASAA is doing to support you.



Moderator's Welcome



George Hoyt
ASAA President



Housekeeping/Webinar Protocol



Mike Steele
ASAA Senior Assistant Director

- Webinar vs “Meeting”
- Use Q&A to ask questions
- Chat is disabled for this meeting, so please use the Q&A to direct your questions to us and we’ll do our best to answer them

Speakers



John Paton
ASAA Executive Director



Marvin Dobish
Sport Consultant, Sector
Development
Sport, Physical Activity & Recreation
Alberta Culture, Multiculturalism and
Status of Women



Steven Patrick
Sport Consultant, Multisport Games
Sport, Physical Activity and
Recreation
Alberta Culture, Multiculturalism and
Status of Women



Rick Gilson
ASAA Past-President



Today we will cover:

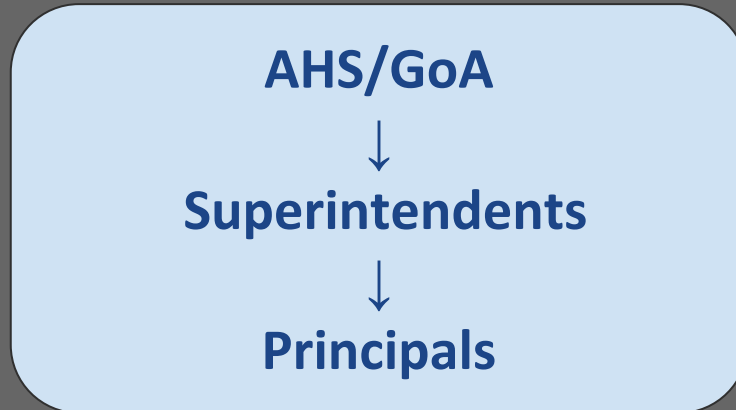
1. History - How we got here from March 12th
 - a. Summary of timeline
 - b. Executive/Board decision making procedures
2. ASAA Membership Fees
3. ASAA Coach Education Requirements amid COVID-19
4. Competition(Local, Zone, Provincial)
5. Presentation from Government of Alberta SPAR Representatives
6. Open Q&A



Disclaimer

ASAA's role is to advocate for schools and establish an environment that is conducive to competition within the confines set by AHS/GoA

Here is what the ASAA Executive Committee sees as the hierarchy for the decision making process for return to school sport:



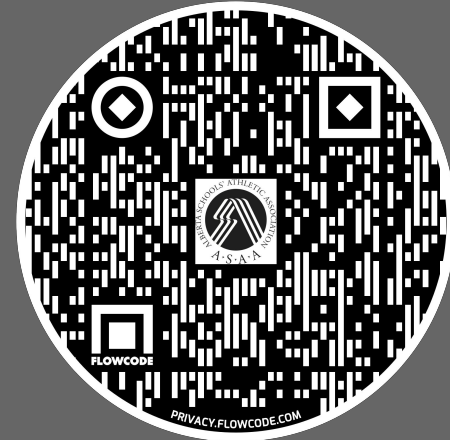
Timeline

- Evening of March 11th, 2020 - First emergency executive committee meeting
- March 12th, 2020 - ASAA Wrestling Provincials (scheduled to begin March 13th) indefinitely postponed
- March 13th, 2020 - ASAA Basketball Provincials (March 19th start) indefinitely postponed
- April 15th, 2020 - All remaining Spring 2020 Provincial Championship events cancelled
- April-June 2020 - ASAA Executive & Staff meet weekly to stay on top of developments and implications for school sport
- June 19, 2020 - ASAA Board grants Executive Committee authority (via NoM) to adjust seasons of play as required to accomodate play in light of COVID-19
- June 25, 2020 - ASAA Releases results of survey to member schools on return-to-play
- August 11, 2020 - ASAA delays start of fall seasons of play
- August 13, 2020 - ASAA postpones all fall Provincial Championships
- August 28 - Safe Return to School Athletics Document Released
- September 9, 2020 - ASAA Updates guidelines to allow for competition



Where we are today

- Latest September 9th release from the ASAA allows for schools to now participate in cohorts/mini-leagues (under GoA/school jurisdiction guidelines)
- Clarifies position around participation in multiple sport cohorts
- ASAA is not preventing students participating in multiple sport cohorts at one time, nor is ASAA recommending it even though permitted by GOA. Parental discretion and weighing of risk must be a personal decision.
- Provides update on ASAA membership fees



Scan with phone camera - or go to <https://bit.ly/35IIl9w> - to view the ASAA's latest release



ASAA Membership Fees

- At this time the ASAA is not discounting membership fees - there are so many unknowns ahead and the Executive feels we need to be able to fully serve member schools and be ready to pivot to changing directions from GoA. That cannot happen on a skeleton staff.
- However, if the ASAA has surplus at end of the 2020/21 school year, it will be credited towards 2021/22 membership fees or returned to schools
- ASAA Membership Fees ≠ “Provincials Fees”
- Outside of provincials, ASAA fees cover: Athletic Director PD, Coach Education, ongoing communication/liaison/advocacy: GoA, AHS, CASS, ATA, PSO's and others, Unified Sports, Student Leadership and Scholarship initiatives .
- Governance: meetings of Board, Exec, etc.

