

Dear St. Leonard Families,

We are writing to inform you that Father Dan, Lisa Ellis, the school principal, parish leadership, our Athletics Board, and the Christian Formation Directors, have made a joint decision not to participate in basketball (includes CYM) this winter.

While the health and safety of our students, staff and volunteers were at the heart of this decision, many other factors were considered. After reviewing the protocols set forth by the Archdiocese, we felt they would be unattainable, prohibit students from staying in school due to COVID exposure, and we would end the season in a financial deficit. Teams that need to forfeit due to COVID would not recoup costs and must still pay the referees. If a parish wishes to have sports this year, all of the following protocols must be followed. In the end, parish and school leadership as well as our Athletics Board all thought that it would be impossible to comply with all these requirements.

In addition, if we attempted to have basketball this year, we would have lost money for the parish which is not something our budgets can absorb.

See below:

1. A COVID-19 Coordinator must be named. This person is responsible for:
 - Respond to any COVID-19 concerns
 - Provide training on all safety protocols
 - Collect and maintain all contact tracing for all practices and games
 - Keep accurate records for every person present at any all team activities
2. Players:
 - Must attend school and Christian Formation in person.
 - May not participate in any team activity during quarantine.
3. Facilities
 - COVID-19 safety protocol signage must be visible in all areas
 - Designated Entrance into facility
 - Separate Exit out of facility
 - Sanitizer stations with approved sanitizer should be provided and identified
 - Locker rooms will not be used
 - Restrooms should be monitored to insure social distancing and limit number of people in restrooms
 - All basketballs and equipment must be cleaned/disinfected before, multiple times during, and after use.
 - After each game or practice, all individuals must vacate the premises so that the whole facility may be cleaned/disinfected.
 - Practice times must be staggered with 20 – 30 minutes between each to allow adequate cleaning/disinfecting.
4. Masks and social distancing
 - Coaches must wear masks at all times.
 - Players must wear masks:

- Entering and Leaving facility
 - While listening to instruction
 - When not participating in a drill or scrimmage
 - Participating in little or no exertion activities
 - Sitting on the bench
 - All coaches and players must social distance as much as possible
5. Games
- Must have a designated gym supervisor
 - Teams and coaches may only arrive 10 minutes early
 - May not enter the gym while a game is in progress
 - Teams and coaches must practice social distancing while waiting to enter gym
 - Team bench areas must be set for social distancing
 - Only the official scorer and timer may sit (six feet apart) at the scorer's table
 - Game officials must have somewhere to go in between games when disinfecting is being done
 - Game times must be staggered with 20 – 30 minutes between each to allow adequate cleaning/disinfecting
6. Spectators
- The recommendation at this time is to not allow any spectators
 - If this should change, the capacity should be calculated with social distancing protocols
 - Each player only allowed two spectators (if capacity number allows)
 - A ticket distribution system would need to be established
 - If charging an entrance fee, how would it be collected?
 - All spectators would have to be masked
 - Each spectator's name would have to be recorded for contact tracing
7. Concessions
- The recommendation is to not have concessions
 - If this should change, only pre-packaged items would be allowed
 - All people selling concessions would be masked
 - Traffic flow set up should allow for social distancing

If these protocols were not followed properly, St. Leonard would hold some liability, and we do not want to put ourselves in an unfortunate position.

We know your children will be disappointed, as we are, in not being able to participate in this wonderful program. We ask for your understanding and acceptance of this very difficult decision.

May your families be safe and healthy in the long winter months.

Blessings,

Lisa Jachimiec
Director of Child Formation

Bethanne Maus-Schaefer
Director of Youth Ministry