

January 4, 2010

Dear Friends in Christ,

The 2009-2010 basketball season is well under way and another exciting **Illinois Lutheran Basketball Tournament of Champions** is now being planned by the Lutheran Sports Association of Illinois. The 35th Annual Tournament of Champions will be held on March 12-14, 2010. Games will be played at Christ Lutheran Grade School in Peoria and Bethel Lutheran Grade School in Morton.

THE WINNERS WILL BE CROWNED STATE CHAMPIONS OF 2010!

All Lutheran congregations in Illinois are eligible and we encourage all teams to apply for participation in the tournament. Please see the "Special Note – Rule Changes" on the back page of this letter concerning team and player eligibilities.

TOURNAMENT FORMAT

STATE 2010's field will consist of three divisions – High School Freshman/Sophomore, High School Varsity, and Senior Men -- with up to sixteen teams in each division. Based upon the total of qualified applications for a division, each division will include between 8 and 16 teams. The final rounds will be played on Sunday, March 14. Each team will be assured a minimum of two games, since a consolation bracket will be included.

APPLICATIONS AND ENTRY FEES

All teams hoping to participate must return their application to the LSA, postmarked no later than **Tuesday February 9, 2010**, and **include an entry check** made payable to the **Lutheran Sports Association of Illinois**. The entry deadline will be strictly enforced. **The entry fees are as follows: Freshman/Sophomore \$175.00, High School Varsity \$225.00, Senior Men \$250.00.** Teams will be notified of their acceptance no later than February 23, 2010, and entry fees will be returned if your team is not selected for the 2010 tournament field. **Send your applications and entry fee to:**

Dave Kinsinger, 102 Maple Ridge Drive, Morton, IL 61550-1122

TOURNAMENT APPLICATIONS AND RULES

The STATE 2010 Tournament of Champions' **application and rules for all divisions** is now available on our LSA Web Site at www.luthsports.org. **Please complete the tournament application for your team(s) on the web site.** If you are unable to access the application or rules, contact Dave Kinsinger immediately to obtain the forms. The deadline for the completed application and entry fees will be enforced. **Please take the time to review the rules as they may differ from your league or other tournament rules.**

SPECIAL NOTE – RULE CHANGES: Please note in **Rule 3.02** that teams in the High School Freshman-Sophomore Division and the Senior Men's Division are not required to be an established squad during the current basketball season. However, the teams must still comply with all player eligibility rules. **Rule 4.02** has been modified to allow an additional non-member player to a non-combined team roster if the initial roster consists of fewer than ten players. Please refer to the Rule for further requirements to verify attempts of inviting participation on the team.

HOUSING

Due to the fact that STATE 2010 falls on the same weekend as one of the Illinois High School Association's State Basketball Tournaments, the Lutheran Sports Association has secured rooms at the following hotels for STATE 2010. Rule 9.03 requires all non-commuting participants to stay at the official STATE 2010 hotels. If you do not abide by Rules 9.03 this year, you and your team(s) will forfeit your eligibility to play at STATE 2011. The official hotels with pertinent information are as follows:

Jameson Inn & Suites
4112 North Brandywine Drive
Peoria, IL 61614
Phone: (309) 685-2556
FAX: (309) 685-6272

40 Rooms
Room Rate: \$89.99 plus tax, per night
Cut off Date: Monday, March 1, 2010

The Grand Hotel & Conference Center
4400 North Brandywine Drive
Peoria, IL 61614
Phone: (309) 686-8000
FAX: (309) 682-8237

30 Rooms
\$99.00 plus tax, per night
Monday, March 1, 2010

SpringHill Suites by Marriott Peoria
2701 West Lake Avenue
Peoria, IL 61615
Phone: (309) 681-2700
FAX: (309) 681-2701

30 Rooms
\$99.00 plus tax, per night
Monday, March 1, 2010

Everyone is encouraged to secure their room reservations as a block as soon as possible with the hotel. Reservations can be made by directly phoning the STATE 2010 hotels. **Please note the cut-off dates for each hotel and make your reservations promptly.** In case of any questions, please contact Dave Kinsinger.

PROGRAM BOOK ADVERTISING

The Lutheran Sports Association is now sponsoring their 35th annual tournament and would appreciate all efforts to help defray the tremendous costs of STATE 2010 through the sale of program book commercial and non-commercial advertisements, patron listings, and LSA memberships. Program advertisements provide a much-needed source of revenue to help overcome tournament costs, and they provide a means for businesses to show their support for the Lutheran Sports Association before the fans. Non-commercial ads can be placed by team boosters to congratulate their teams on their season as well. An ad format/price list sheet is included in this mailing for your use. If you wish previous program books or further information, please contact **Dave Kinsinger at (309) 263-8117**. The deadline for receipt of all advertising is **Friday, February 26, 2010** and should be sent to **Dave Kinsinger**. **Note: We would welcome any business or individual names included with the team application for us to contact concerning program book advertisement possibilities.**

WEEKEND ACTIVITIES

The STATE 2010 Tournament Committee is planning to have the weekend worship service this year on Saturday afternoon at Christ Lutheran School. We look forward to having you join us for an time of family fun, song and fellowship! Special activities will include a 3-point & free throw shooting contests for the high school players following the worship service.

We hope to see you on March 12-14, 2010. It will be an exciting weekend! Come join us for athletic competition and Christian fellowship!

**For further information contact: Dave Kinsinger Hm: (309) 263-8117 Wk: (309) 263-8922
E-mail: djksngr@mtco.com**

For STATE 2010 Tournament Rules and Applications

Visit the Lutheran Sports Association Web Site at:

www.luthsports.org

In case you are unable to access the application and rules, contact Dave Kinsinger immediately to obtain the forms. The entry deadline for the STATE 2010 Tournament is to be postmarked no later than **Tuesday, February 9, 2010.**

HELP!! WE NEED VOLUNTEERS!

The STATE 2010 Tournament of Champions needs your help. Like many other volunteer organizations, the Lutheran Sports Association is experiencing a shortage of volunteers who are needed to continue the operations of the tournament. We need your support in a number of areas. These include scorers/timers, ticket-takers, souvenirs and team check-in.

Your team will be required to furnish an official timer and / or scorekeeper for each game in which your team participates. Please include the name of the individual(s) who will serve as your volunteer(s) for the tournament with your application. As a volunteer, these individuals will be given a tournament pass prior to your first game at team check-in.

Any other volunteer assistance your team or fans could provide in other areas would be greatly appreciated.

Thanks for continuing to support the Lutheran Sports Association in service to our Lutheran churches and schools.



Full Page 7.5" x 4.5"
Commercial Advertisement - \$150
Non-Commercial Advertisement - \$95

Back Cover- \$350
Inside Cover-\$250

Half Page 3.75" x 4.5"
Commercial Advertisement - \$95
Non-Commercial Advertisement - \$60

Quarter Page 1.875" x 4.5"
Commercial Advertisement - \$60
Non-Commercial Advertisement - \$40