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**Istrouma Area Council, Inc.
Boy Scouts of America**

To the Scouting Families and Volunteers of the Istrouma Area Council,

As always, our top priority is to keep our youth, families, and community safe. With recent concerns regarding COVID-19, (Coronavirus) the Risk Management committee and members of the Executive Board met to discuss a plan for upcoming Scouting events.

At the recommendation of the Risk Management committee, the Council is postponing all Council and District Scouting events that were to occur between March 13 and April 13, 2020. This delay is in line with the schedule outlined for Louisiana public schools by Governor Jon Bel Edwards. This will give us time to assess the impact of the virus on our Scouting community and how we can mitigate any spread among our members.

This postponement will include, but is not limited to:

- Round Tables
- Merit Badge Day
- Eagle Reception
- District Meetings and Events
- Order of the Arrow Events
- Council level Trainings

We recommend units follow the same four weeks postponement, including campouts, Blue & Gold banquets and other gatherings. Decisions about unit meetings and activities should be made by unit leaders and chartering organizations, taking into consideration current CDC guidelines and local health department guidelines.

Our plan is to hold all District Family Camps and Camporees the weekend of April 17-19, 2020 at Avondale Scout Reservation. Wilderness First Aid, NYLT and Summer Camp are still scheduled, and will be included in our future assessments. We are working to reschedule Merit Badge Day and the Eagle Banquet. We hope to notify you soon of the new dates.

We are encouraging all staff and volunteers to take all precautionary steps to prevent the spread of Coronavirus. Please refer to <http://ldh.la.gov/> for additional information. We realize we all have a part in keeping each other safe.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to your District Executive or Council Executive staff. We will do everything we can to answer your questions.

We appreciate your commitment to our Scouting Community,

Bill Ragsdale
Council President

Bob Warner
Council Commissioner

Gary Mertz
Scout Executive

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