

Wednesday, March 18th, 2020

Dear Parents,

What a month it's been. When the horrors of COVID-19 virus was emerging in Asia, then emerging in Europe, we never thought that it would bring the world to a standstill and now result in extreme lock-downs in the US. But it would seem to be the only way to contain the virus that is so contagious.

About 50% of our students travelled for Spring break with the remaining students staying on campus. We began lock-down over the weekend and we are so impressed with the students generating their own fun. They are doing regular golf training in the mornings with inter-house golf "Ryder Cup" competition in the early afternoon and inter-house competitive activities such as kick-ball, soccer, volleyball etc. in the late afternoon. Given our remote location and lock-down, tackling boredom is going to be a major challenge but we're off to a good start!

Of course the big news is that Montverde is closed to classes at school until at least mid-April, but with their recent news in asking all of their boarders and faculty to leave their premises by the end of this week, it's not looking good that they will in fact reopen normal classes by the end of this Spring 2020 semester. So upsetting to our seniors, who won't enjoy the end of their high school experience and miss the pride and formality of their graduation. However, they are able to offer their services online and we are gearing up to support our students in these online studies, well prepared with a number of our residential instructors with teaching experience and also with our tutoring support.

As we could only offer limited services online with our coaches using CoachNow and other media, we remain open, with our boarding houses and golf program. Without the usual commute to Montverde, we will adjust our schedule and give our students an extra hour of sleep which I'm sure that they will appreciate. Our golf program will continue as normal but with an additional half an hour a day of practice, with Core golf starting from 8:30 to 11:30am or 1:00 to 4:00pm and then Elective golf from 4:00 until 5:30pm. Gary Gilchrist is going to be very much more involved in the Elective golf, where students work on their weaker areas, and with fewer students the coach to student ratio will be reduced. All of which is hopefully an improvement in quality of education and golf experience during these difficult months.

About half of the students who left for Spring break are now returning and our approach is to "isolate" rather than "quarantine" our returning students. In their first fourteen days returning students will stay in a bedroom on their own, often with ensuite bathroom, and have food brought to them from Champs Hall. In the interest of hygiene / safety Champs Hall is only open to students and residential instructor staff who have not left Bishops Gate. We are providing plastic gloves for returning students in the event that they spend time in the kitchen or public places, as well as providing paper towels at entrance doors to use when opening

doors. We are not allowing students to use the member Green golf carts and do not allow students to interchange golf carts but may only use golf carts that they routinely use. We have posters up all over the campus reminding students and staff, particularly golf coaches, that they must keep at least six feet distance from each other. We also have reminders about washing hands / using sanitizers and encouraging students to drink much liquid, particularly hot drinks, and have equipped houses with kettles. We are not permitting short-time students and are controlling new visitors to Bishops Gate. Our COVID-19 Committee meets daily at 10am to review changes and policies.

Our prayers and best wishes are with all of our students and families during this difficult time.

Best regards,

Andrew Summers (CEO)