

*UNE Athletics*  
March 13, 2020



To Our UNE Student Athletes, Coaches, and Athletics Staff:

As you know, UNE, and other colleges and universities in the region and across the country, have been grappling with and carefully considering our responses to the emerging novel coronavirus outbreak here in the U.S. The health and safety of our students, faculty, professional staff, and all those they interact with in our larger community is our primary concern. And as global citizens and role models, we also must look beyond even our own safety and needs and consider the health and safety of all our community members, particularly those most vulnerable.

You may have seen in the news or elsewhere that this outbreak has begun to affect athletics at all levels. Among other recent events, the NBA recently canceled its season, the MLB has canceled its spring training and pushed back the start of its season, the NCAA has canceled March Madness and all of its other collegiate championship scheduling across the divisions, and a growing list of individual NCAA regional conferences here in New England and elsewhere in the U.S. have canceled their spring season schedules.

Based on our own concerns, and after careful consideration, we have decided that for the health and safety of our athletes, and all others with whom they may come into contact, we are reluctantly canceling all further competitive play for the remainder of the spring semester and spring season. This includes varsity and club sports. We will evaluate subsequent scheduling depending on how the current outbreak unfolds. We will soon provide more information about whether and how this may also affect practices and training.

We know this is a very difficult and impactful decision for our student athletes, and the coaches, athletic staff, and others who have all worked so hard to prepare for the season and who all eagerly anticipated competitive play. And we know that your families and friends will be disappointed that they cannot see you play. Athletics is an important and treasured component of the UNE experience and our culture. But we will work together to get our Nor'easters back on the fields of play as soon as practical.

Thank you for your understanding.

Heather Davis  
*UNE Athletics Director*

Joshua Hamilton  
*UNE Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs*