December 17, 2021

Stevenson High School/Wind River Middle School Students and Families:

The Stevenson-Carson School District was notified today that the Washington State Department of Health has updated health and safety [requirements](https://www.doh.wa.gov/Portals/1/Documents/1600/coronavirus/820-105-K12Schools2021-2022.pdf) for **high contact indoor sports,** including basketball, wrestling, water polo, and indoor cheer. This affects both Stevenson High School and Wind River Middle School Winter Sports seasons.

**The updated guidance now requires:**

* Screening testing of all athletes, coaches, trainers and supporting personnel, regardless of vaccination status.
  + Consent Forms are available at SHS/WRMS Offices and on our Athletics website at [www.athletics.scsd303.org](http://www.athletics.scsd303.org) under “*Covid Testing Consent Form*.”
* Testing frequency must now occur three times weekly. At least one of the screening tests must occur no sooner than the day before a competition, or when possible, on the day of the event.
  + SCSD already does this Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays weekly at 11:15 am at WRMS and 12:30 pm at SHS; we also offer 4 pm testing at SHS for those students, staff and personnel who missed testing due to Alternative School, Running Start, HBI, work, etc…
* The new guidance is effective immediately.

**What we need from high contact indoor sport athletes:**

* Permission from parents/guardians is required to test student athletes participating in high contact indoor sports. Permission to test your student only needs to be provided one time. Under the new guidance, if we do not have parent/guardian consent to test, the student is not permitted to participate in the high contact indoor sport/activity. Please complete and sign the Covid Testing Consent Form located in the SHS and WRMS Offices and our athletics website.
* Availability at 11:15 am (WRMS) and 12:30 pm (SHS) every Monday, Wednesday, Friday for Covid Screening Testing. This means it may be during lunch or an academic class.
* Availability at 4 pm at SHS if testing is still needed.
* Flexibility to arrive prior to bus departure times for away games/contests. Tests take 15 minutes to register a positive or negative test. Planning for this is imperative.

As a reminder, all spectators are required to wear masks at all indoor events, including sports, performing arts, etc. This guidance has remained consistent throughout the pandemic and will be enforced accordingly at each home game/contest.

I understand the changing health and safety guidelines can be both confusing and frustrating. We appreciate your patience, understanding and compliance as we follow state requirements to keep students, staff and families safe.

In Bulldog Pride,

John Hallead

Athletic Director

Stevenson-Carson School District