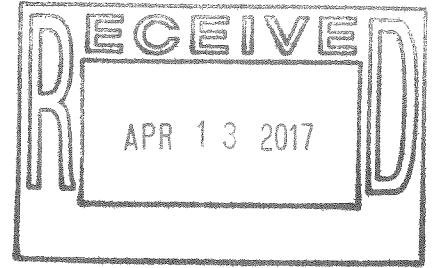




HEALTH CENTER -
MEDICAL ARTS



North Dakota High School Activities Association
Box 817
Valley City, North Dakota, 58072

Re:NDHSAA Pre-participation Physical Evaluation

Dear Sirs:

Currently, the North Dakota High School Activities Association mandates a physical examination before participation in sports activities. I suspect this is to protect the health of the student and his or her competition. Some of the sports require evidence that the participant does not have a contagious illness. For example, wrestlers are not allowed to compete if they are infected with impetigo, molluscum or herpes.

I have learned that a fraction of the participants are not immunized against preventable contagious diseases. I would suggest that no one, who is not fully immunized, be allowed to participate in high school sports activities. The ONLY exception would be someone who has a medical contraindication to immunizations. A philosophical or religious exception should not be allowed.

It would take very little effort to modify the current preparticipation sports form to add the requirement of immunizations. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

MJ Holland, M.D., FAAP

Copy to: North Dakota Academy of Pediatrics