

# SASKATCHEWAN HIGH SCHOOLS ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

## MISSION STATEMENT

*“The purpose of the SHSAA is to foster educational opportunities for all students through interschool sport.”*



**PRESIDENT:**  
*Jeff Kitts*

**EXECUTIVE COUNCIL:**  
*Val Gordon, Eastend*  
*Al Wandler, Assiniboia*  
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*Nathan Noble, Meath Park*  
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*Angela Mallory, Regina*  
*Graham Comfort, Nipawin*  
*Cathy Morrow, Outlook*  
*Vicki Moore, Sun West SD*

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:**  
*Lyle McKellar*

**ASSISTANT  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:**  
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**Member:**  
School Sport Canada  
Sask Sport Inc.

**Affiliate:**  
National Federation  
of State High School Associations

March 11, 2020

RE: SHSAA Basketball Playoffs

As of 3:30pm this afternoon, there has been no notice that sanctions (being implemented at midnight) will be withdrawn. The sanctions to be implemented will limit the participation of STF members in extra-curricular activities.

Through discussions with both groups involved in negotiations, SHSAA was unable to determine if there would be any immediate solution to the impasse; therefore, it is with regret that all remaining SHSAA sanctioned basketball events for the 2019-20 high school season of play are cancelled. Tuesday's communication outlined the reasons for this action. The ability to schedule around continued sanctions makes it impossible to save a sport season within a multi-sport, multi-program Association.

In addition to basketball, all SHSAA sanctioned badminton events are also suspended until further notice, dependent on the duration of sanctions. The SHSAA badminton season of play began on February 10, 2020 and is scheduled to conclude on May 9, 2020 with the provincial championship in Nipawin.

The Executive Council is extremely disappointed at the outcome and the situation that our Association was put in. For over 70 years of operation it is easy to recognize that our Association is built on the back of our teacher volunteers and the support of our members, the School Boards of Saskatchewan. As individuals that live school sport every day, the Executive members are fully aware of the disappointment that exists amongst our student athletes and coaches.

For those who value the philosophy of school sport, the last few days have continued to provide examples of opportunities for students to develop life skills through a school sport situation. As students have rallied, they have demonstrated many of the qualities that their coaches have tried to nurture in an educational athletic setting. We have also been made aware of many situations where teams have met to celebrate their season and cope with the disappointment. Our school sport coaches are phenomenal individuals that continue to help student athletes develop skills to prepare them for whatever their future may hold.

With the immediacy of the basketball season at a conclusion, the SHSAA will turn efforts towards maintaining viability of the Association and continued plans toward securing a future of the remaining SHSAA sanctioned activities and programs in this school year.

Sincerely,

Lyle McKellar  
Executive Director  
SHSAA

c SHSAA Executive

*Speak Up For Sportsmanship*