

Good Afternoon, District Presidents and Executive Directors;

With the announcement from the Government of Alberta yesterday to temporarily suspend team sports in regions under the Enhanced List (purple zones), I understand that our impacted members have been working hard today to adjust. I have received additional information from our Sport Consultant at the Government of Alberta and the SPAR group that I am sharing with you this afternoon. **See the email from the SPAR group below** this message and **the link to the public health order** related to yesterday's announcement is included below for your convenience and information.

[Public Health Order CMOH Order 37-2020 >>>>](#)

QUICK POINTS OF CLARIFICATION

1. The temporary suspension of soccer activities, in the AHS identified regions, is related to team practices, games, competitions, and/or training.
 - o Any activity involving physical exertion and skill in which two or more persons come together indoors to practice or compete with each other in a structured way is temporarily suspended (see Part 1.2.(e) of CMOH Order 37-2020)
2. If an individual lives in a region with Enhanced Restrictions but is registered in a team sport that operates in a region that is NOT under enhanced restrictions, that individual is NOT able to continue in their team sport during the temporary suspension.
 - o Individuals are not allowed to travel outside of their community that is under targeted measures to participate on a team that is not on the watch list.
 - o Teams are not allowed to travel outside of their community that is under targeted measures to train, practice, play and/or compete in an area not on the watch list.
3. At this time, team(s) / mini-league(s) / cohorts are not permitted to move their programming outside in order to circumvent the mandatory suspension.
4. Teams are not permitted to continue programming under the *Phase 1 – Return to Train guidance*, there is no team nor small group training during the temporary suspension.
5. as per CMOH Order 37-2020, soccer programming may resume on November 28th (*subject to any additional changes by AHS*)
 - o 18. Parts 1, 2 and 4 of this Order remain in effect until 11:59 p.m. Mountain Standard Time on November 27, 2020.

**Numbers 2, 3, & 4 are directions as received from our sport consultant after their meeting with AHS this afternoon.*

So you are aware to answer possible questions, I thought it important to note that schools may continue to offer their sport specific programs where participation is limited to students attending that school (see CMOH Order 37-2020, 4 (a) i.). This means that school soccer academies that are offered as an education program may continue to operate in-house training programs during the temporary suspension. They are not permitted to host/provide indoor sport activity that involves students from different schools. Academy programs that operate outside of the education systems within the AHS identified regions are subject to temporary suspension of activities.

I want to take this opportunity to acknowledge the great work Alberta Soccer members have done in order to offer a safe return to sport. While this temporary suspension measure is difficult and frustrating, and there are no magic words to reduce the stress and pressure each of you are under at this time, I wish to share a simple thank you for your commitment to this beautiful game and to all the people who share our love for it.

We got this!

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SPORT, PHYSICAL ACTIVITY AND RECREATION BRANCH - SPAR -



November 13, 2020

COVID-19 updates for Sport, Physical Activity and Recreation Organizations

As the community transmission and positivity rates of COVID-19 continue to increase in Alberta, the Government of Alberta has imposed new temporary mandatory restrictions. These restrictions will have a direct impact on our SPAR stakeholders

As per the direction announced on Thursday, November 12, please find below a summary of the restrictions that will be in place for Sport, Physical Activity and Recreation organizations and programs from ***Friday, November 13 to Friday, November 27.***

A two-week prohibition on indoor group fitness classes and team sport activities.

These activities cause high risk of spread due to exertion of participants, high droplet emissions, being conducted in enclosed spaces and often involving mixing and mingling before or after the class or activity.

The prohibition on indoor group fitness classes and **team sport activities** will be in effect from **November 13-27**. This includes practices, games and competition.

This ban applies to Edmonton and surrounding areas, Calgary and surrounding areas, Grande Prairie, Lethbridge, Fort McMurray, and Red Deer. The following communities are listed as surrounding areas for this public health order.

Communities in the Calgary area include:

- Airdrie
- Chestemere
- Foothills County
- Okotoks
- Rockyview County
- Surrounding villages and businesses

Communities in the Edmonton area include:

- Beaumont
- Devon
- Fort Saskatchewan
- Gibbons
- Leduc
- Leduc County
- Morinville
- Parkland County
- St. Albert
- Spruce Grove
- Stony Plain
- Strathcona County
- Surrounding villages and business

The ban does not include individual exercise, training or equipment use.

These restrictions do not apply to school-based activities (intramural sports, physical education), junior/collegiate/university, or professional/Olympic/Paralympic sports as they already have additional public health measures in place to limit the risk of exposure.

THESE MEASURES ARE MANDATORY

Please visit the following documents for more information

1. www.alberta.ca/enhanced-public-health-measures.aspx
2. [Chief Medical Officer of Health Order 37-2020](#)

Please contact the [SPAR Branch](#) or contact your respective SPAR consultant with any further questions.

Alberta Health continues to review best practices and emerging research on sport, physical activity and recreation in the COVID-19 context.