



South Carolina High School League

Tammie Newman, Director of Communications/Public Relations

tnewman@schsl.org / 803.896.0417

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tuesday, March 3, 2020

SAFETY PRECAUTIONS FOR SCHSL BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS

South Carolina High School League staff continue to monitor all available information pertaining to the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) as it pertains to South Carolina athletics, particularly large gatherings such as the upcoming State Basketball Championships this weekend. **First and foremost, there has not been any case of Coronavirus/COVID-19 reported in South Carolina.**

"The administration and athletic staff at our member schools are well versed in the precautionary measures being taken across the state to prevent the spread of the COVID-19. We are circling back over each health and sanitary step in place at the arena to keep everyone from harm's way. The health steps being enforced more vigorously now should decrease the susceptibility of any virus, to include the common cold and flu. We ask that fans continue to self-monitor and follow all health and safety initiatives in place to prevent the spread of illness among family and friends," states Commissioner Jerome Singleton.

Nonetheless, the SCHSL is taking concerted steps to maintain an exciting delivery of the SCHSL state basketball championship experiences for student-athletes, team personnel and fans. The SCHSL staff members will work in conjunction with Colonial Life Arena to monitor and develop precautions as we prepare for this weekend's event.

Some of the event safeguards that will be put in place includes;

- Hand sanitizers located throughout the venue
- More frequent sanitizing of the lavatory area throughout the event
- Health professionals on hand at Colonial Life Arena throughout the event

We ask that you remain informed with CDC and SCDHEC websites and social media platforms. There is an abundance of information and precautionary measures for home, work and travel. See attached graphic and links below:

Center for Disease Control

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/index.html>

<https://twitter.com/CDCgov>

South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control

<https://scdhec.gov/health/infectious-diseases/viruses/coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19>

<https://twitter.com/scdhec>

Additional preventative measures include;

- o Using hand sanitizer with 60% or more alcohol content.
- o Boosting your immune system using Organic Oregano Oil, NAC (N-acetyl L-cysteine), Olive Leaf Extract (OLE), Probiotics (especially those containing Lactobacillus and Bifidobacterium), and with immunity boosting vitamins, including; zinc, vitamin C, and vitamin D3.
- o Eat Healthy and balanced meals.
- o Exercising more frequently.

******Remain home if you are sick; avoid contact with other individuals******

We will continue to monitor the situation and communicate with Colonial Life Arena management to ensure a safe and memorable weekend of events for South Carolina high school basketball fans.

COVID-19

If you have recently traveled to China and are experiencing symptoms mentioned below, call ahead to your health care provider before seeking medical care.

What is it?

- A new respiratory virus first identified in Wuhan, China
- It has the potential to cause severe illness and pneumonia in some people

How is it spread?



Through the air by coughing and sneezing



Close personal contact, such as touching or shaking hands



Touching an object or surface with the virus on it, then touching your mouth, nose, or eyes

Who is at risk?



Travelers to and from certain areas are at increased risk as are the close contacts of those who are ill



Current risk to the general public is low



See travel guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/index.html

What are the symptoms?

Illnesses can be mild, or in some cases be severe enough to require hospitalization. Symptoms of this respiratory illness primarily include:



Fever



Cough



Shortness of Breath

How is it prevented?

Similar to prevention of other respiratory illnesses, including the flu:

- **Wash hands** often
- **Avoid touching** eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands
- **Avoid contact** with sick people
- **Stay home** while you are sick; avoid others
- **Cover mouth/nose** with a tissue or sleeve when coughing or sneezing

