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Section VI Moves Forward With Wrestling

The Executive Committee of Section VI has made the decision to support wrestling activities, beginning on the previously approved start date of May 3, 2021, in the Counties of Chautauqua, Cattaraugus, Niagara, and Orleans. On April 5, 2021 the Erie County Department of Health (ECDOH) confirmed that they have not changed from their original recommendation on January 26, 2021 to postpone or cancel wrestling activities. Therefore, member schools located in Erie County will not be able to participate in wrestling activities at this time.

“The expectations are clear from our school leaders. Our school districts cannot take on the liability associated with splitting off from the ECDOH’s recommendation’, said Section President, Brett Banker. “As we have done since the start of this public health crisis, we will continue to rely upon the expertise, knowledge, and recommendations from local and state authorities when making decisions impacting the safety of our student-athletes”.

The Section will continue to communicate and work with the ECDOH. It is through collaboration that, to date, the Section has only canceled one sport this school year, Indoor Track and Field. President Banker said, “Section VI has proven that we are committed to providing opportunities for our athletes within the guidelines set forth to us by the local Health Departments. We will support the Erie County Schools to begin wrestling immediately, if the recommendation from Erie County changes. We look forward to engaging in that dialogue.”

Mark DiFilippo

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark DiFilippo". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Executive Director
Section VI, NYSPHSAA, Inc.