



## Office of the President



*July 15, 2020*

Dear Mitchell College Athletes,

We know that you have been eagerly awaiting information on fall athletics. Trust that we have been in constant contact with the New England Collegiate Conference (NECC), state agencies, and other colleges to find the best practices to ensure our athletes' safety and well-being in the coming season. We have just received word from the NECC, however, that fall semester conference play will be suspended due to health and safety concerns around COVID-19.

While the fall season will look different this year, your Mitchell College Athletics staff is committed to ensuring that you enjoy a full and robust athletic and competitive season, both on and off the field and court. This fall, Mitchell athletes can expect:

- NCAA-sanctioned contests with other regional Division III teams, when possible
- Use of Mitchell College's brand-new athletic complex, featuring three artificial turf fields
- Intense strength and conditioning workouts
- Challenging practices
- In-depth video sessions to improve skill and performance
- Scrimmages
- Team building
- New programming for athletes framed around accountability, leadership, discipline and ethical conduct

We are working to offer club sports this fall, as well, dependent on the availability of facilities and fields, along with the ability to comply with health and safety protocols during the activity. Each club team will be required to have a faculty or staff member (or approved outside coach) attend and supervise each practice.

Important to know...

- Any fall athletes attending practice, but not provided an opportunity to compete in varsity contests, will not lose a year of NCAA eligibility.
- Plans for the winter and spring sports schedule are underway, and you will be contacted by your coach with more details.
- Our coaches will continue to recruit student-athletes for the class of 2025. Prospects who are interested in attending Mitchell are encouraged to contact the head coach of the sport in which they are interested.

*Please note that as our guidance and guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), the State of Connecticut, and local health authorities follow the*

*ever-changing situation with COVID-19, all plans and dates are subject to change.* For updates, please visit the **Adjusting Our Sails** web page regularly.

We want to thank you for your patience in the unusual and rapidly changing situation that the pandemic has created. Being a Mariner means adapting to changing seas and changing tack in the face of unexpected winds to keep the ship on course. Together with the dedication and creativity of the Athletics staff, your adaptability will make this historic fall season fun, and full of opportunity to train, compete, and expand your athletic ability.

Go Mariners!  
Tracy Espy  
President

---

**mitchell.edu**