



DELAWARE COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Governor Cuomo recently announced that effective February 1, 2021 participants in higher-risk sports may participate in individual or distanced group training and organized no/low-contact group training, competitions and tournaments. The resumption of these activities does not mean they are safe or without risk.

Delaware County Public Health is advising school districts that they cannot resume high-risk winter sports until the Delaware County seven-day rolling positivity for coronavirus is at or below 4.0%. If the 7-day rolling average positivity is above 4.0%, activities must be restricted to individual or distanced group training or organized no/low-contact group training.

This approach is consistent with CDC guidance for school decision-makers, which recommends that high-contact school athletic activities be postponed during periods with substantial or high levels of COVID-19 transmission in the community.

Delaware County Public Health Director Amanda Walsh, MPH stated, "The guidance document has been shared with the local school districts."

Delaware County's rolling 7-day positivity is 5.9% as of Thursday.

<https://forward.ny.gov/percentage-positive-results-county-dashboard>

"We recognize this is frustrating and disappointing to our student athletes, school districts, and the communities that support their teams. The primary role of the agency is to protect public health, especially during the ongoing pandemic."

Local and state data will continue to be monitored and evaluated to inform ongoing decisions.