



Sherwood Park District Soccer Association

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To All Members and Staff of the SPDSA

You may have heard the news over the past few days that both St. Albert Soccer Association and Edmonton Scottish United Soccer Club have advised the Edmonton Inter-Youth Soccer Association (EIYSA) that they will be pulling all teams from the EIYSA leagues effective the 2020 outdoor season and moving them to the Edmonton Minor Soccer Association (EMSA) leagues. Sherwood Park has been an active member of EIYSA since its inception and our teams participate within their Tier 1 and 2 leagues. WE believe and our membership has told us that the EIYSA leagues have always provided the highest level of youth competition in the Edmonton area. We look forward to continuing our work with EMSA, where historically our Tier 3 teams have played. Due to the size of our club, the SPDSA also has the ability to offer our in-house leagues that play at Tiers 4 and 5. This breadth of league offering (Tiers 1-5) has been the foundation of our ability to develop players and coaches who are passionate about the game. We have the flexibility to place our teams in the league that is best suited to their development and remaining a part of EIYSA and EMSA will provide the most opportunities for our members. Simply put, the SPDSA offers development opportunities from the community player who wants to learn and play soccer through to the elite athlete who aspires to maybe play on the World stage one day.

In 2019, the SPDSA became one of only 39 organizations in the Country to be granted Canada Soccer's National Youth Club license. In just a few weeks, we will be participating in the inaugural season of the Alberta Youth Soccer league (formerly PDP - Player Development Program) for both male and female programs at the U14 (2006) age group. New to Alberta and representing the highest level of youth play in Canada, this standards-based league sits in the Development Stream and is a part of Canada Soccer's strategic vision. We are very excited to have achieved this level of recognition and to be in a position to offer this newest pathway to our players, coaches and referees.

Regards,

Dave Friesen
President
Sherwood Park District Soccer Association