



ALBERTA SOCCER ASSOCIATION

The Governing Body of Soccer in Alberta

9023 111 Avenue
Edmonton, AB T5B 0C3

Ph: 780 474 2200
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Memo: COVID-19 Update

Date: Monday April 27th, 2020

To: Life Members; Alberta Soccer District Members; Associate Members

CC: Alberta Soccer Board of Directors & Staff

Please see several Membership Updates below:

Alberta Soccer Programming, Office & Staffing Update

Programming

As communicated during the April 27th, 2020 Membership Update Meetings. Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic and the subsequent Canada Soccer Suspension of all in-person soccer activities, the Alberta Soccer Board of Directors made a tough decision to refrain from offering “Traditional ASA programming” for the 2020 Outdoor season. The rationale for this decision was two-fold:

1. To allow Alberta Soccer Districts to be “flexible and nimble” in the creation of programming, to engage as many Alberta Soccer players as possible to return to play safely by alleviating the added stress of Province wide competition, its associated travel and unrealistic timelines to complete a meaningful season.
2. To enable the Alberta Soccer Board of Directors to determine a Membership Fee structure to assist the Membership in delivering programming to their members at a discounted rate.

Please see below for an update on activities:

Offerings

Online Refresher Courses
Online Office Hours Sessions
Online Weekly Referee LOTG & Trivia Quizzes
Online Active Start, FUNdamentals,
Learn to Train, Soccer for Life Coaching Clinics

Governance Responsibilities
Discipline
Insurance Coverage
Travel Permits**, Tournament Sanctioning**

Cancelled/Postponed Programs

Mini Referee Courses*
Entry Level Courses*
Referee Assessments*
Onfield Active Start, FUNdamentals
Learn to Train & Soccer for Life Coaching Clinics*
“C” Licence & “B” Licence Clinics
Alberta Major Soccer League
Alberta Youth Soccer League
Provincial Competition

Will be scheduled* or processed** if the Canada Soccer Suspension of on-field activities is lifted.



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Office Hours

Beginning Monday May 5th, 2020 all staff have been reduced to a 4-day work week until June 15th, 2020.

Staff will continue to work remotely but will be available by telephone and email during the following hours:

Monday to Thursday - 9:00 to 5:00 PM

Friday to Sunday: CLOSED

Holidays: CLOSED

Staffing

It is with regret that Alberta Soccer announces the parting of the following staff from Alberta Soccer:

Franc Cioffi, Technical Director

Jordan Stewart, Provincial Coach South

Geraldine Ratcliffe, Office Administrator

Duties will be allocated to remaining staff.

Alberta Soccer would like to thank Franc, Jordan and Geraldine for their dedication and contribution to Alberta Soccer during their tenure. They will be missed, and Alberta Soccer wish them well in their future endeavors.

Membership Video Conference

As previously noted, Membership Video Conferences have been scheduled to occur bi-weekly, the next Video Conference is scheduled for **Monday May 11th, 2020**. Two different times (10:00am & 7:00pm) have been scheduled as it was difficult to schedule a single meeting that would capture the attendance of most Districts. The Meeting Invitation has been sent to the **District Administrative Leads** to respond on behalf of their District. Log-in details and a tentative Agenda will be communicated on the preceding Saturday to the Meeting date. If there are any Agenda items that you wish to add or any specific questions/information you wish answered/addressed at this meeting please email slowther@albertasoccer.com by the Friday preceding the meeting and we will attempt to have the information on hand for the meeting.



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Government of Alberta COVID-19 Town Hall Meeting

Alberta Soccer was invited to a Telephone Covid 19 - Town Hall Meeting” with the Government of Alberta to discuss the re-launch strategy plan. The following pertinent information was relevant to the re-launch of soccer in Alberta:

1. COVID-19 Peak in Alberta expected May 15th, 2020
2. Increase in numbers could delay Stage 1 in May.
3. The pandemic will continue until a vaccine is developed.
4. Workplace guidelines at www.alberta.ca/covid19 businesses must have processes in place for a rapid response as well as maintain all AHS guidelines.
5. Stage 2 includes Day Camps. Children’s soccer could qualify in this category.
 - o Different sports will have different risks.
 - o The Government asked PSO’s to submit “Back to Play” guidelines for assessment.
6. Stage 3 - includes Recreational Centers, Organized Sport with restrictions
 - o Different sports will have different risks.
 - o The Government asked PSO’s to submit “Back to Play” guidelines for assessment.
7. Large areas can have multiple gatherings of 15 people if AHS guidelines are adhered to.
8. Government of Alberta requesting the CEWS be extended to September.
9. As previously communicated please complete the Return to Play Survey to assist us in developing Return to Play Protocols.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/TS8L569>



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COVID-19 UPDATE // April 30, 2020

RELAUNCH

Current state	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3
Early reopenings include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outdoor recreation • Elective surgeries • Allied health services • Religious services and funerals, with existing restrictions 	Opening includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retail services • Hair styling and barbering • Daycares • Restaurants, cafes, and lounges and bars –with 50% occupancy limits • Museums and art galleries • Additional outdoor recreation • Additional allied health services 	Opening includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personal services • Massage and reflexology • Summer camps • Post-secondary institutions deliver online, in-person, or a blend of programming with restrictions • Potential K-12 schools, with restrictions • Movie theatres, with restrictions • Additional elective surgeries 	Opening includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Swimming pools, gyms, and arenas, with restrictions • Nightclubs, with restrictions • Industry conferences, arts and cultural festivals, all with restrictions • Major sporting events, with restrictions

COVID-19 UPDATE // April 30, 2020

PUBLIC HEALTH TRIGGERS

Type	Measure	Trend	How it is used
Trigger	Hospitalizations	Current hospitalizations are stable or declining for two weeks.	Trigger informs provincial and regional decisions to move between stages.
Trigger	% of ICU beds occupied	Surplus critical care capacity is available to manage surges provincially and regionally.	Trigger informs provincial and regional decisions to move between stages.
Indicator	New cases	Week-over-week comparison in daily new cases.	Indicator informs decision making around proactive responses at a provincial or regional (e.g. outbreak response, health system capacity requirements).



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Suspension of Soccer Activities

As previously communicated Canada Soccer is the sole authority regarding the Suspension of Soccer Activities at the link below:

Canada Soccer Announces Suspension of all sanctioned soccer as precaution against COVID-19

Canada Soccer are in constant contact with the Government of Canada and Health Agencies and will communicate updates where appropriate. We do understand that a consistent timeline for all Districts to communicate to their Members across the Province would be helpful. Alberta Soccer is currently advising all Member Districts and their affiliated organizations to not plan for soccer activity in **MAY**. This will be assessed by May 15th, 2020 and communicate June status.

Alberta Soccer is currently collaborating with both the Government of Alberta and Canada Soccer to determine “Back to Play Protocols” for Organized Soccer. A survey was sent out to the Membership to gather feedback on ideas and protocols to assist us in developing protocols that would follow AHS Guidelines.

Referee Department

2020 Online Outdoor Refresher:
ASA Online Outdoor Refresher

2020 Outdoor Refresher ‘Office Hours’ follow up with instructors:

Link to be shared with Referees who complete the “Online Outdoor Refresher Course”.

For referees, or anyone interested the full Laws of the Game are also available on an App:
IFAB 2019-20 Laws App

Laws of the Game & Trivia Quizzes

[April 13 2020 - Quiz](#)

[April 20 2020 - Quiz](#)

[April 27, 2020 - Quiz](#)

ALL UPDATES REGARDING COVID-19 REFEREE PROGRAMMING CAN BE ACCESSED VIA THE FOLLOWING LINK: <https://albertasoccer.com/referee/covid-19-impact/>



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Technical Department

Safe Sport eLearning Module:

Online Safe Sport Learning Modules

Canada Soccer Community Stream Online Courses:

<https://albertasoccer.com/coach/course-registration/>

Government of Canada COVID-19 Response Programs

The Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy

To help businesses keep and return workers to their payroll through the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, Prime Minister, Justin Trudeau, proposed the new Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy. This would provide a 75-per-cent wage subsidy to eligible employers for up to 12 weeks, retroactive to March 15, 2020.

We have done our best to summary the information below, however, for the most accurate information please review the information via the following Link:

[Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy Information](#)

Program highlights:

Note: These are program highlights only – please take the time to read the details in the link above to see how the program applies to your organization.

- Eligible employers include non-profit organizations and registered charities that have seen a drop of at least 15% in their March revenues (down from 30% in previously announced versions of the 75% subsidy program) and 30% in following months.
- For non-profits and registered charities, the calculation includes “most forms of revenue” but excludes revenue from non-arm’s length persons.
- A non-profit or charity **can choose to include revenue from government sources or not**, however, you must be consistent in your approach throughout the program period.
- Subsidy applies to remuneration paid between March 15 and June 6 and is the greater of:
 - 75% of remuneration paid up to a maximum of \$874/week; or
 - the amount of remuneration paid, up to a maximum benefit of \$847 per week or 75% of the employee's pre-crisis weekly remuneration, whichever is less.
- “Eligible remuneration” includes salary, wages, and other remuneration like taxable benefits.



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- For employers that are eligible for both the CEWS and the 10% wage subsidy for a period, any benefit from the 10% wage subsidy for remuneration paid in a specific period generally reduces the amount available to be claimed under the CEWS in that same period.
- Payments will be made via cheque or direct deposit.

Applying for CEWS:

Applications for the CEWS program must be made by your organization through the Canada Revenue Agency's "My Business Account" portal. No detailed information on "How to Apply" has been provided by the government, however, it is stated on the website that further information will be shared shortly.

The Canada Emergency Benefit Account ("CEBA")

The CEBA is another part of the Federal Government's COVID response that provides much needed credit for small businesses to pay for immediate operating costs such as payroll, rent, utilities, insurance, property tax, or debt service. It is 100% funded by the Government of Canada.

- It is available to Canadian employers with \$50,000 to \$1 million in total payroll in 2019 and operating as of March 1, 2020. This includes smaller businesses and other eligible employers such as not-for-profits.
- Under CEBA, financial institutions will be able to provide interest-free credit facilities of up to \$40,000 to eligible businesses.
- If the loan is repaid by December 31, 2022, 25% (up to \$10,000) will be forgiven.
- If the loan is not repaid by December 31, 2022, the remaining balance will be converted to a three-year term loan at 5% interest.

This program is now available at various financial institutions and credit unions. If your organization is applying for CEBA, most financial institutions are requesting that employers provide their T4 summaries from 2019. Therefore, you should be prepared to provide that information.

The Canada Emergency Commercial Rent Assistance ("CECRA")

We reached an agreement in principle with all provinces and territories to implement the Canada Emergency Commercial Rent Assistance (CECRA) for small businesses. This program will lower rent by 75 per cent for small businesses that have been affected by COVID-19.



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The program will provide forgivable loans to qualifying commercial property owners to cover 50% of three-monthly rent payments that are payable by eligible small business tenants who are experiencing financial hardship during April, May, and June.

The loans will be forgiven if the mortgaged property owner agrees to reduce the small business tenants' rent by at least 75% under a rent forgiveness agreement, which will include a term not to evict the tenant while the agreement is in place. The small business tenant would cover the remainder, up to 25% of the rent.

Impacted small business tenants are businesses paying less than \$50,000 per month in rent and who have temporarily ceased operations or have experienced at least a 70% drop in pre-COVID revenues. This support will also be available to non-profit and charitable organizations.

It is expected that CECRA will be operational by mid-May, and further details will be announced soon.

[Learn more about CECRA](#)

All information on [Canada's COVID-19 Economic Response Plan](https://www.canada.ca/en/departement-finance/economic-response-plan.html) can be found here:
<https://www.canada.ca/en/departement-finance/economic-response-plan.html>

Previous Alberta Soccer COVID-19 Communications

[March 16, 2020 Alberta Soccer Communication to Membership](#)

[March 20, 2020 Alberta Soccer Communication to Membership](#)

[March 23, 2020 Alberta Soccer Communication to Membership](#)

[April 20, 2020 Alberta Soccer Communication to Membership](#)

[March 30, 2020 COVID-19 Membership Update Meeting Minutes](#)

[April 13, 2020 COVID-19 Membership Update Meeting Minutes](#)

[April 27, 2020 COVID-19 Membership Update Meeting Minutes](#)

If you have any questions or comments please do not hesitate to contact Shaun Lowther:
slowther@albertasoccer.com