FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

American Legion Baseball Program Suspended - Other Programs Canceled…

Arkansas American Legion Baseball Commissioners held a teleconference meeting this past Saturday, where they unanimously decided to support placing the Arkansas American Legion Baseball season back into a “suspended” status, rescinding the previous cancellation of the season made earlier due to the COVID-19 Virus Outbreak.

This decision was made after reviewing the full impact of cancelling the entire baseball season at this time; however, the safety of the young men and others associated with the program remains our number one priority, and the Commander, American Legion Department of Arkansas expresses regret for any confusion for his own decision may have caused.

“We WILL NOT PERMIT any players, coaches, officials, or fans to take any field (practice or playing) at anytime until we have an all clear for safe play from federal, state, and local governments, as well as the American Legion Department of Arkansas and its Arkansas American Legion Baseball Commissioner,” said Doyle Batey, American Legion Department of Arkansas Commander. He also adds, “There are a lot of background activities not readily visible to most of us. Please bear with us as we try to do what is right for our Legion, our programs, and our people. As new facts and information come to light, we will try to make appropriate adjustments and decisions. Safety is our number one priority.”

While the baseball program has been suspended until June 1, several programs have already been cancelled for 2020 including: American Legion Boys State, American Legion Auxiliary Girls State, and the American Legion Junior Shooting Sports Three Position Air Rifle Championship. The American Legion Arkansas State High School Oratorical Contest was held back in February, but like the other programs, it too has been cancelled at the national level, and planned to resume in 2021.

Again, the American Legion Department of Arkansas expresses regret for any confusion this decision may have caused, and once an all clear is given and it is deemed safe by ALL federal, state, and local governments, as well as the American Legion Department of Arkansas and its Arkansas American Legion Baseball Commissioner, another release will be made public at that time.

For more information, visit the American Legion Department of Arkansas Web site at: www.arlegion.org, or telephone (501) 375-1104.

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