



March 26, 2021

MEMO

Re: Health & Safety Protocols Compliance

Since February 8th Alberta Soccer and our Youth Members have been training under our Alberta Soccer 8-and-2 Training Guidelines. We understand that training under these conditions has been a new challenge for our players, coaches and administrators, and we had all hoped that we would have been able to move to another level of training over the past week. Unfortunately, we are restricted to this type of training for an unknown length of time and we require a renewed focus from all our membership to comply with the guidelines.

Alberta Soccer and our Regular Members (Districts) have focused on education, rather than punishment, when it came to learning to operate under unprecedented restrictions. We continue to want to work with clubs, players, coaches, and parents on the safest way to meet our guidelines but have found ourselves in a difficult position recently.

In the past 2 weeks we have seen an increase in complaints and evidence submitted to Alberta Soccer that groups are organizing full contact drills and scrimmages and/or expanding beyond the current limit of 10 people in a training group. The evidence being submitted to Alberta Soccer indicates that a limited number of clubs, coaches, players and/or parents are making decisions that put the safety of individuals (and their close contacts) at risk and, potentially, put our sport at risk. We have been working with our members on correcting these behaviors around the province, but it has become necessary to put in place a strong discipline schedule for breaches of health and safety protocols.

Our focus will continue to be on educating our clubs, coaches, players, parents and administrators on how to best comply with the guidelines but moving forward there will be significant discipline sanctions for members who display blatant disregard for the Covid-19 Safety Guidelines or any other Health & Safety Protocols.

If you, or anyone you know within our membership, has questions about how to comply with the guidelines please direct them to your local district or to Alberta Soccer. We want to work together on keeping our sport safe so that we can move to the next step of recovery with confidence.