



PICKERING SOCCER CENTRE RETURN TO PLAY FAQ'S

The following questions and answers are intended to increase the safety of our players/parents/match officials and staff at PFC by ensuring we are all aware of the protocols and plans in place as they pertain to; (a) Facility use and (b) Program delivery.

If you have a question that isn't address here, please contact memberservices@pickeringfc.ca

REGISTRATION

1. How do I register for the Indoor season?

PFC: We use the Sports Engine registration system to have all players entered into the system and then shared with Ontario Soccer. The registration link is [HERE](#) for all High Performance, Competitive and Recreational programs.

2. What do we use the Sports Engine app for?

PFC: This free app is provided by Sports Engine and is used to track rosters, training and game schedules, confirm players are attending based on Covid-19 limits, communicate with team staff and parents. The app can be downloaded through the Play Store or Apple Store.

3. Are we able to size uniforms before we order them?

PFC: Yes. We have sizing samples here at the Club for players and parents to do sizing. Sizing was offered at training on both Wednesday October 7th and Thursday October 8th at the fields. Individual appointments can be made via memberservices@pickeringfc.ca.

FACILITY USE

4. How is indoor training supposed to work when we cannot have that many people indoors? What is the limit for indoors? The schedule shows at least 6 different groups in the dome at a time – people may be concerned about mixing the adults (external booking) with the kids.

PFC: Under current guidelines for Durham Region we are permitted to have 50 people per field as we have dividing curtains. This could also include 50 spectators. However, the PFC Board and staff have great concerns that this number is too high and will therefore limit the field usage to 40 people and NO spectators for players ages 9 and older. Our schedule has one team at each end of a quarter field.

5. Is there any lag time between groups using the dome?

PFC: Yes. We have built a 15-minute window in between each user group on a field or track. This allows for the earlier group to vacate the space, for facility staff to sanitize the playing surface, and then for the next group to enter the field.





PICKERING SOCCER CENTRE RETURN TO PLAY FAQ'S

6. Can the Club provide me with reassurance that players will follow the protocols while indoors, especially if I can't be there as a parent?

PFC has come up with a layered approach to the flow of players into and out of the building. As well as our Facility Staff, volunteer adult leaders and team officials will walk players in and out of the building. PFC has also created a quick video for you and your child to watch in an effort to show you how things will look inside the dome. PFC is also happy to let you walk through the protocols with your child before they start for the indoor season.

7. Will the Pickering Soccer Centre be open to other users during this time or just our Club Members? If there are other groups what are you doing to keep our children safe?

Pickering Soccer Centre will be open to other community members and the myriad of club programs that we offer. We have a three-pronged attack to ensure we can contact trace quickly and that everyone is following the protocols:

- a. PFC Club programs will continue to use the Sports Engine app so that parents can confirm their child is attending practice and is fit and well to do so. This hasn't changed from the outdoor season and is a key component in our protection.
 - b. 3rd party groups that are sanctioned by their own governing body (volleyball, track, lacrosse) already have their own provincial sport Return to Play plans and they have shared them with us. We know they're doing the right things, and just like us they are required to track every athlete for each session.
 - c. 3rd party groups/activities that are not sanctioned such as Walk the Dome or Drop-in groups will be required to provide us with a name and cell phone number each time they visit.
8. When are you cleaning the fields and other shared areas?

PFC: Pickering Soccer Centre Facility Staff will be positioned in the lobby and inside the dome each evening and weekend. They will spray a Swish branded disinfectant on the field between each booking. They will also wipe down high contact surfaces on a 30-minute schedule and clean and sanitize washrooms on an hourly schedule. Facility Staff will also be increased to three employees instead of two while we get the players and staff into this new routine.

PROGRAM DELIVERY

9. PFC outlined the availability of a physiotherapist at training and games that was used during the end of the outdoor season. Will this continue into indoor?

PFC: Yes, this was accounted for in the program budgets and shared across all Competitive and High-Performance players/teams. We will have a physio available three times a week during evening practices.

10. Will we be supplied with a line item budget as to how the team's money is allocated?





PICKERING SOCCER CENTRE RETURN TO PLAY FAQ'S

PFC: We don't provide a line item budget and instead presented a high-level summary on the webinar for each program. The team budget is done by line item and approved directly by the Parents before the season starts.

11. How will PFC communicate with parents on items such as cancellations or refunds should there be a 'second wave'?

PFC: We will continue to communicate on a weekly basis with all parents and facility users about possible cancellations. Like you we monitor the Federal and Provincial Government announcements as well as any direction we receive from Ontario Soccer. If items are more urgent, they will be communicated to you via:

1. Coach Communication direct via email
2. Sports Engine app update in the 'Message' box
3. Social media channels that we commonly use (Facebook, Twitter and Instagram)

Keep in mind that our communication with you is only as good as the information provided to us. Once we hear from a league or partner on items that may impact you, we will pass it along quickly.

12. We understand that some teams are playing in -inter-club games during the weekend. Will this be something each team gets a chance to do and if so when? It has come to our attention that the CSL team played the FC Durham in a friendly. Why wasn't this opportunity presented to the OPDL team?

