

## **Wisdom of a Wednesday (on a Wednesday!)**

### **January 6, 2021**

Hello 2021! I hope this first WOW of the year finds you and your loved ones safe and healthy.

The NCAA Rules Test is available on the Advantage website. Please take it at your convenience. I urge you to continue to remain prepared for games to start at any time and to stay in touch with your conference supervisors for the most up to date news on games and conference protocols. Control the things you can - in this case - your level of preparation.

Some conferences have men's games scheduled to start the end of January or the first weekend in February with the majority of the games, if not all, taking place on the weekends. For the women's season, some conferences have games starting the end of February or the beginning of March, again, with many games taking place on weekends. I believe the next week or so will provide us with more information as the student athletes return to school so please stay tuned.

We all must do what we are individually comfortable doing. Know the protocols and rules involved at the institutions/conferences you will be working before accepting the assignment. Accept or turn back any assignments in a timely fashion.

### **Suggested Best Practices**

If you find yourself feeling ill, please contact your conference supervisor or officials before heading to any game or facility. Your health and the health of those around you is paramount.

Face masks should be worn whenever possible. If worn during a game, they should be solid color and without any large logos - there are some on the market that are made specifically to accommodate a whistle.

With facilities being limited at many of our competition pools, it is highly suggested that you arrive in uniform and leave in uniform.

I encourage you to buy an electronic whistle and carry extra batteries for it. Different schools and conferences may have their own protocols in order for events (sports) to take place and we all need to be ready to meet those requirements

Be prepared with your own protective necessities, such as your own water bottle, extra face masks & wipes – perhaps even consider investing in your own head set for the Yapalong radios that have become very popular though this is not required.

### **More to come...**

Please remember that we referees, coaches, athletes, administrators, fans have one huge thing in common - our passion for water polo and the desire to see it played safely once again. Continue to keep yourselves, and your loved ones, safe and healthy as we approach this target.

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