Average ASAA Fees (19/20)

1A: \$475.06

2A: \$622.81

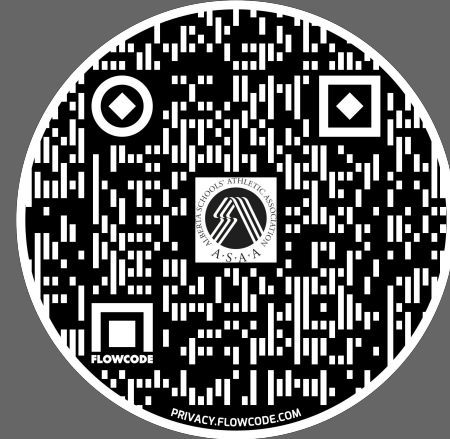
3A: \$847.78

4A: \$1,285.57



Coach Education Requirements

- Current Policy:
 - One person in each school must complete *Coaching School Sport: Redefining Winning*
 - One coach on every team must complete *ASAA Bylaws & Policies*
 - Every coach must complete *Making Headway: Concussions in Sport*
- Flexibility is being afforded for the deadline to complete *Redefining Winning*
- Any teams that are actively participating (practice/scrimmage/mini-leagues) should have their coaches meet the Bylaws & Concussion course requirements



Scan with phone camera - or go to
<http://thelocker.coach.ca> to access required
online courses

Competition (Local, Zone, Provincial)

- Reminder that it is always local school jurisdictions (Superintendent/Principal) who have the final say on school athletic participation.
- Local competition is allowed in mini-leagues provided all GoA, school jurisdiction, school, and local guidelines are followed.
- Some zones are considering coordinating zone championships in various fall sports
- Fall ASAA championships have been postponed until a point at which guidelines are conducive to running a championship tournament.
- ASAA Executive is considering ALL options and is striking a committee to address relocating fall sports and possibly championships to spring, etc.



Alberta Guidance Documents:

- Alberta Biz Connect Workplace Guidance and Supports to help Business and Non-Profits affected by Covid-19 begin to resume Operations Safely
[Alberta Biz Connect](#)
- Guidance Documents created by Alberta Health, in conjunction with Sport, Physical Activity and Recreation (SPAR) Branch:
[Relaunch guidance documents | Alberta.ca](#)
- Guidance for SPAR – Stage 2 (September 3, 2020)
[COVID-19 Guidance for Sports, Physical Activity and Recreation](#)
- Guidance for Cohorts – (June 23, 2020)
[COVID-19 Guidance for Cohorts](#)
- Alberta Daily Health Checklist – (August 20, 2020)
[COVID-19 information : Alberta Health Daily Checklist - Open Government](#)

Overview:

Stage 2 of the Alberta Relaunch Strategy announced that “return to play” will be allowed for all sport, physical activity and recreation, if in accordance with public health guidance.

SPAR Guidance Versions:

- *June 12th / July 20th / August 28th / September 3rd*

Overarching Principles of AHS Guidance:

- Outdoor activities are better than indoor
- Physical distancing is better than cohorting
- Guidance is in place to mitigate risk, not eliminate it – a compromise between lockdown and “normal activity”

Any guidelines, policies or procedures put in place by associated governing bodies such as Provincial, National or International Organizations, and any regional or municipal health guidelines should be considered, assuming they meet or exceed Alberta Health Services requirements.



SPAR Guidance Updates:

Types of Cohorts:

- Core or Family Cohort - up to 15 people. Your bubble
- ***Sport/Performance Cohort - up to 50 people.*** Also called a mini-league
- School Cohort
- Child care - up to 30 people

Albertans might find themselves in more than one cohort at the same time. Limit the total number of other cohort groups to which you and your core cohort belong.

- *Interacting with the same people and the same cohorts will be safer than constantly changing the people you interact with.*
- *It is recommended if possible that households with sports, performing, and/or child care cohorts consider having a smaller core cohort, given the total number of close contacts between all groups.*



SPAR Guidance Updates:

Sport Cohorts and Mini-Leagues:

- The expectation is that individuals minimize / limit the number of sport cohorts that they participate in.
- **50-person mini-leagues** can be formed for sports, physical activity and recreation that involve physical interaction of participants at a distance of less than 2 metres.
- The 50 person maximum includes any coaches/staff, instructors, participants, officials, and volunteers who consistently and routinely engage with participants at a distance of less than 2 metres.
- Coaches, staff and officials who primarily interact with individuals or teams at a distance of 2 metres or greater do not need to be counted as part of the cohort. These individuals are required to wear a mask and perform proper hand hygiene if it becomes necessary to temporarily interact with cohorting participants at a distance of less than 2 metres.



SPAR Guidance Updates:

Sport Cohorts and Mini-Leagues:

- A mini-league can be comprised of multiple teams, but to a maximum of 50 individuals.*
- Game play should be limited to teams in the same mini-league.*
- Teams that belong to other mini-leagues should not play each other.*
- If an individual or team member wishes to change cohorts/mini-leagues, they should not participate in a new cohort activity for 14 days (this reflects the incubation period of the virus).*
- If a mini-league comes to completion during Stage 2, a new mini-league comprised of new cohort teams may be formed, provided that there is a 14-day period between completion of play in the old mini-league and the new mini-league*

SPAR Guidance Updates

Travel and Spectators:

- Where 2 metre physical distancing between individuals is maintained or the mini-league model is employed, travel for sport, physical and recreational activities is **NOW** allowed.
- Up to a maximum of 200 seated spectators **REMAINS IN PLACE** for outdoor events and 100 for indoor, provided a distance of 2 metres between attendees from different households/cohort families is maintained
- It is strongly recommended that all spectators wear masks, especially in an indoor setting

SPAR Guidance Updates

Tournaments, Races and Competitive Events:

- Tournaments, races and competitive events are permitted for sport, physical activity and recreational activities where participants can maintain 2 metre physical distancing at all times, or they follow the mini-league model.
- If 2 metres distance or the mini-league model are not options, the tournament/event is not permitted.
- Tournament/events that compel a new cohort team to be formed for a short period (e.g., a weekend) are not permitted at this time.

SPAR Guidance Updates:

Rapid Response:

- If an attendee becomes sick while participating, the following requirements apply:
- While preparing to immediately leave the facility or event, symptomatic individuals should perform proper hand hygiene, put on a non-medical face mask, and maintain at least 2 metres distance from all others.
- The individual should arrange, with assistance from team officials or the facility as necessary, for immediate transportation to their home/residence to begin isolation. Public transportation like buses, taxis or ride sharing should be avoided.
- Once a sick individual has left the facility or event, facility staff should clean and disinfect all surfaces and areas that the individual may have come into contact with.
- There is no need to cancel or postpone the activity.
- Your school/division will have procedures in place that will likely be more comprehensive



Questions Submitted in Advance:

1. Clarification between when a coach and/or official counts towards the cohort limit of 50 people

- *The 50-person maximum includes any coaches/staff, instructors, participants, officials, and volunteers who consistently and routinely engage with participants at a distance of less than 2 metres.*
- *Coaches, staff and officials who primarily interact with individuals or teams at a distance of 2 metres or greater do not need to be counted as part of the cohort. These individuals are required to wear a mask and perform proper hand hygiene if it becomes necessary to temporarily interact with cohorting participants at a distance of less than 2 metres.*

2. Can student athletes participate in more than one sport cohort? If yes, can one be with school sport and another with community/club sport at the same time?

- *Individuals should limit the number of cohorts/mini-leagues they belong to.*
- *Members of the ASAA may make decisions that are more restrictive in relation to the number of cohorts an individual participates in while implementing additional protocols or practices to minimize the risk of transmission of infection among their members.*

3. An example of how a mini league could work

- ***50-person mini-leagues** can be formed for sports, physical activity and recreation that involve physical interaction of participants at a distance of less than 2 metres.*
- *A mini-league can be comprised of multiple teams, but to a maximum of 50 individuals.*
- *Game play should be limited to teams in the same mini-league.*
- *Teams that belong to other mini-leagues should not play each other.*
- *Urban vs. Rural Examples*



Questions Submitted in Advance:

4. Any anticipated expansion on the current restriction of 50 people in a cohort

- *At this time Alberta Health is continuing to monitor the current situation and will then determine if they can justify an increase in the number of people in a cohort.*

5. How to safely run a school sport program under current guidelines

➤ **SAFETY is the #1 PRIORITY**

- *Goes without saying!*
- *Comply with Alberta Health, School Board, Zone, School, PSO, ASAA Guidelines*

➤ **COMMIT to a SAFE & QUALITY EXPERIENCE for the ATHLETES**

- *Physical Distancing, Cohorts, Mini-Leagues, Meaningful Competition*

➤ **STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT and COMMUNICATION**

- *Communicate with all parties to ensure that athletes, coaches, officials, volunteers, parents, administrators are informed of Return to Sport Plan prior to implementing*
- *Maintain a plan that is flexible, adaptable and can be adjusted due to changing environment and uncertainties*

➤ **SUPPORT the BROADER SCHOOL AND SPORT COMMUNITIES**

- *Partner with external organizations including other schools, PSO's, stakeholders for support & assistance*
- *Share successes with your colleagues*

➤ **INTENTIONAL APPROACH**

- *Exercise caution / Start small / Build on strengths / Be Innovative / Inclusive & Accessible / Long-Term approach*
- *Risk Management Plan*



Q&A

Please submit your questions via the Q&A tab in the bottom ribbon & indicate who you'd like to have respond.

