

March 25, 2021

Dear Members of the Council,

It is well past the time to allow spectators at sporting events in the county. But the 50 person limit is arbitrary and unnecessarily restrictive. There should be no numerical limit. It should be based on the ability to socially distance. Simple, science-based.

Prescriptive policies based on arbitrary figures simply undermine public confidence. Time and time again, Montgomery County is governed by an overly cautious approach to risk. It is the easy choice, because the county simply cloaks itself in buzzword claims about public health advice. And should cases spike, you can criticize neighboring jurisdictions that have more balanced policies. The experience of other states and counties shows that the reality is more complex.

Please show discretion by basing spectator limits on the ability to socially distance. Lead with courage. -Fritz Hirst, Chevy Chase, MD