

Dear Millbrook Families,

On Friday, January 22, 2021 at approximately 3:00 PM Governor Cuomo announced that higher-risk high school sports may begin in NYS as early as February 1, 2021 with the approval from each local county department of health.

On Wednesday, January 27, 2021 at approximately 3:45 PM the Dutchess County Department of Behavioral Health and County Executive Marcus Molinaro approved that higher-risk high school sports can indeed begin in Dutchess County as early as February 1, 2021.

I am very happy to announce that Superintendent Laura Mitchell and the Millbrook CSD Board of Education have given us the go ahead to move forward with our planning to reopen our athletic programs! Our goal will be to do this in as safe a manner as possible for our students, coaches, staff, and community.

The Millbrook CSD Athletics Department is prepared, and we will plan to operate the following sports schedule for the remainder of the 2020-2021 Academic year:

Winter (February 1- February 28):

- **Varsity and JV Boy's Basketball**
- **Varsity and JV Girl's Basketball**
- **We will be looking to begin to allow coach directed off-season workouts for Fall II and Spring sports during this time frame as well.**

Fall II (March 1- April 18)

- **Varsity Cheerleading**
- **Varsity and Modified Boy's Cross Country**
- **Varsity and Modified Girl's Cross Country**
- **Varsity and Modified-A 8-Man Football**
- **Varsity, JV and Modified Boy's Soccer**
- **Varsity, JV and Modified Girl's Soccer**
- **Varsity, JV and Modified Volleyball**

Spring (April 19- June TBA)

- **Varsity, JV and Modified Baseball**
- **Varsity Boy's Golf**
- **Varsity Boy's Lacrosse**
- **Varsity Girl's Lacrosse**
- **Varsity, JV and Modified Softball**
- **Varsity and Modified Boy's Track and Field**
- **Varsity and Modified Girl's Track and Field**

For your convenience and review, I am providing a link [here](#) to our athletic state level governing body's (NYSPHSAA) document that describes in detail the return to play guidelines and considerations of Winter, Fall II, and Spring sports. The following link [here](#) also provides the NYS Interim Guidance for Sports and Recreation During the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency. Additionally, I am also providing a link [here](#) to our local governing body's (Section IX) document that describes in detail our Section IX winter contest guidelines. Within these

documents, there are general guidelines provided as well as specific guidelines and considerations for each sport for all responsible parties involved (Staff, Officials, Coaches, Students, Parents). I encourage you to read these important documents carefully as we all work together to ensure a safe return to play for our student athletes.

I will provide any further guidance, considerations, or pertinent documents that are developed or made available to me as we progress into each athletic season.

I have posted an "Athletics Registration" form for the *Winter* sports listed above on our district's [Family ID](#) page. A link to this form is also located on the [Millbrook Athletics](#) homepage on the MCSD website. Any students interested in trying out for the Winter sports listed above should go to the website and register as soon as possible.

NYS has waived new student physicals for this school year's athletic participation. With this in mind, if a student has a current physical on file with the school nurse's office from either the '18-'19 or '19-'20 academic year, they will **NOT** need to obtain an updated physical in order to participate. If there is no physical on file in the nurse's office for a student or if our school district Medical Director determines that there is a need, a student may be required to obtain an updated physical before participating. The *Fall II* season athletics registration page will be posted in short order so that our students can begin registering for those sports being offered as well. The *Spring* season athletics registration page will be posted at a later date. Parents and student-athletes will need to complete the health history form on the [Family ID](#) webpage and will then need to be cleared by the school nurse **BEFORE** any student athlete can participate in any sport.

You will also find a new user-friendly Section IX sports game schedule site at www.section9sports.org. Just click on "Schedules" in the horizontal menu on the front page of the site. I have also provided this link on our [Millbrook Athletics](#) homepage on the MCSD website.

I will be communicating with you in the near future as to whether or not, and how many spectators will be allowed at our athletic contests. I am currently exploring options to establish the live-streaming of our athletic events so everyone will be able to see the action even if they can't be in attendance! More information to follow.

I am so happy for our student-athletes and I want everyone to know that I am here should any of you have any questions or concerns as we move forward. Feel free to reach out to me directly.

Thank you,
Mr. Al Hammell
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GO BLAZERS!