

***Inter Ac Fall Sports Statement***  
***For Release at 9:30am Wednesday, August 26***

The members of the Inter-Academic Athletics League continue to focus on plans for the 2020-21 academic year with the safety and well-being of students, faculty, staff, and their communities the primary concern. In response to the unprecedented challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Directors of Athletics and Heads of School have been meeting diligently to address opening our schools safely, as well as the safety and well-being of our communities. Athletics engagement is an important part of the experience for many of our students, and member institutions remain committed to this experience. However, the Heads of School and Directors of Athletics have unanimously decided to suspend any inter-scholastic competition through December 31, 2020. This decision was made given the unprecedented health concerns we face in our community and in consideration with [Gov. Wolf's strong recommendation](#), as well as updated policy recommendations from [CHOP PolicyLab](#).

Additionally, member schools may maintain conditioning, skill development and sport practices from September 14 through November 20 in accordance with Gov. Wolf's guidelines and CHOP PolicyLab requirements. ***Malvern Prep's Athletic Department is continuing to develop competitive opportunities on campus this fall. This includes but is not restricted to intramural competition, wellness, strength and conditioning and virtual opportunities in addition to opportunities during Brotherhood Days. If conditions allow, we will explore safe, but competitive events with member schools during the fall.***

***We realize this news is very disappointing. We hold our students' mental and physical well being as a top priority. Our commitment to the safety of the Malvern Prep Community is equally as important. We will continue to work with the Inter Ac regarding plans for sports to resume as soon as our leadership deems that it is safe based on continued guidance from health experts, state and local authorities."***

Should conditions permit, the League intends to hold three 7 week seasons for our student-athletes in the new year. Traditional fall, winter and spring sports may be moved due to health concerns, facility availability or weather conditions. Additional information regarding these seasons will be available shortly.

The Inter-Academic Athletic League members are deeply aware of the importance of athletics to our student-athletes and communities. This difficult decision was not made lightly, and every effort was made to maintain our fall athletic season. We are deeply saddened that this was not possible.