

January 6, 2021

Dear Dolphins,

Happy New Year from all of us in the Department of Athletics and Recreation. Since March we have faced an opponent with no uniform. As Dolphins, you took on this opponent with the fierceness we would expect from our student athletes. I believe that you have proven that, despite the unprecedented COVID-19 situation, you are strong and resilient.

Your academic success and continued athletic development remain our focus. We know there are many questions about the spring semester and we continue to receive guidance from the College's leadership, the NCAA, the Skyline Conference, as well as national, state, and local officials. At the College, we will continue to be guided by what is in your best interests, with your health and safety paramount.

As we look forward to the spring semester, I want to update you on some important topics. As you have learned in the communication from Dr. Burns, classes are set to begin as scheduled on January 25 online. Additional information about move-in will be provided by Resident Life. Prior to move-in, all residents must provide the College with a negative COVID-19 test. Please remember that all athletic testing requirements will be above and beyond College campus testing requirements. The first two weeks of the semester will be virtual to facilitate a safe transition back to campus. Please follow all Housing and Residence Life move-in guidelines provided to you.

Winter Sports Update:

- Men and Women's Basketball will not have a Skyline Conference season.
- Men and Women's Basketball will participate in practice throughout the semester.

Spring Sports Update:

- Men's Volleyball will not participate in Skyline Conference competition.
- Men's Volleyball will participate in practice throughout the semester.
- All outdoor spring sports will move forward with a new Skyline Conference scheduling format.
- All outdoor sports will begin practice upon return to campus.
- Skyline Conference COVID-19 protocols will be strictly observed.

The Fitness Center is open by appointment only. To reserve your session, please visit: <u>picktime.com/CMSVFitnessCenter</u>. Beginning Monday, January 25, hours will be:

Monday to Friday 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday Closed Sunday 12 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Due to ongoing construction, the entrance to the Fitness Center is located outside of Cardinal Hayes Auditorium, down the stairs near the shuttle stop.

We take great pride in our Mount Saint Vincent athletic programs. The culture our student athletes, coaches, and administrators have created has and will continue to allow us to withstand this unusual disruption. Please continue to protect yourself from the virus by staying home and taking the necessary precautions from exposure.

I look forward to everyone being back on campus so we can continue to drive the Department of Athletics and Recreation in our new direction, achieving excellence both in the classroom and on the fields.

Stay safe and go 'Phins!

Sincerely,

Phil Stern

Director for Athletics and Recreation

Women's Basketball Coach