TO: Superintendents, Principals, and Athletic Directors

REF: Weekly Update

DATE: April 16, 2020

Again, I hope this weekly update finds you all safe and well, and please know we greatly appreciate all you do for our student-athletes and member schools. Your influential leadership and support during this trying time are extremely appreciated. Due to Gov. Ivey’s and ADPH Stay in Place Order, the AHSAA staff continues to work in the office (practicing social distancing) or at home to ensure we are complying to the directives of the ADPH but also are working on daily responsibilities and planning ahead.

- The DragonFly training webinars are receiving outstanding participation and feedback. Two more sessions were open this week and both filled up on Monday when 100 participants preregistered for each. Marvin is currently working with DragonFly to schedule more sessions in the near future. Many of our staff have also used this time to join the webinars as well. We encourage each of you to do so as well.

- The Central Board and Legislative Council will meet for their annual meeting on Thursday, April 23rd to vote on proposals, and approve forms, calendars, and recommendations from the sports committees. Once the meeting is complete, a public release will provide information on any bylaw changes, and forms and calendars will be posted on the AHSAA website.

- Our office is receiving requests from senior students/parents for another year of eligibility due to losing a portion of their spring season. As you know, current AHSAA bylaws (which our schools write) do not allow a fifth year of eligibility. We are all very sympathetic with these individuals, but we must uphold consistently the bylaws as they are written.

- Additionally, we have received numerous emails/calls regarding plans and timeline for “return-to-play” or workouts and conditioning for fall sports. Our medical advisory board meets with the central board next Thursday to discuss the latest ADPH recommendations regarding implementation of return to summer conditioning, practice, and contest guidelines. In addition, Coach is meeting with state school officials in late April to discuss when they anticipate schools reopening. Moreover, we have meetings the first week of May with our summer, fall, and football committees. Once we have all the applicable data, as well as input from our schools, return to play protocol will be established. At this time, we truly anticipate a complete fall sport’s season. Only if public health guidelines prohibit such would there be any change to our fall sports season including, but not limited to, abbreviated seasons. We will continue to post updates on our website as new information becomes available.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the AHSAA office. We are always available for you. We are working at the office (practicing social distancing) or working from home daily. We pray you all remain safe and well and are hopeful you are also practicing the safety guidelines of the ADPH.