

There is no doubt that 2020 has been uniquely challenging. Over the past five months, while we have all battled the same storm, our organization recognizes that each family's ship has been different. We understand that each family has dealt with different obstacles and had to overcome adversity. As a youth sports organization, the Board of Directors of Palmyra Youth Football and Cheerleading League (PMYFCL) has continued to meet, plan, organize and prepare to have a season. From the beginning of this pandemic, it has been the intention of the Board to have something for both athletes and parents to look forward to. We understand what fall, and Football and Cheerleading means to our families. Nothing beats enjoying a cup of coffee on a fall morning in the bleachers watching our athletes show off the skills they've spent those warm summer evenings perfecting.

While our Board has continued to meet and discuss the guidelines of the CDC and input from NYSPHSA (New York State Public High School Athletic Association) and New York State leaders, and the implications they would have on our season, PMYFCL has paid the "required" bills and has made preparations in hope that our season would move forward. The Board has continued to weigh the health and safety of our athletes and their families against the need to return to sports and physical activity for our children. From the beginning, our Board has been committed to have a season as close to our "regular" season as possible. Based upon the results of our recent parent survey, the guidelines required to adhere to this season, and the fact that we still are not cleared to begin, the Board has critically analyzed the cost versus benefits.

The Finger Lakes Youth Football and Cheerleading League has decided to put the fate of the upcoming season in the hands of individual leagues. A President's vote is expected next week to determine whether the season will move forward. However, it is with a heavy heart that our Board has unanimously voted to not proceed with a football and cheerleading season this fall. While this comes with great disappointment, please know that this decision did not come easily. We have continued to meet, discuss and analyze several scenarios in an attempt to provide our athletes with an opportunity to enjoy the sports they've come to love. However, given all the information to consider, it is not feasible at this time. We need to look to the future of our program, and ensure its longevity and continued success.

As outlined in our survey, we will continue to meet as a Board in an attempt to plan "camps" in order to offer something to our athletes. While we will not be together in our "typical" fall fashion please know our football and cheer families are in our thoughts. We encourage you to take this time to make memories and experience moments this fall season that otherwise wouldn't be possible due to your football and cheer commitments.

Should you have questions or concerns, please contact me.  
May God bless your family and may God Bless America.

*Jeremy M. Bedette*

Jeremy Bedette  
PMYFCL President  
315-719-2886  
pmyfclpresident@gmail.com