



March 13, 2020

Dear Athletics Families,

Serving our communities by providing a safe and healthy place for youth is the core principle of the Boys & Girls Club organization. **In light of the Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) outbreak, we are postponing all spring sports until April 27th.**

This is not a decision that we make lightly, as we care deeply about serving our youth by providing a positive sports experience, but after conferring with local, state and national officials and organizations it has become clear our most important duty is to do our part to contain the spread of this virus. Although children are not likely to become seriously ill from COVID-19, they can spread it to others who are at high risk. At this time our plan is to resume all spring sports at the end of April. Until then, we encourage our families to prioritize their health and safety by following all health official guidelines and practicing social distancing. At this time our organization will focus its efforts to serve children in our Bellingham and Ferndale Clubhouses with extended day programming while school is out. We have consulted with the Whatcom County Health Department and they believe that serving healthy children is a safe decision.

While children are home from school it is important that they remain active, especially if they are engaged in distance learning via computer. Physical activity and movement are essential for concentration, energy, mood and physical health. During this period, we encourage non-contact activities such as jumping jacks, jogging around the block, yoga, bike rides, kicking a ball in the backyard or similar individual or small group activities.

We will continue to update you as we know more. While we all are facing challenges, already we have seen the community organize and pull together to support one another as we navigate through this. We greatly appreciate your patience, flexibility and grace in this unprecedented situation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Hanifah McGovern". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "H".

Hanifah McGovern  
Athletic Director