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To all our team coaches and participants.

The COVID-19 virus situation is impacting everyone and we are taking it very seriously. Your safety, the safety of all our participants and their families, is our primary concern; but we also feel compelled to continue to provide educational support during these challenging times. To this end we are taking the following actions:

- Events during the remainder of March and April are being postponed. Certain other events are also being postponed. (see below for exact details about our plans). We will closely monitor the situation and, if conditions allow, we will work to reschedule them.
- We will continue to accept and review documentation submissions, providing feedback.
- A virtual option will be made available allowing us to continue to provide curriculum support for those who are operating remotely or from home.

Our teams and coaches are what make our program great and we truly appreciate the numerous hours and hard work put into this season by our students, coaches and mentors. Botball and JBC teams are made up of exceptional students and we truly love to see their strategies and solutions to the challenges and Botball game.

Event Postponement

We have no reason to expect any issues with the Global Conference on Educational Robotics (GCER) as it is in late July (20th -24th) in St. Augustine, Florida. I hope your team is considering participating.

We are also hard at work designing a possible virtual submission and competition if conditions do not improve so that students and teams can still showcase their unique designs and solutions.

We know many schools are now closed and moving to online, so we are working on an online KISS IDE platform so that students can write and compile code without a robot.

Postponed upcoming events include:

March Events

- Junior Botball Challenge, Smyrna, Tennessee
- Botball Workshop, Colorado Springs, Colorado
- Chicago Regional Botball Tournament and Junior Botball Challenge, Chicago, Illinois
- San Diego Regional Botball Tournament and Junior Botball Challenge, Oceanside, California

April Events

- Greater D.C. Regional Botball Tournament and Junior Botball Challenge, Annandale, Virginia
- Laguna Acoma STEM Day, Grants, New Mexico
- San Jose Junior Botball Challenge Day, Milpitas, California

- Northern California Botball Tournament, San Jose, California
- Tulsa Junior Botball Challenge Day, Tulsa, Oklahoma
- Junior Botball Challenge Workshop, Round Rock, Texas
- New Mexico Regional Botball Tournament and Junior Botball Challenge Day, Los Lunas, New Mexico
- Deming Junior Botball Challenge, Deming, New Mexico

All other events we will monitor and hold or postpone as needed including:

- Idaho Regional Botball Tournament and Junior Botball Challenge, Eagle, Idaho
- Greater St Louis Regional Botball Tournament, Edwardsville, Illinois
- Texas Regional Botball Tournament and Junior Botball Challenge, Houston, Texas
- Greater Los Angeles Regional Botball Tournament and Junior Botball Challenge, Burbank, California
- New England Regional Botball Tournament and Junior Botball Challenge, Lowell, Massachusetts
- Colorado Regional Botball Tournament and Junior Botball Challenge, Colorado Springs, Colorado
- New York & New Jersey Regional Botball Tournament, Rahway, New Jersey
- Hawaii Regional Botball Tournament, Mililani, Hawaii

The European Conference on Educational Robotics (ECER) is cancelled and will be rescheduled for sometime in September-October.

The Asian Conference on Educational Robotics is cancelled and will be rescheduled for 2021.

Documentation Production

With school closings and cancellation of extracurricular events it is hard for coaches and teams to work on their robots and documentation. With this in mind, teams should continue to complete and submit their documentation as time and conditions allow. We will remove all documentation deadlines and accept submissions as they are submitted.

Virtual Options

We know many schools are now closed and moving to online, so we are working on an online KISS IDE platform so that students can write and compile code without a robot. We are also continuing to make our curriculum available and will develop some learning opportunities for those who do not have direct access to robots when they are at home.

We are also hard at work designing a possible virtual submission and competition if conditions do not improve so that students and teams can still showcase their unique designs and solutions.

Please contact us directly with any questions you may have. We are here to support you. You can call KIPR at 405.579.4609, or you can reach me directly on my cell at 405.830.6685.

We appreciate you and want you to stay well.

Best,



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