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## NEWS RELEASE

May 27, 2020

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Georgetown County Youth Baseball/Softball Season Cancelled

GEORGETOWN COUNTY, S.C. – After discussions with area booster clubs, Georgetown County has opted to cancel its youth baseball and softball season this year. Organizers will instead start looking ahead to 2021.

Georgetown County Parks and Recreation staff met on May 21 with representatives of the Andrews Dixie Youth Booster Club, the Georgetown Baseball/Softball Booster Club, Pleasant Hill Dixie Youth Baseball & Softball, and the Waccamaw Youth Baseball Association to discuss the logistics of operating youth baseball and softball seasons this year. After receiving information regarding the AccelerateSC guidelines for operating youth sports leagues during the COVID-19 pandemic, each booster club board met independently to vote on whether the season would proceed. It was the collective decision among all organizations, on a nearly unanimous basis, to forego the 2020 season and refocus efforts on making the 2021 season the best season possible.

This decision was not one that was made lightly, and in fact was extremely tough to make, said Beth Goodale, director of Georgetown County Parks and Recreation. “All parties involved are aware of the need for kids to have a positive outlet to remain active, now more than ever,” she said.

There were several factors – the time of year/weather, the stringent guidelines set forth by the state, and the logistical challenges that arise from these things in terms of day-to-day league operations – that were taken into account when making this decision. All parties agreed any season provided at this time would not have been an overall positive experience for participants, and that cancelling the leagues was preferable to offering a sub-par experience.

Georgetown County Parks and Recreation joins each of the regional booster clubs in expressing excitement about seeing everyone next year, and will begin working with the booster clubs on planning for the 2021 season.

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