



SPRING 2021 HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL SEASON UPDATE

As of March 18, 2021

1. **NORTH CAROLINA:** We are in week 4 of a 7-game regular season. Playoffs start April 26 with State Championships May 7 & 8.
2. **NEW MEXICO:** We are starting Week #3 of football games here in New Mexico. We will have 5 weeks total with our last games scheduled for April 3. We will not have a championship in the sport of football here in New Mexico, BUT we are playing! Masks are required for all participants, coaches, officials, etc. Spectators are allowed in a very limited capacity in most of NM's counties (25%-50% occupancy depending on the county). So far, we have seen only a couple games impacted each week due to COVID (less than 5% of varsity contests that have been scheduled).
3. **NEW YORK:** We began practices for football here in NY on March 1st and this Friday is our opening weekend. Most "sections" (we have 11 in NY) are playing a 7-game schedule with a short local postseason and finishing around May 1st. We convene our Football State Committee on March 30th to discuss the season, various issues, etc.
4. **ILLINOIS:** Practice started March 3. Games can start this weekend – March 19 & 20. 6-week season – no postseason. Most schools are aiming for 6 games. Some conferences are playing only 4 or 5 games to avoid overlap with basketball on the front end of the football schedule and baseball/track & field on the back end of the football schedule. A few Week 1 games this weekend have already been cancelled because of COVID quarantine situations. We will likely see more of that as we go through the season.
5. **CALIFORNIA:** Schools in California were finally given the green light to play football February 19, and the first contests began last week. Testing is required in order to play and we had about 90% of the scheduled contests go off without any issues. Most teams will get between 4 to 6 games this Spring and there are no playoffs this year. Travel is restricted to your immediate county or bordering county and the season will end April 17. I will send another update next week once we have more teams playing statewide.
6. **DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA:** No football played in the District of Columbia for the 2020-21 school year.

7. **OREGON:** Oregon started Football on Feb 15 and at this point have completed the first two weeks of a 6-game season. The OSAA Executive Board released schools from conference/league obligations and as a result we have seen increased local/regional play throughout the state. We have experienced a number of COVID related cancellations to this point and anticipate this will continue but schools are working through those issues as needed. We will not be conducting an OSAA Football State Championship this year.
8. **HAWAII:** Hawaii (HHSAA and its member leagues) officially canceled football. Some private schools intend to still practice and “scrimmage” each other, but they are doing so completely on their own
9. **MASSACHUSETTS:** Football in MA could start as early as Feb. 22. Some of our schools did not start on that date. Some are just beginning and others started a week later. Given our rules of 15 days of practice before interscholastic play, the first possible date to play would have been 3/11, more likely the weekend of 3/12 & 3/13. Some of our schools had some COVID challenges and had to cancel the first week of scheduled games. I don't have a clear sense of that number but I would sense 6 or so schools. Last weekend of play would be April 23 & 24. So far so good, fingers crossed!
10. **WASHINGTON:** We are playing football at the moment! We gave a general season when schools could compete and then left flexibility within our leagues to set their own schedules if they wanted to differ from the Board calendar. Most of our schools will complete this week or have already completed their season. We do have a few that will be going until early to mid April. We will not have a state championship in any WIAA sports for this school year.
11. **RHODE ISLAND:** Rhode Island started Football Practice on March 1 and our first week of games will begin on March 26th. RIIIL member schools will play a 5-game schedule and will have a two round playoff championship tournament in each classification. As in each of our first two sport seasons, we have experienced COVID related team quarantines to this point but expect a successful season with limited interruptions.
12. **VIRGINIA:** In Virginia, we began football practice on February 4 and our first games were played on February 22. The first round of playoffs begin the weekend of April 10, with regional level games the weekend of April 10 and 17. State level games are scheduled for April 24 (semifinals) and May1 (finals).
13. **MAINE:** Football in Maine is still classified as “high risk” by our state health agencies and may not be played. We are hoping that this decision is revisited prior to the start of summer programs.

14. **CONNECTICUT:** Connecticut chose not to play football this spring. Our winter season was delayed from December 5 to January 19 and we found that there were just not enough weeks to have a shortened season without impacting the spring sports season which has been a non-negotiable from day one.
15. **VERMONT:** There is no Spring football in Vermont.
16. **NEVADA:** The football season did kickoff in Nevada the first week of March - More so in the northern and eastern parts of the state. Clark County School District (Las Vegas area) for the most part is not playing football (or any fall sports for that matter). There are some private schools and charters playing each other in the southern part of the state. Now heading into weekend #3 of a six-week season. No regional or state tournament.