



September 22, 2026

Garden State Esports
Mr. Chris Aviles
President
1417 Birmingham Avenue,
Toms River, NJ 08757

RE: Re-schedule of Future Play Festival to April 2027.

Chris,

As per our conversation and after careful consideration, together with Discover Peoria and the Peoria Civic Center, the decision has been made to postpone the Future Play festival until April 24-25, 2027.

Our decision to move the festival was based on the low-ticket participation and the feedback from the local colleges with the shortened time from the opening of the fall semester, tight marketing timelines, and fall sports conflicts.

As you may be aware, we were ready to move forward, as we had already spent a great deal on flights for the teams, production labor, and activation builds. So moving this was no easy decision, but overall it is the right thing to do to ensure a successful future.

In regard to the National Collegiate Esports Showdown, in good faith, we would support continuing to run the championship final competition online October 3 & 4th, 2026 and pay out the prizes as contemplated. We will expect to be a part of the online branding and discuss potentially streaming the competition. Our intent is to have a great final competition with you online and therefore be in position to work with GSE and college associations to have a second tournament on location at the new Future Play Festival 2027 date.

We also want to sincerely thank you, GSE and all of the collegiate esports' teams for the hard work, participation and faith in Future Play Festival and the National Collegiate Showdown. Specifically, on the GSE portion, we know there has been a considerable amount of coordination involved, and your support has been greatly appreciated.

Please let us know how the logistics will work for the finals and lets finish this on a really positive note as best as possible.

Sincerely,

Dylan Marer
Executive Producer of Future Play Festival

Cc: Discover Peoria, Peoria Civic Center

