

*Dear Kempsville High School Varsity Baseball Players and Families,*

*Due to the ongoing investigation and findings regarding the allegations of racism, hate speech, and harassment, the decision has been made to forfeit the remainder of the 2024 Kempsville High School varsity baseball season.*

*Under VHSL Rule 27-8-1, I am compelled as principal to uphold the highest standards of sportsmanship and to follow the VHSL handbook and where it does not exist, I must act accordingly. I have reprinted Rule 27-8-1 below.*

**27-8-1 PRINCIPAL'S RESPONSIBILITY RULE - Final authority and ultimate responsibility in all matters pertaining to interscholastic activities of each school, both athletic and nonathletic, shall be vested in the principal who acts under authority granted by the division superintendent of schools. The principal's responsibilities shall include, but shall not be limited to, the following:**

**27-8-2 Control:**

**(1) The principal shall exercise control over all interscholastic contests in which his/her school engages. It is his/her responsibility, as well as that of his/her coaches, faculty members and all representatives of his/her school, to practice the highest principles of sportsmanship in all interscholastic relationships with visiting coaches and official representatives, contest officials, visiting contestants and the general public, as well as to expect a sportsmanlike attitude toward visitors on the part of his/her school and community.**

*Know that I have made this decision in collaboration with Coach Penn. The investigation will continue and it is my hope that the 2024-25 school year will bring a stronger varsity baseball team that represents the core values of Kempsville High School.*

*Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.*