

Dear Principals and Schools,

With the COVID-19 restrictions for sporting events lifted, we are pleased to move forward with our introduction of several sports at the Catholic elementary school level. Many Catholic elementary schools may have one or two programs in place, but we are reaching out to all school principals and points of contact to start the process of introducing up to six different sports throughout the entire Diocese of Biloxi.

As many of you know, this has been in the works for some time. We now feel we have a great group of leaders and volunteers in place that can help each sport develop, grow, and eventually help each school prepare students for when they reach the middle school and high school levels – knowing that our primary goal is Forming Intentional Disciples of Christ.

Our idea is to offer scheduling of games or meets as well as coaching training for each sport. In some instances, we will work with each school's point of contact to ensure each school will be able to compete if they desire even if they do not have coaching or enough athletes. In instances where a school may lack athletes, we can possibly combine schools so they can field a team. Once leaders are in place for each sport, they will be reaching out when the time nears to both the principals and points of contact to guide them.

With this being one of the first years really pushing multiple sports, we will ask for some understanding as this will be a work in progress. We all feel this will help to bring the schools closer as well as greatly enhance the mission of discipleship.

Sports that we will introduce and promote for the 2021-2022 school year are:

- Football (padded and flag football) [Fall and Spring]
- Basketball [late fall] already has a very good structure in place
- Volleyball [Fall]
- Track (multiple meets) [Spring]
- Golf [Spring]
- Soccer [Winter]

Sports in consideration for the future include but are not limited to:

- Lacrosse
- Baseball/softball
- Tennis
- Swimming

We hope that this excites you as much as it excites us. Please feel free to reach out to us with any questions or concerns.