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Subject: Updated Pop Warner information

To our Pop Warner Family -

The uncertainty surrounding COVID-19 means that we need to continuously adapt as circumstances evolve week-to-week and state-by-state. Change has been the one constant, especially this past week. As we approach August 1, we want to update you on some of those changes.

A quieter football season

Every day a host of administrators tell us they have made the difficult decision to postpone or cancel fall football. While some leagues and associations intend to start later in August or September, only approximately 10-15% will actually start the season on time. We expect most will not play tackle football this season.

An alternative to tackle

As we suggested previously, if you are unable to have a tackle season, we strongly recommend exploring 7v7 passing or flag as an alternative. If you have any questions on how to make that happen let us know and we can provide assistance.

Spring football

Because the majority of teams cannot hold a fall season, we are planning a tackle football season for Spring 2021. We are working through a number of details but our initial plan targets March 20 through June 12, which allows for two weeks of conditioning and an 8-10 week schedule. We will allow football teams that play this Fall to also participate in the Spring season. They may play a combined maximum total of 12 games from now through June, 2021. More details on Spring football to come.

No Pop Warner Super Bowl this season

Because we anticipate so few teams will compete this fall, we have made the difficult decision to cancel the December Pop Warner Super Bowl. We would have a hard time filling the brackets and creating a playoff experience that meets the standard you have come to expect.

Cheer is On!

Even if your football season is cancelled or postponed, we encourage you to keep on cheering! If your state is restricting cheerleading, consider offering a Non-Mount Division. If Non-Mount is not a viable alternative for the 2020 season, or if restrictions arise after opening, you can register teams from January to March 31, 2021 for the Spring. We are planning Pop Warner National Cheer and Dance Championships for December 6th and 7th with practices starting on December 5th. This year's Championships will be held in conjunction with Florida Citrus Sports.

It's important to remember that we are not navigating these times alone. Youth, high school, college and professional leagues across the country face the same challenges. But in the end, we are uniquely positioned to succeed because we have an incredible organization made up of people like you. I want to thank you for your continuous efforts to act in the best interest of the young people we serve and their families. Please know that we will come through as strong as ever, whether your teams compete this fall, in the spring or not again until next fall.

Let us know if you have any questions.

Thank you,
Jon

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