



Ventura County Pirates Baseball Club  
[www.venturacountypirates.com](http://www.venturacountypirates.com)

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Ventura County Pirates Suspend Operations for Summer 2020 Season**

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**SIMI VALLEY, CA** – Due to continued uncertainty stemming from the COVID-19 pandemic and its widespread consequences affecting athletic competitions and beyond, the Ventura County Pirates have made the difficult decision to suspend operations for the Summer 2020 season.

Unfortunately, the coronavirus has made it impossible to provide the professional game day experience our players, supporters, and visiting teams have come to expect, while simultaneously ensuring with absolute certainty an environment safe from the virus, without compromising the integrity of the game or our core principles. We make this announcement not in haste, but knowing that with the fluidity of this public health crisis and all the challenges it has presented from athletics, facilities, sanitation, and social distancing logistics, any semblance of a summer season we could salvage would involve more compromises than we are willing to take.

Since 2011, Ventura County Pirates Baseball has prided itself in providing a superior collegiate summer baseball experience for its players and staff, with the goal of facilitating personal and professional growth and advancement on and off the field. In the team's nine-year history, 12 Pirate players have been drafted by Major League Baseball organizations, with an additional 27 players having transferred to NCAA D1 programs and dozens more to NCAA D2, D3 and NAIA university baseball programs. In recent years, the Pirates have represented the North Division of the Sunset Baseball League in the league championships in 2017 and 2018, winning the Sunset League title in 2019.

We will continue to closely monitor the evolving situation while moving forward with preparations for the resumption of operations in Summer 2021, in which we will properly celebrate our 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary season and defend our Sunset Baseball League title. We thank everyone for the support throughout our history and look forward to a competitive season next year.