

MAY 29TH, 2020 LEAGUE UPDATE

Another week has past and organized sport locally remains on the sidelines. While people are waiting patiently to be able to resume play there has been more positive developments in Calgary and area.

- 🌐 **City of Calgary** is proceeding with renewing field permits for some athletic parks and sport fields.
 - 📍 **Soccer Fields:** Glenmore 7, 10, Shouldice 18, Woodbine 3
 - 📍 **Artificial Turf:** Shouldice Encana, Hellard & Stampeder, Ernest Manning, Calgary Soccer Centre
 - 📍 **Playfields:** List of fields opening not available to CUSA as we currently do not hold permits for any City of Calgary Playfields.
 - 📍 **Public Day** for booking any of the above Athletic Parks or the selected playfields will be June 1st. CUSA has returned all fields on our permits for the month of June and as such cannot provide fields to any group that wishes to provide skill training or dryland training once the 5 conditions outlined in CSA's guidelines for Return to Soccer are achieved here in Calgary. To book a City field contact 311 (online is best route) and complete the required application form. Calgary Soccer Centre is booked by contacting the facility direct.
- 🌐 **Alberta Health Services** is working in conjunction with Alberta Sport groups to develop [Return to Sport Guidelines](#) that are more specific to the sector than the *Outdoor Recreation Guidelines* previously released. It is anticipated that these sport specific guidelines will be released by early June.
- 🌐 **Alberta Soccer** – Return to Play Guidelines are slated to be presented to the ASA Board of Directors this weekend for approval prior to the entire document being sent to CSA and AHS for their review.
 - 📍 The goal remains for the first Phase of these Guidelines to be in place by mid June – it will be the **Return to Train** stage. Social distancing, no contact by hands or head, no scrimmages and no goalie training will be permitted. Once these are released we will distribute to our membership.
- 🌐 **Canada Soccer** continues to finalize their **Risk Assessment Tool** (one of the criteria needed prior to sanctions being lifted). Once it is released we will have a better understanding what is expected by then to enable everyone to get back on the pitch to at least train.

The graphic below released from Alberta Soccer last week outlines the 5 criteria that must be met before organized team activities can resume. As of noon today nothing further had been finalized and taken off the list.



There continues to be confusion in the sport world as to who is the determining voice as to when the sport of soccer can resume. The answer is that we are waiting for a number of separate entities to align with their instructions. The 5 criteria outlined by Canada Soccer incorporate all the various agencies onto their list.

The common question we get asked is:

"If the City or if Alberta Health say we can start to do sport skill training why can't we?"

The answer remains:

"Until Canada Soccer indicates that Alberta has met their (CSA) criteria the suspension of soccer across this nation remains in effect. As members of CSA we must align our programs

and services with their directives. The approvals by the City and AHS are only part of the overall criteria that have to be satisfied."

There remains work that each individual team and club can do while waiting for the lifting of the suspension by Canadian Soccer.

- 🗑️ Complete a Risk Assessment for your team;
- 🗑️ Consider what equipment you have as a team, how will you clean it, do you have cleaning supplies for that task;
- 🗑️ How will you track who attends your training sessions as a means of complying with the contract tracing for participants;
- 🗑️ What drills will you be able to utilize that ensures you are maintaining the required social distancing, no heading or contact with the hands; no goalie training;
- 🗑️ How will you handle an injury – or any other activity that will not allow you to maintain social distance?
- 🗑️ What will be your team's requirement for the use of hand sanitizer, masks etc.

To help you get started on this task we have found some excellent resources that Sport Calgary have put together: [COVID-19 Risk Assessment Tool](#) and [Sample Return to Sport Protocols](#). There is additional guidance for outdoor recreation opportunities is posted on www.alberta.ca/biz-connect, and outdoor recreation businesses should also follow workplace guidance for business owners. We do anticipate that Dr Hinshaw will be announcing guidelines specific for Sport later Friday afternoon. These may be critical in detailing what AHS will require from various sport groups and help enable all of us with the planning needed.

We must continue discourage Clubs and Teams from organizing Team activities until all five of the criteria outlined in Canada Soccer's Return to Soccer Guidelines are achieved in Alberta and in Calgary. We are close, we just need to be patient a little longer and then we anticipate that the ability to start to train will be reached. Games and organized competition do remain further out in the Relaunch and when introduced will still require modifications from what was the traditional formats.

SHOP LOCAL SUPPORT LOCAL BUSINESSES

Two of Calgary's own local businesses are open and ready to assist you get the gear you need. Their Yellow Card – COVID Reopening Sale continues until the 31st.

Your two favorite Calgary Soccer stores are teaming up, to bring you great savings!

FISHER'S SOCCER SHACK
CALGARY'S #1 SOCCER STORE

KICKS SPORTS

YELLOW CARD - COVID REOPENING SALE

May 14 - 31

- 20% off all Footwear
- 25% off all Apparel
- 25% off Cavalry Jerseys
- 50% off all club/country Jerseys

Fishers Soccer Shack - Riverbend
Kicks Sports - Varsity
Kicks Sports Southland

Special hours
Wed - Fri 12 - 6; Sat - Sun 12 - 5

FISHER'S SOCCER SHACK
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KICKS SPORTS

COVID REOPENING INFORMATION

- Limit of 3 buying groups in the store at any one time
- Maintain physical distancing at all times
- Hand Sanitizer on site for staff and customers
- Preferred method of payments ... Credit or Debit
- We ask that you limit unnecessary touching of store products
- Curbside pickup orders can still be phoned in.

CUSA is committed to assisting out membership navigate the vast volume of information that is coming forward, from a range of sources, as it relates to the safe and measured return to training and playing the sport of soccer. At each step along the way the risk of choosing to participate in the activity ultimately remains with each participant to determine their comfort level. CUSA continues to be part of the conversations with Alberta Soccer, City of Calgary and our colleagues with CMSA and CWSA working towards resuming the game.

Stay safe and healthy. If you have other questions don't hesitate to reach out. You can reach any staff member by email. General questions can be sent to info@cusa.ab.ca and will be directed to the staff member responsible to respond.

CUSA

