



MEMORANDUM

TO: ATHLETIC ADMINISTRATORS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS AND WRESTLING COORDINATORS

FROM: Todd Nelson – Assistant Director

DATE: February 9, 2011

We are writing to inform you of two confirmed skin infection cases in the sport of wrestling.

The NYSPHSAA shares with you the responsibility to ensure the health and safety of all student athletes.

With the upcoming Section Wrestling Championships, we are concerned with the potential spread of skin infections. The NYSPHSAA **strongly recommends** the following:

All wrestlers that are still practicing and competing have an appropriate health care provider perform a skin and body check prior to their next competition.

The appropriate health care provider should look for all skin irregularities that could potentially be a skin infection and inquire about symptoms that are consistent with potential skin infections (i.e. MRSA, Herpes Gladiatorum, Impetigo, Chicken Pox, and Ring Worm).

Member Schools are also encouraged to take the following precautions to prevent the contraction and spread of any skin infection.

- Shower with antibacterial and antifungal soap and hot water after every practice and competition.
- Establish procedures to clean and disinfect environmental surfaces.
- Maintain proper ventilation and lighting in the wrestling room.
- Wash all clothing after every use, and gym bags on a regular basis.
- Follow good wound management.
- Promote health over competition.

If your district has any questions, please feel free to contact Todd Nelson and/or your local Health Department. Additional information about skin infections can be found on our website, www.nysphsaa.org.