



Thursday, November 19th, 2020 – 8:00 AM

Good morning Wolfpack family-

As you no doubt know by now, Gov. Walz announced new COVID restrictions last night in a live news conference which directly impact youth sports for all young men and women in the state of Minnesota. I wanted to update everyone on the actions CGAA Basketball is taking in response and review what the next several weeks and beyond will look like. This info is below in FAQ format and will also be posted on our [website](#) and [Facebook page](#). Please see below.

Q. What impact will the new restrictions have on CGAA Basketball?

A. Unfortunately they are significant. All practices and tournaments beginning Saturday, 11/21 are canceled until at least Saturday, 12/19. Community Education, which controls our gym time, has informed us of the same. They are not allowed to permit any gym after this Friday for the next four weeks. Our tournaments are hosted through Minnesota Youth Athletic Services (MYAS) who released their own statement in an e-mail cancelling all tournaments through that same date.

Q. The restrictions take effect on Saturday but my child's team has a practice tonight or tomorrow. Can they still attend?

A. Yes. All gym permits through tomorrow are still active and valid. Teams that have scheduled practice can do so through then.

Q. I don't feel it's safe to send my child to practice tonight or tomorrow. Does he need to attend?

A. We value player safety above all else. If a parent does not feel safe sending their child to practice tonight or tomorrow, please contact your coach ASAP. These will be considered excused absences if the coach is notified prior to the practice beginning.

Q. Will basketball resume?

A. We sure hope so! Unfortunately we are at the discretion of the MYAS, Community Ed and the Governor's Office. If a return to play is announced in December, we will carefully analyze those rules and follow them explicitly.

Q. What about full season payments?

A. As those of you who registered know, we collected a small up front administrative fee until we knew what the full season makeup would look like. We then worked through our registration

administrator Sports Engine to create a separate payment site for those who decided to continue with the season.

The full season fee was based on the number of tournaments (for traveling) or league games (for rec.) a child would participate in plus gym rental and other admin costs for all grades/programs. CGAA Basketball is a non-profit entity so we would not charge for tournaments or games the children did not participate in. I had a feeling something like this might be coming and purposefully did not activate the payment session until we knew what the actual allowable participation would be.

Now that we are under a pause, we will not collect further payments until we know what the season makeup will be. For traveling teams, the original fee we announced will be reduced because of the loss of multiple tournaments. For payment, please hold tight for now.

Q. Were there any COVID cases tied to CGAA Basketball?

A. No direct cases that we are aware of. We have followed our program [Health & Safety Guidelines](#) explicitly in accordance with information from MYAS and the MN Department of Health. There were several cases of family members of players and/or coaches being diagnosed with COVID, however the participants themselves all tested negative and were kept quarantined from their teams and out of the gym for the standard 14 days.

Q. What if the entire season gets canceled?

A. We have not collected any fees besides the up front administrative/registration one that is non-refundable. If the season is canceled, we would advise you and post notification of such on the aforementioned channels. We would also set up to return any equipment currently being used such as basketballs, first aid kits and practice gear. CGAA has also hosted virtual hoops training workouts before and would look to resume those again.

Please let me know if you have any questions. As noted above, we will follow the direction of the Governor's office, MN Department of Health and MYAS on all future decisions regarding basketball. I sincerely hope we can get past this phase and allow our kids the opportunity to play a game so many of them love. Best wishes to everyone and hope you have a safe and happy Thanksgiving.

Yours in hoops,

Christopher Gargaro

CGAA Basketball President