To all Bow River Basketball Families;

 As we have all experienced last year, we are at the mercy of Covid protocols and restrictions. We continue to ask our families to please be flexible and understanding as the 2021/2022 season may need to be adjusted to abide by Alberta Health Services regulations and/or in compliance to any Government of Alberta, Alberta Basketball, and Calgary Minor Basketball Association (CMBA) rules and guidelines, also taking into consideration facility availability (school gym rentals).

As of today, August 18, 2021, the Calgary Board of Education, the Calgary Catholic School Board, the Rockyview, and Foothills School Boards have not made the decision to release their school gyms for rental. This does not mean that they will not release the gyms for rental, however we are currently preparing for the possibility of schools not being available or being delayed.

**Our #1 priority is to get the children back into the gym playing basketball.**

With the above in mind the Bow River South Basketball Association is preparing for the upcoming season:

 **Bow River Basketball House League**

Should the CMBA not be able to secure facilities to run the CMBA league play.

Bow River Basketball has enough private gym rentals to run a house league within our own zone including;

* Evaluations,
* 1 practice/week (practices will take place on Saturdays)
* 1 game per week. (all game play will take place during a weeknight, Monday -Friday, as that is when we have the most flexibility and time for all teams to play a game)
* May have the ability to run an exhibition game(s) vs. another zone.
* All Athletes will still get to experience the same sense of being on a team, as well as game play.
* In house league will offer athletes the ability to focus on building fundamental skills, while having fun.
* House league also has the benefits as regular league play that athletes will still get to experience. Teamwork, self-confidence, self-discipline, and respect.
* Teams will be divided into 2 - 3 groups creating teams of evenly skill matched teams. (depending on the size of the age group).

We along with other zones and the CMBA are working towards building options for return to play for all families.

Please understand that as we proceed through these options, your understanding and patience is much appreciated.

Our season however it may look will begin in early September as per normal with evaluations.

As soon as we have more details on what the program will entail, we will communicate that out to you as quickly as possible.

We ask that you please allow our coordinators and Board Executives the time to develop and create the steps needed to plan the season ahead, and trust that as soon as we have any further communication we will send it out to our Bow River families.

Thank you for your time and understanding and we look forward to a great basketball season ahead.

Yours in basketball,

Shelley Fugel

President,

Bow River Basketball Association