

December 17, 2020

Good afternoon Sport Club participants, officers and coaches. We apologize if you are receiving this twice, we also sent the message through DSE.

First and foremost we hope that you have had a successful semester academically and remained safe throughout this challenging Fall semester. All of us in Campus Recreation would like to wish you and your family a happy and safe holiday season. Since March when we started our communications, we have thought of different adjectives to describe this pandemic and the events surrounding it. Unprecedented is the one that we have constantly returned to because these are truly unprecedented times that have resulted in unprecedented decisions. As always we want to thank everyone for their patience and understanding through these last 9 months, the health and safety of all of our participants is our number one concern. All of the decisions that we make have been based around this premise.

As you know Temple University, the City of Philadelphia and the State of Pennsylvania have guidelines in place through the end of 2020. Uncertainty right now is the only certainty. As a Department we have been regularly meeting with the steering committees on campus, as well as Recreation Professionals in Philadelphia, in Pennsylvania and in the Northeast. Throughout our conversations we have worked with our counterparts at the other City 6 institutions to create similar protocols in regards to Sport Club programming for the Spring 2021 semester. With the uncertainty that is on the horizon at the University, in the City, across the region and the nation we feel this decision will provide us with a timeline to make the most informed decisions moving forward.

All Sport Club activities will remain suspended through February 28th at the earliest. In our opinion that will give us a much clearer forecast of what is able to be conducted safely. Additionally by that point in the semester the weather, typically, is beginning to improve and will provide us the opportunity to utilize outdoor facilities more regularly. Understand that the Spring 2021 semester will most likely still not look like a “normal” semester, hopefully by Fall 2021 we can return to Sport Clubs as we all know them. Our goal, as we would return to activity in March, would be to prioritize conditioning in small pods/groups. If permitted, the details and guidelines for that would be released as we would inch closer to any resumption of activities.

As we return to campus in the Spring semester we want to remind all sport club participants to take advantage of the recreational opportunities available to them through Campus Recreation. Whether it is our fitness centers, fitness opportunities, the pool, the track or Geasey turf; as students you are permitted to use these spaces and programs following the guidelines set forth. For more information on them please visit our website at campusrecreation.temple.edu.

As Recreational Professionals making these decisions are just as difficult as hearing about them from us. We all got into this field to be able to offer you the safe, organized and fun programming you want and expect from us. If you have questions please feel free to reach out to Brandon, Pete or myself and we will work to answer them. Once again we hope that you all have a safe and happy holiday season. We are all looking forward to a return to normalcy, better times and seeing everyone in 2021!

Officers please make sure this is shared with your membership, we know not everyone is on DSE.

Thanks

Brandon Brown, Sport Club Coordinator

Pete Vincent, Assistant Director-Programs

Jay Gallagher, Associate Director-Programs