



**Greenbelt American Legion Post 136
Department of Maryland
6900 Greenbelt Road
Greenbelt, Maryland 20770
August 4, 2020**

Subject: COVID-19 Update from the Executive Committee

We are working hard to fully reopen our Post Home as soon as government officials and public health experts believe it is safe for our Legion Family Members and their guests. With the implementation of Phase II, we were able to open our outdoor BBQ area for beverages, individual snacks and Friday night burgers and hot dogs. We have progressed to allowing folks to sit in Hofberg Hall – four to a 5-foot round table and masked while not eating or drinking. Finally, we have designated limited table space in the back bar for not more than 15 patrons on a first come/first served basis. Also, we have relocated our gaming machines so they meet the six-foot spacing requirement.

We want to thank those members who have renewed their membership for 2021, showing support for the Post during this time of adversity and uncertainty. You can mail in your dues or bring them to the bartender. You may also renew on line at Legion.org.

Current operating hours are every day from 3:00 p.m. until 10 p.m. Patrons are asked to observe social distancing guidelines throughout the Post. The state has allowed us to resume the sale of Lottery tickets. Our rest rooms in Hofberg Hall are available and we encourage frequent hand washing. We have installed plexiglass at the bar to protect customers and employees and do not allow seating at the bar. We have a custodial employee who ensures frequent wipe downs to disinfect exposed surfaces. County officials are aggressively inspecting restaurants and bars for COVID-19 violations. Fines and shut down orders have resulted from violations, so please help us to stay open by observing the mask, distancing and hand washing CDC guidelines.

In spite of Greenbelt Post 136 being closed for the last three months, we continue to incur significant operational expenses related to building and grounds maintenance, utilities, monthly mortgage payments and emergency repairs. Due to the COVID-19 shutdown, our usual sources of income from food and beverage sales, hall rentals and gaming have been eliminated or severely curtailed. Several generous members have sent in donations in addition to paying their membership fees. These are difficult times for everyone, but even a modest donation to **Greenbelt American Legion Post 136** would help to provide the Post with a financial cushion until we can get back to full operation. We will keep you informed. Please stay safe.