

The Washington County School Board voted to approve the following motion during their monthly school board meeting on January 14, 2021:

“Move to rescind all previous Board actions governing protocol of athletic events in Washington County Schools and to immediately adhere to TSSAA guidelines as governed by Executive Order No. 70 and subsequent orders or guidelines that follow for ALL athletic events held on Washington County School System properties.”

Beginning immediately, Washington County Schools will follow Executive Order No. 70. This Executive Order pertains to all athletic events that are held on Washington County Schools’ property, including all school sponsored events as well as all community sponsored events. Moving forward, Washington County Schools will follow all TSSAA guidelines in regards to attendance at athletic events.

Executive Order No. 70 effective now through Jan. 19

December 21, 2020

The Governor has issued Executive Order No. 70, effective immediately and remaining in effect through January 19, 2021. Because of the significant increase in the incidence of COVID-19 infections in Tennessee, additional restrictions on who may attend interscholastic athletic practices and contests will be in place.

Unfortunately, large scale attendance by spectators and students must be curtailed. Doing so means that bands, pep bands, cheerleaders, and dance teams may not attend athletic contests while these restrictions remain in place. In accordance with the new Executive Order, the only attendees permitted at practices or games, in addition to the student-athletes on the team, are:

1. Players’ parents or guardians and immediate household members;
2. First Responders;
3. Coaching and team personnel;
4. School, game, and facility administrators;
5. Athletics officials; and
6. Media and athletic scouting personnel attending the event in their professional capacity.

Social distancing between persons from different households is required. While the Executive Order does not mandate the use of masks, the Governor has encouraged masks, and the [TSSAA COVID-19 Sports Regulations](#) provision regarding the use of masks remains. Refer to the [Tennessee Returns to Play](#) page at TSSAA.org for full information.

These are minimum restrictions. Depending on particular school, facility, or community circumstances, school officials may require additional limitations on attendance.

The Governor’s office conferred with TSSAA about these restrictions. TSSAA concurs with Governor’s office that these restrictions represent the best means for us to continue providing interscholastic athletic participation opportunities to our student-athletes while also doing our part to curb the spread of the virus. We remain hopeful that we will soon begin to see a decline in the instances of infection and that our schools will soon be able to return to more normal operation of their athletic competition.