



Tuesday, August 18, 2020

To Our Member League Communities,

The Athletic Directors from the Athletic Association of the Catholic Academies (AACA), in conjunction with the leadership teams at our respective member schools, and the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association (PIAA) and District One, have been working to update our Athletics Health and Safety Plan to reflect the recommendations these documents provide:

- [http://www.piaa.org/assets/web/documents/Return\\_to\\_Competition.pdf](http://www.piaa.org/assets/web/documents/Return_to_Competition.pdf)
- <https://www.governor.pa.gov/covid-19/sports-guidance/>

In response to the uncertainty and dynamic situations surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic, all of our member schools remain committed to the physical, mental, and emotional benefits of interscholastic athletics, and our primary goal is to provide opportunities for physical activity and athletic competition in the safest way possible. We believe the unique characteristics of our small and adaptable communities, in conjunction with our cohesive policies, enables us to move forward in a consistent and controlled environment.

Member schools have agreed to play a league-only schedule. Additionally, they have agreed to begin tryouts on September 21st. We intend for league competitions in the sports of cross country, field hockey, soccer, and volleyball to begin the week of October 12th. With accommodations in place, competition for the sport of golf may start on September 24th and tennis may start on September 28th.

This is an unprecedented year, which will require flexibility and an understanding that many of the changes potentially taking place this fall season will remain fluid. Again, the goal of the AACA, particularly during this time, is to provide our student athletes with the safest avenue possible to pursue the positive social and emotional benefits of interscholastic competition.

Complete 2020 Fall sports schedules will be announced in the coming weeks. Member schools will share more information with their constituents as it becomes available.

Sincerely,

Daniel J. Bradley  
AACA President  
Director of Athletics - Nazareth Academy High School

