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DC STATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION ANNOUNCES PLANS FOR 2020-21 INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS

Washington, DC – The District of Columbia State Athletic Association today announced it has postponed interscholastic athletics in the 2020-21 school year until January 2021, due to the ongoing public health crisis.

Subject to final approval by the Mayor and the DC Department of Health, the DCSAA will implement a Condensed Interscholastic Plan for the 2020-21 school year. While sports will not be played in the fall, this model allows for all sports to have seasons during the 2020-21 school year.

"Given the current environment, it just is not feasible to begin practice August 1 and competition later that month," DCSAA Executive Director Clark Ray said. "The safety of student-athletes and coaches remains our top priority. We have consulted with DC Health, our member public, public charter and private schools to discuss the options for having athletics this school year. Given the current science and data, this is the best solution to allow our student-athletes to compete in 2020-21."

The Condensed Interscholastic Plan has three playing seasons, beginning with the winter season, followed by fall and then spring. Each season will have a three-week preseason and a six-week regular season, followed by league playoffs and DCSAA state championships.

- Winter season: basketball, indoor track and field, cheerleading.
 - First practice date: December 14
 - Game dates: January 4 to February 28
- Fall season: cross-country, football, soccer and volleyball
 - First practice date: February 1
 - Game dates: February 22 to April 16
- Spring season: baseball, softball, tennis, track and field, ultimate disc, chess
 - First practice date: March 29
 - Game dates: April 19 to June 13

"These are unprecedented times and first and foremost the DCSAA remains committed to the welfare of our student-athletes," said Rosalyn Overstreet-Gonzalez, D.C. State Athletic

Commission chairperson. "We are hopeful this model will keep all of our incredible studentathletes engaged and focused and also allow them to take the court or the field this school year and showcase their talents."

To learn more about the District of Columbia State Athletic Association, please visit <u>www.dcsaasports.org</u>.

About the District of Columbia State Athletic Association

The mission of the District of Columbia State Athletics Association (DCSAA) is to serve member schools and the maximum number of their student-athletes by providing leadership and support for interscholastic athletic programming that will enrich the education experiences of all participants.

The DCSAA preserves and promotes the educational significance of interscholastic athletics by:

- Providing for fair competition between member schools;
- Promoting sportsmanship and ethical behavior;
- Establishing and enforcing standards of conduct for student-athletes, coaches, administrators, officials and spectators;
- Protecting the physical well-being of student-athletes and promoting healthy adolescent lifestyles; and
- Promoting participation of female and disabled students on member teams.

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