ALL DAPER FACILITIES CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

AS OF 4/3 ALL OUTDOOR FIELDS & TENNIS COURTS ALSO CLOSED

4/3 RELEASE FROM MIT ATHLETICS:

Cambridge, Mass. (April 3) -- MIT's Department of Athletics, Physical Education, and Recreation (DAPER) took additional steps to safeguard against the spread of COVID-19 today by closing several outdoor facilities where people have been seen engaging in sports and other activities that violate public health guidelines about social distancing. The facilities include Steinbrenner Stadium, Roberts Field, Jack Barry Field, and the DuPont Tennis Courts. The Briggs Softball Field and the Fran O'Brien Baseball Field closed to the public in March.

"We have a responsibility to abide by public health directives intended to curtail the spread of COVID-19," said G. Anthony Grant, Ph.D., athletic director and department head of DAPER. "Closing these outdoor facilities today reinforces the need to refrain from group activities such as soccer and tennis, and to practice social distancing instead, which is one of the best defenses against spreading the virus."

Other outdoor spaces such as Killian Court remain open, though visitors should maintain at least six feet of distance between themselves and others at all times. "There are still many places on and around campus where community members can run, walk dogs, and engage in other exercises that don't put themselves or anyone else at risk of infection," Grant added.

As the situation unfolds in the coming weeks, DAPER may further adjust its operations to support MIT's pandemic response plans. For more information on how MIT is combating COVID-19, please visit https://covid19.mit.edu/.

For the latest on MIT Athletics, follow the Engineers via social media on Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube.