



## Memo

Date: April 14, 2020

To: Phoenix Membership

From: SPDSA Staff

Good Morning Phoenix Parents,

Over the past several weeks, it's become clear that the world is facing an unprecedented challenge. Like you, we are deeply concerned and want to keep our community and our families safe and healthy.

The SPDSA has been working closely with our governing bodies, Alberta Soccer and Canada Soccer on how to navigate through these trying times, to reach the goal of getting our young athletes back on the pitch to play. We want to ensure that we keep our members up to date and share information as we receive it.

We realize that an outdoor season may be much different than what we have traditionally seen in the past. Alberta Soccer is optimistic that they will be able to adjust competition formats to ensure the delivery of a meaningful season, which includes a provincial tournament, but this is dependent on the timing of when soccer activities can proceed safely. Canada Soccer has informed all provincial soccer associations that they will make a decision on National Competitions by June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

The goal of the SPDSA and all other soccer associations, is to create a "quick start strategy" for the reopening of soccer activities. To assist us in accomplishing this goal, the SPDSA in consultation with EMSA and EIYSA will need to adjust our team formation process. The Technical and Administrative staff are diligently working to determine best practices to efficiently form teams in this short turn around period.

With the season likely being different than normal, we will be looking at how this may or may not impact current fee structures. Dependent upon season start date and duration, registration fees may be modified, and current program outlines may be different that originally outlined. We anticipate that the outdoor season will run in July, August and possibly September, but nothing is confirmed 100%.

The SPDSA is extremely grateful for the support that you have all shown to assist us in continuing to deliver quality programming. We ask that you continue to show this support by remaining registered with the association and limit the amount of refunds. This will enable the SPDSA to plan and deliver a

quality sporting experience for your children and limit the overall expenses and transaction fees that we incur when refunds or additional transactions are processed.

Over the past few weeks our technical staff have been working to develop content to assist players in maintaining their skills and fitness at home. This program is accessible at <u>Skills in the Park Home Soccer</u> <u>Program</u>. This is a free program, and is not intended to replace an outdoor season. We want to provide tools for the players to keep them engaged during the time of social distancing and continue to practice at their own pace and when it works for their schedule. In addition, there are weekly updates posted on our website, for the Bridge sessions.

In closing, please take care and we will continue to communicate as we receive updates from our governing bodies. Please note that the SPDSA staff will be going live on Facebook this Thursday at 2:00pm. Please tune in for updates on our programs, and to ask questions you may have about the outdoor season.

Kind regards,