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# MSHSAA Cancels Spring Sports and All Post-Season Events

APRIL 09TH 2020 BY DEE LOFLIN

## MSHSAA Cancels Spring Sports and All Post-Season Events

The Missouri State High School Activities Association announced today that the 2020 spring sports season is canceled. The announcement comes after Governor Mike Parson ordered all schools to be closed for the remainder of the academic year.

### Full Press Release

Following Governor Parson's announcement this afternoon, of in-person school closure for the remainder of the school year, the Missouri State High School Activities Association (MSHSAA) announces the cancellation of all remaining post-season events for the 2019-20 school year.

"This decision is very difficult for all involved especially given the impact it will have on our students, parents, coaches, teachers, and administrators throughout the state," said MSHSAA Executive Director Dr. Kerwin Urhahn. "We thank all of the participants, the coaches/directors/advisors, the administrations, the parents, and everyone else who has dedicated tremendous amounts of time, passion, and effort to these events."

The biggest impact of this decision will be felt by the seniors, many of whom have exhausted their eligibility without taking the field, court or course.

"To our senior participants- we thank you for everything you have done for your schools and communities and wish you the very best in your bright futures," Urhahn continued.

“While this is a difficult ending, the lessons you’ve learned and friendships you’ve made through high school activities will last your lifetime.”

“The MSHSAA office thanks everyone involved for their patience and understanding throughout this process,” said Urhahn. The MSHSAA staff looks forward to the resumption of high school activities during the 2020-21 school year, and will continue work on those events at this time.

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## Dexter High School Golf Team 2020

APRIL 08TH 2020 BY DEE LOFLIN

Dexter High School Golf Team 2020

Dexter, Missouri - It's the same story all over the country as spring high school sports are affected by the COVID-19 virus halting all Missouri sports at this time. The ShowMe

Times would like to spotlight athletes who haven't even stepped on the golf course to compete.

Last year the DHS Golf Team enjoyed a record breaking season. It was hoped that the 2020 season would be even more spectacular.

All spring sports and practices have been cancelled until April 24, 2020 leaving not much of a season. Will they return, we won't know for a couple of weeks when school administrators decide to return to school or remain at home; however the President has requested that everyone maintain social distancing thru the end of April.

Seniors Luke Becker and Spencer Warren, junior Ryan Collier and sophomores Cy Worley and Dylan Sitze return from a team that went 12-0 in dual matches, breaking a school record.

The team shot a 306 at the Jackson Invitation in 2019 to break another school record for the best 18-hole score. They also won their first District Championship since 2010.

Three athletes qualified for the State Tournament, something that they hadn't accomplished since 2011.

The District Tournament is set for Monday, May 4th at a site to be determined; however amid the COVID-19 nothing is certain. Sectional Tournament is set for May 11th and State would be 18th and 19th.

Members of the Dexter High School Golf Team of 2020 are front row from left to right: Luke Becker, Spencer Warren, and Matt AGey. Back row Luke Blocker, Matt Hardin, Cy Worley, Ryan Collier, Dylan Sitze, and Kenton Pope.

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## MDC to Temporarily Waive Fishing Permits Starting Friday

MARCH 25TH 2020 BY DEE LOFLIN

MDC to Temporarily Waive Fishing Permits Starting Friday

**MDC to temporarily waive fishing permits starting Friday**

**Starting March 27, people may fish in Missouri without a permit through April 15.**

Jefferson City, MO - The Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) and the Missouri Conservation Commission announce they are temporarily waiving permit requirements for sport fishing and daily trout tags for Missouri residents and nonresidents whose fishing privileges are not otherwise suspended.

The waiver of needing a permit or trout tag to fish will run from Friday, March 27, through April 15. MDC will reassess the situation at that point. All season dates and limits will continue to apply and be enforced.

“The current public-health emergency caused by the coronavirus (COVID-19) has many Missourians and others looking for safe ways to get outside in nature,” said MDC Director Sara Parker Pauley. “Missouri’s rivers and streams offer high quality fishing as a way for people to connect with nature while still complying with all health and safety recommendations. Fishing is also a great way to get some much needed physical and mental health benefits during this stressful time.”

Conservation makes Missouri a great place to fish and Missouri has more than a million acres of surface water with most of it providing great fishing. More than 200 different fish species are found in Missouri, with more than 20 of them being game fish for the state's more than 1.1 million anglers. Get more info on Missouri fishing at

[huntfish.mdc.mo.gov/fishing](http://huntfish.mdc.mo.gov/fishing)

Pauley added that it is still critical for everyone to continue to heed all recommendations for hand washing, social distancing, and other public-health measures while fishing and during other outdoor activities, including maintaining at least six feet of distance between all individuals who are not family members.

## COVID-19 CLOSURES AND CANCELLATIONS

The James Foundation announced it has closed Maramec Spring Park in St. James to the public for trout fishing and all other activities until further notice. Maramec Spring Park is owned and operated by the James Foundation. MDC manages the trout hatchery at Maramec Spring Park. For more information, visit [maramecspringpark.com](http://maramecspringpark.com).

Missouri's three other public trout parks remain open for day use and fishing: Bennett Spring State Park in Lebanon, Montauk State Park near Licking, and Roaring River State Park near Cassville. They are operated by Missouri State Parks under the Missouri Department of Natural Resources (DNR). MDC manages the trout hatcheries at these locations.

To reduce possible increased social congregation, MDC will suspend daily trout stocking at all trout parks starting Friday and has suspended other fish stocking in waters around the state until further notice.

According to DNR, Missouri State Parks remain open. However, in reaction to COVID-19 and out of an abundance of caution, Missouri State Parks will temporarily close all campgrounds and lodging effective Friday, March 27, through Thursday, April 30. This includes campgrounds, park-run lodging and concessionaire-run lodging. While they are not able to accommodate overnight guests, Missouri State Parks remain open to the public for day-use, including boat ramps and more than 1,100 miles of trails.

"We are taking these measures now to reduce the impact of COVID-19," said Missouri State Parks Director Mike Sutherland. "The outdoors provide a great opportunity to relax and destress. Even outdoors, it is important to practice social distancing, avoid large gatherings and wash your hands often."

MDC and DNR remind people to make outdoor activities as safe and enjoyable as possible by taking the following actions:

If you have been sick in the last two weeks, please stay home for your health and the safety of others.

Travel in a small group with a maximum of 10 people.

Avoid popular areas where people may congregate, such as scenic overlooks, buildings, playgrounds, etc.

Maintain at least a six-foot distance between you and others.

Pack water, soap and/or hand sanitizer.

Get more information from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention on best practices for keeping you and your family safe at [gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html).

MDC has closed its regional offices, Department headquarters in Jefferson City, and other public contact offices, nature centers, visitor centers, educational centers, and staffed shooting ranges to the public until April 15.

While MDC public offices will be closed to general visitation, offices will still be staffed. Visitors with official business will need to notify the office to gain access. Find MDC office contact information at [mdc.mo.gov/regional-contacts?county=All](https://mdc.mo.gov/regional-contacts?county=All).

MDC has also cancelled its public events and programs around the state until April 15, including hunter education classes, nature center programs and events, shooting range programs and events, and landowner workshops. MDC will reassess the situation at that point.

Conservation areas, nature center trails, unstaffed shooting ranges, and boat accesses remain open to the public. Hunting, fishing, and trapping seasons continue as scheduled. MDC managed hunts and mentored spring turkey hunts continue as planned.

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## Information on Spring MSHSAA Activities and Sports

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MARCH 16TH 2020 BY DEE LOFLIN

### Information on Spring MSHSAA Activities and Sports

The Missouri State High School Activities Association (MSHSAA) has been, and continues to be, in communication with the Department of Elementary & Secondary Education, the Governor's office, state and local health officials and organizations, as well as other high school associations in the Midwest.

The Association will continue to review the medical guidance of the CDC, and all breaking information regarding COVID-19 to make the best decision possible with the information available to us. "As of today, the CDC has recommended that for the next eight weeks organizers cancel or postpone in-person events that consist of 50 people or more throughout the U.S.," said Dr. Kerwin Urhahn, MSHSAA Executive Director. "Many of the host venues and facilities for our events are connected with colleges and universities that are closing their campuses. These issues directly and wholly affect MSHSAA districts and state series events."

Below, are outlined information on remaining events this Spring in the order that the culminating event is scheduled to take place. Speech, Debate and Theatre: After much discussion and weighing of numerous options, the difficult decision has been made to cancel the remaining District Tournaments as well as the State Speech, Debate, and Theatre Championships.

Due to the loss of host sites as well as judges the two remaining District Tournaments could not be completed.

In addition, these events exceed the current recommendations regarding the size of gatherings. Combined with the uncertainty of the next two months and possibly beyond, this difficult and disappointing step had to be taken.

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## MSHSAA Show-Me Showdown Cancelled for Class 4 and 5

MARCH 16TH 2020 BY DEE LOFLIN

MSHSAA Show-Me Showdown Cancelled for Class 4 and 5

Missouri - Immediate Press Release from Dr. Kerwin Urhahn, MSHSAA Executive Director.



Due to continuing concerns regarding the spread of COVID-19 the Missouri State High School Activities Association (MSHSAA) has made the difficult decision to cancel the remainder of the ShowMe Showdown for Class 4 and Class 5.

The decision was made in consultation with local and state officials, as well as the member schools. The most recent CDC recommendations of limiting gatherings played a large part in the making of this decision.

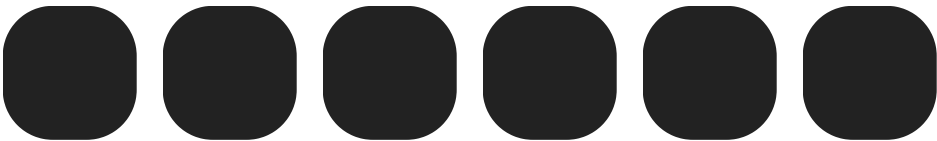
"We understand the unexpected hurdles this creates for our schools and fans, and apologize for the inconveniences it has caused. Our thoughts are with our schools as they navigate the uncertainty of these times," said Dr. Kerwin Urhahn, MSHSAA Executive Director.

Information concerning the activities of Music, Speech, Debate & Theatre; Scholar Bowl as well as Spring Sports will be available later today.

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