
MAY 8, 2020 LEAGUE UPDATE

As we end the first full week of May and what should have been our first full week of play for the 2020 Outdoor Season, we remain in our homes waiting for some positive news on this pandemic that will enable everyone resume activities under the new normal. Until then we continue to provide you with a weekly update on all things related to CUSA and the status of soccer as we are aware. To reach any staff member please communicate by email. General questions can be sent to info@cusa.ab.ca and will be directed to the staff member responsible to respond. Phone messages are being received intermittently and response time will be slower than by email.

TEAM REFUNDS

I want to **Thank You** for being patient as we work through the process of confirming the refunds for Teams from both Indoor and Outdoor. The magnitudes of the task exceeded our expectations such that we have nearly completed the consolidation of the records and have the file reading for the cheques to be printed and sent to you. You will receive a letter with the cheque that will provide you with the details of our calculation, in addition to the information that will be in your RAMP Team Account. Once you have had the opportunity to review the information we provide to you and your own records if you feel that there is a discrepancy please email your concerns to us, including your phone number. We will contact you once we are able to review your concerns and what our records show. Again, Thank You for your understanding in the length of time this project has taken.

A reminder that those teams who were Divisional Champion or finished Second will be able to pick up your soccer balls at the AGM – now set for September 28th.

WHEN CAN WE RETURN TO PRACTICE AND MATCH PLAY?

That remains the elusive question. There are numerous pieces to this puzzle that must align before we will be able to see organized team activities resume, especially for those sports like soccer that require close physical contact during the course of play.

There exists a list of milestones that have to be successfully met before there will be approval for the sport of soccer to resume team activities, it is an expanding list. This includes:

- [Canada Soccer](#) must lift the suspension of soccer activities within Alberta. CSA may determine that they will lift the suspension regionally and Alberta may not be included within the first region.
- [Alberta Health Services](#) must amend or rescind a number of Orders that currently are in place:
 - the Order that prohibits public and private recreation facilities from operating.
 - the Order requires no group larger than 15 persons to gather in one location.
 - the Order on maintaining social distance of 2 meters or more.
- [City of Calgary](#) must amend or rescind their Local State of Emergency and allow public and private recreation facilities to open for the public.
 - Currently we have been informed that all permits for City Recreation facilities, including athletic parks, have been cancelled up to **August 31, 2020**.
 - Sports in which the rules can be modified so that players are not required to touch or handle the same ball or device are permitted, including golf, disc golf, singles tennis, singles badminton, singles pickle ball, singles kayaking, river surfing. Again, users must follow the restrictions and requirements imposed by the Provincial Chief Medical Officer of Health by maintaining a distance of two metres minimum from one another and no more than 15 people in a group can be gathered at the same location.
- Alberta Soccer Association, along with their colleagues across the nation, must develop a return to play protocol that is accepted by Canada Soccer and Alberta Health Services. (Remember that [survey last week](#) that you were invited to provide feedback and suggestions?)
- Facility operators must have the opportunity to hire and train staff and prepare the facility for use by the public. When play resumes it must be safe for both players and facility operators.

No doubt there are other steps that will be added to this list prior to the approval to resume soccer is received. Currently team physical contact sports are in Phase 3 of the [Alberta Government's Relaunch Strategy](#). Phase 1 does not commence until May 14th, Phase 3 has no start date yet. The goal is to continue to move forward through the Phases without any relapses and large outbreaks of the virus.

Our goal remains to have players on the pitch in a safe and healthy manner as quick as it is reasonable to do so. It is reasonable to anticipate that training opportunities will occur for small groups before approval is received for full team training can resume.

MISSING THE GAME AND HAVE SOME TIME ON YOUR HANDS?



Canada Soccer has released **Canada Soccer Nation Inside** You will find an extensive and growing list of resources and activities there.

Coach Education: ([Resource link here](#))

Ever wonder how a coach got to where they are? Join Manager of Coach Education Matt Thomas as he interviews other coaches to discover their unique coaching journey. Podcasts can be found on the Alberta Soccer YouTube Channel. Click [HERE](#) to start listening!



Community workshops are now available. Canada Soccer has developed online theory content for each of the 4 community workshops (Active Start, Fundamentals, Learn to Train and Soccer for Life). The CSA is utilizing the Google Classroom platform to offer the theory component of each of the workshops free of charge. Start your coaching journey now. Interested coaches are to register by Clicking [HERE](#) and to view a brief tutorial video on the new process click [HERE](#) Courses included are: Active Start, FUNdamentals, Learn to Train, and Soccer for Life

Referee Education: ([Resource link here](#))

Referee Refresher courses for registered, returning referees.

Stay safe and healthy. If you have other questions don't hesitate to reach out. If you have some creative ideas on how to keep your team connected and fit for resume of play that you want to share we will promote your team through our social media channels. We will be happy to help you out!

CUSA

