



July 16, 2020

Dear friends,

*“Every strike brings me closer to the next home run.” ~Babe Ruth*

Whenever Babe Ruth stepped up to the plate, fans and players alike expected a home run. In the same way, our sponsors, fans and charitable beneficiaries expect the Congressional Baseball Game to be a “home run” experience each year. We hold ourselves accountable for taking care of the players, fans, sponsors and charities with the highest of standards. As we work through the realities of what is and is not possible for in-person events in the world of the COVID-19 pandemic, it is clear to us that our high standards cannot be met while also keeping everyone safe and healthy. Therefore, we have made the difficult decision to not play a Congressional Baseball Game this year. We will be back in 2021, and in consultation with the Nationals, who have been great partners to us over many years for this game, we are pleased to announce that the 2021 Congressional Baseball Game will be played on Wednesday, June 9, 2021. Please mark your calendars now, we can’t wait to see you all next June!

As we look to the remainder of 2020, we are hopeful that a vaccine will become available, and that in-person events will again become feasible. To that end, we are beginning to plan for an end-of-year reception with the players, sponsors and charities in December. Details of this event will be shared as we get closer, but we hope to bring many of you together face-to-face then.

This decision was not made lightly. This game raises millions of dollars for important local charities, it provides a unique opportunity for setting aside partisanship and it brings us together in a way no other event can. We are very aware that we have a number of sponsors who have already stepped up and provided funding for this year, and we are grateful to every one of them. We are also very aware that there are a number of charities that rely on Congressional Sports for Charity funding to provide vital services to vulnerable children and families, and we still want to help.

For our sponsors, we will be reaching out to each of you individually to discuss your support and what this decision means going forward. It is our hope that your 2020 support will stand so that the resources are available to continue providing emergency grants to our beneficiaries as needed. We can also roll your support forward as an early sponsorship of the 2021 game, or we can creatively come up with other options. We will work with each of you to find the right solution for your unique circumstances.

For our beneficiaries, we will also be reaching out individually to discuss your current circumstances. Many of you have received emergency funding from us in 2020 already, and so long as resources allow, we will continue to offer additional emergency funding. Unfortunately, we will not be able to hold a full grant cycle in 2020 based on our current level of resources. It is our intention to hold

a regular grant cycle again in the summer of 2021, after the Congressional Baseball Game has been played.

All sponsors and charities are welcome to reach out to Michelle Payne at 202-251-6786 or [michelle@congressionalsportsforcharity.org](mailto:michelle@congressionalsportsforcharity.org) with questions in the meantime.

The year 2020 threw us a wicked curve ball, but you can be sure that we will be swinging for the fences in 2021.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ryan Thompson", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Ryan Thompson  
President