

Dear Tabernacle Family,

It is an exciting time as preparations are being made for the return of TCS Athletics. Volleyball and soccer teams have been practicing and we are looking forward to our first scheduled games on Tuesday, 9/8, for the high school and Monday, 9/14, for the middle school. I wanted to take this opportunity to give you, our TCS families, some information that will be important as you plan for these sports seasons to begin.

Tabernacle Christian School is currently a member of two athletic associations, FAMA and NCCSA. FAMA is a regional association which governs all of the interscholastic athletic competition for our middle school students. The NCCSA is an athletic association made up of Christian schools found throughout the state of North Carolina and governs the athletics competition for our high school students.

The NCCSA has published comprehensive guidance and regulations regarding COVID-19 return to play requirements. This guidance covers such things as screening requirements, distancing, and spectators and gathering restrictions. Under the COVID-19 restrictions, the NCCSA has implemented a tiered system regarding spectators. The different levels of this system are as follows:

- Green Level -No limit on spectators
- Blue Level -Participating athletes, essential personnel, and immediate family members for home and away teams up to the maximum capacity limits.
- Yellow Level -Participating athletes, essential personnel, and immediate family members for the home team only up to the maximum capacity limits.
- Red Level -Participating athletes and essential personnel only, no spectators.

The NCCSA and FAMA have put forth a mandate that all fall sports begin their season under the Red Level conditions, which means that no spectators will be allowed. Though not an ideal situation for our TCS families, we understand that our athletic associations have taken this position out of an abundance of caution and with the health and safety of our student athletes as a priority.

In order to help our families during this time, TCS has opened a Facebook page for each of our volleyball and soccer teams so that each game may be live-streamed via Facebook. Also, funds are being raised to purchase the cameras and equipment necessary to provide high-quality streaming for events held in the gymnasium. Finally, in every home game of any sport, there are a number of positions and jobs that would be typically filled by a school staff member or volunteer. These essential personnel are necessary to be able to host a game on our premises. During these Red Level conditions, TCS will be opening these positions to the parents of participating athletes so that they may be in attendance at the game. There will be strict guidelines for those helping in this capacity such as screening questions, temperature checks,

and a face covering requirement, and it will only apply to home games since essential personnel will be subject to the requirements of the host school at an away game. A link will be sent out for parents to use to sign up to help in this way. If there are not enough positions to accommodate all of the parents for a particular game, a rotation schedule will be implemented.

It is our desire that everything that is done at TCS be Christ-honoring and done in such a way as to bring honor and glory to Him. Please pray for our coaches to have wisdom as they lead their teams and make decisions regarding the health and safety of our student athletes as they begin their seasons. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to your child's coach. You may also contact our athletic director by email at Ben.Nicely@tcshickory.org, or you may reach me by email at Tim.Missey@tcshickory.org or by phone at 828-324-9936. Thank you for the opportunity to serve you at Tabernacle Christian School.

Sincerely,

Tim Missey
Principal