



April 15, 2020

For Immediate Release

Following extensive discussion, and in keeping with the messaging of Dr. Hinshaw and Alberta Health, the Alberta Schools' Athletic Association has come to conclude that even if schools were to reconvene before the end of the school year we cannot anticipate a scenario by which championships can be held for the balance of the 2019-20 school year. Therefore, all remaining provincial championships are cancelled for the 2019-20 school year.

We extend our congratulations to all of our student-athletes for their efforts in the 2019-2020 school year and wish our graduating seniors all the best in their future endeavours. The ASAA looks forward to school sports returning as an integral component of the fabric of our great province in the fall. Future directions regarding school sport in the 2020-21 school year will be discussed further by the Board at our AGM in June.

We would like to thank all our provincial championship hosts this year, a great deal of work went into championships that were completed and into the planning of championships that have been cancelled. Our thanks to all who contributed countless hours to these events.

The ASAA has had direct communication with Alberta Health Services from early March and continues to closely monitor developments to ensure that our next steps align with the directions of Dr. Hinshaw and AHS. The safety of student athletes and those attending ASAA athletic events as well as those loved ones they may subsequently associate with remain a focus as we arrived at this decision and make plans for the 2020-2021 school and athletic year.

At this time, it is too early to predict what limitations, if any, might be in place when the ASAA season of play for football, golf and cross-country starts on August 16, 2020. It is our intention to update schools on a regular basis as information becomes available through the summer and into the fall start-up. The ASAA will remain aligned with the direction of Dr. Hinshaw and AHS.

On behalf of the ASAA Executive Committee, Board, staff, and the 50,000 student-athletes and their coaches we'd like to thank all of Alberta's first responders, health care workers and everyone trying to support Alberta and Alberta's students in working through this Covid-19 challenge. We encourage all Albertans to stay safe.

Sincerely,

George Hoyt
President
ASAA