PFC: As we currently look at the indoor season there is a ban on any Durham Region Soccer members playing outside of our border or any visiting teams coming in to play us. That is the same for any Club or Academy based in Durham Region. If you become aware of games happening that break this rule please alert the Durham Region Soccer Association at:
mgibson@durhamregionsoccer.ca

PFC takes this current situation very seriously and fully respects the DRSA directive. Our staff are assessing the playing opportunities for each team within our region but please note that we want to be confident the groups we play against are also complying to thorough Return to Play protocols.

PFC is planning on scheduling games throughout the winter so that our players get lots of game action and don't simply train, train, train!

13. The first payment is the largest for each program and is to be made by Oct 20, 2020. There are rumours of lockdowns to commence around Canadian Thanksgiving. Does the club have a plan for affected players outside of PFC zones if lockdowns are applied by government?

PFC: The current rule from a football perspective relates to registered members. Players would be allowed to travel to train and play within the program. If a more significant lock down occurs then we will obviously have to consider a release for that player depending on the projected duration of the lockdown.





PICKERING SOCCER CENTRE RETURN TO PLAY FAQ'S

14. What if no lockdown occurs and kids are still in school, but one student affects the entire class or school? This puts our children and thus entire families in "quarantine/isolation". Currently quarantine/isolation is only 2 weeks which is manageable. What happens if the government increases the quarantine/isolation period and it prevents players/parents from continuing to join? What plans/options/recourse does the club have?

PFC: As above, we will then need to consider a release of that player or credit towards their program fees. Please understand we are going through this with you – the Club is not isolated from the impacts of this pandemic and our families are all being impacted from reduced hours to no job at all. We will do everything in our power to treat players and their families safely and fairly. At the end of this we want our Club to come back too; we are holding meetings daily with staff and weekly with the Board to ensure we remain on top of this. We can safely guarantee no other soccer group in our Region is being this thorough and this engaged.

15. Does the club "as a business" see what the government is currently forcing upon people and companies and do they feel it has gone way too far by advocating for another lockdown?

PFC: While we monitor the political and business agenda around us, we are guided by the direction of Ontario Soccer. Any directive that they provide us with has to be first vetted and approved by the Provincial Government (Sport and Health Ministries). We do our best to assess that in conjunction with the Durham Region Health numbers and any City of Pickering directives. We don't see things from a perspective of overreach but from a perspective of the safety of players and staff.

16. Presuming PFC takes its directive from the league in terms of return to play and safety protocols, based on whose guidance is the league's decision-making being made? More specifically, if schools are enforcing masks and social distancing, based on what directive is indoor training deemed to be safe?

PFC: We are guided by the direction of Ontario Soccer. Any sanctioned league operation is also directed by Ontario Soccer. Any directive that they provide us with has to be first vetted and approved by the Provincial Government (Sport and Health Ministries). We do our best to assess that in conjunction with the Durham Region Health numbers and any City of Pickering directives. This includes sport specific guidance which has been deemed safe at this time. We are also aware of the new school protocol changes and await further guidance from Ontario Soccer on this.

17. As an OPDL program, can PFC organize friendly's against non OPDL clubs or are we limited to OPDL teams only? (e.g. Oshawa Kicks does not have an OPDL license, however they have a CSL team. If not, then we are limited to 2 OPDL teams – Whitby and FC Durham).

PFC: We can organize games vs non-OPDL programs but additional paperwork needs to be completed whereas with OPDL vs OPDL it does not. During the pandemic, Ontario Soccer has decreased the number of requirements to allow for games.





PICKERING SOCCER CENTRE RETURN TO PLAY FAQ'S

18. What is PFC's position on expanding our bubble to York Region and Toronto?

PFC: With the opportunity in early September to expand our bubble, the PFC Board discussed this at length. They were not at all comfortable with this given the numbers were already starting to show inclines in both Toronto and York.

At that time, it was agreed upon to limit us to only play Markham and Oshawa because we were satisfied with their protocols and their handling of the Return to Play at that time. The very next day DRSA introduced their District lock down and we've complied since.

We will not expand until DRSA and Ontario Soccer permit us to, and ultimately not until the Board (who hold the fiduciary duty to protect the Club) are happy.

19. Who decides which leagues we join (6v6, 11v11, 11v11 or choosing our own)?

PFC: This is at the direction of the Director of Soccer Operations (DOS). The DOS will assess what is right for the players at this time in their development as well as the relative safety of any competition. He will explain that reasoning to the coaching staff so that your Head Coach has clear explanations.

20. Are we regulated by the DRSA?

PFC: We are a member of DRSA and a license holder of OPDL. Any decision to compete outside of Durham Region would need to be approved by DRSA. If we follow the pattern to this point, OPDL would probably open up a Central Region conference in 2021 which we would play in, provided that DRSA are happy with the pandemic numbers.

21. If schools close with the Club still be open?

PFC: This is a decision that will most likely be decided by Ontario Soccer or Regional Health well before we have to.

22. What if there's a positive COVID-19 test in the team?

PFC: as per the Ontario Soccer Emergency Response Plan that we are adhering to, this would be first shared with the Club President and then the Head Coach in order to then let parents know of the situation. