



Shawnee County Health Department

**Shawnee County Health Department**  
Teresa Fisher, Interim Director  
2600 SW East Circle Dr., Topeka, KS 66606  
Ph. 785.251.5600 | Fax 785.251.5696  
[www.shawneehealth.org](http://www.shawneehealth.org)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
1/28/2021

**CONTACT: Craig Barnes**  
Division Manager/PIO  
Office (785) 251-5612  
Mobile (785) 806-6310

### **MEDIA RELEASE**

#### **Emergency Order of Local Health Officer – Changes to Sports and Athletic Activities**

**Topeka, Kan.** – An Emergency Order of Local Health Officer has been issued for Topeka and Shawnee County effective beginning **Friday, January 29 at 12:01 a.m.** This public health order is being issued to continue to mitigate the impact of COVID-19 on the Shawnee County community. This order will remain in effect until 11:59 p.m. February 26, 2020 unless renewed, rescinded or superseded by a subsequent order.

Dr. Dennis Cooley, Shawnee County Interim Health Officer, has adopted the following changes to the local requirements which can be found on our Shawnee County Health Department website at [www.shawneehealth.org](http://www.shawneehealth.org):

- **Sports and Athletic Activities:**
  - **Sports and athletic activities are allowed**, subject to the limitations of social distancing and mass gatherings
  - Spectators of sporting events should follow the mass gathering rules
  - For team sports, the two teams combined shall be considered as one mass gathering, **whose size shall not exceed 25 people**. These individuals are included in mass gathering size.
  - For events open to the public, organizers shall enact necessary measures to assure that social distancing and mass gathering rules are applied for the public
  - Bar, concessions and restaurant areas shall meet the same requirements as those not located within the venues
  - **Mask wear is mandatory when not participating in direct competition**

Questions regarding the Emergency Order can be sent to [covid19info@sncu.us](mailto:covid19info@sncu.us) or call **785.251.4848**.

Attachment:  
Emergency Order of Local Health Officer (1/28/2021)

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**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

**Shawnee County Health Department**

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*Shawnee County Health Department is committed to working in partnership with our community to promote and protect the optimal health of all people by bridging gaps to eliminate health inequities, respecting the diversity of our community, through adaptive and innovative processes.*

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