



DIOCESAN RECREATION ASSOCIATION

197 E. GAY ST.

COLUMBUS, OHIO 43215

December 23, 2020

Dear Pastors, Principals and Parish Athletic Directors:

After much discussion, consultation and input from concerned Pastors, elementary school principals, coaches, parents and the DRA Board, the decision has been made to continue the postponement of the start of the DRA basketball season through January 15. As stated previously, the hope and prayer is that, in delaying the start of the season, we will be able to keep our children safe from the spread of the coronavirus and to have a successful basketball season.

Although the most recent numbers seem to be leveling off, they are still high and it is possible that there will be a spike in numbers after the Christmas holidays. This postponement will give us a chance to see what happens and to respond appropriately. Due to the concerns expressed by families and the fact that the primary focus of our ministry is to keep the children in school and to keep the schools safe, we believe we are acting out of the best interest and safety of the children, their classmates, their teachers, coaches, and their families.

At this time the postponement of the DRA basketball season will continue until mid-January. No one is to be practicing or holding open gyms. This also includes the CYO programs.

Please share this information with your basketball commissioners, the coaches and parents. Remember, this is a postponement, not a cancellation. The hope of the DRA is to have a season in late January and February, as long as we can do it so the safely for all involved in the DRA. We will continue to monitor the situation and make changes as needed. Please stay safe, wear those masks, and socially distance.

We wish you and your family health and happiness this Christmas. May you experience the joy of this season and be filled with hope as we look toward 2021.

God Bless You,

Marty Raines—Director Office of Recreation

Adam Dufault—Episcopal Moderator for Education; Superintendent of Catholic Schools

Julius Palazzo—Boys' Commissioner

David Oddi—Assistant Boys' Commissioner

Mike Matthews—Assistant Girls' Commissioner

The DRA Board of Directors