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From: Gregg Simon <[gmsimon@casciac.org](mailto:gmsimon@casciac.org)>

Sent: Thursday, March 19, 2020 1:05 PM

To: DiStasi, Ernie <[EDiStasi@seymourschools.org](mailto:EDiStasi@seymourschools.org)>

Subject: CIAC Position on Non-School Team Participation

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Dear Superintendents, Principals, and Athletic Directors, Since yesterday's announcement to suspend spring sports, CIAC staff have received an influx of questions from athletic directors/coaches about student-athletes participating on non-school teams during this shutdown period. While CIAC rules do not prohibit student-athlete participation with outside teams prior to the school's first scheduled game, endorsing such participation at this time would contradict best practices for student-athlete and community safety. While our schools are closed, the CIAC recommends that member schools strongly discourage student-athletes from engaging in any organized athletic activity. Social distancing is the best course of action that we can collectively take to prevent further spread of COVID-19. Our common goal is to return to normal classroom instruction, league play, and CIAC tournament action. We cannot accomplish this goal if we do not stand firm on the importance of everyone doing their part in social distancing. While it is not a CIAC rules violation to participate with outside teams prior to your school's first game, the CIAC recommends that member schools voluntarily instruct their student-athletes to not engage in organized outside team practices, workouts, or individualized instruction until the guidance on social distancing is relaxed.

The CIAC appreciates the partnership of our member schools while we continue to inform our student-athletes and parents on best practice for the health and safety of our communities.

Sincerely,

Glenn Lungarini  
Executive Director  
CAS-CIAC  
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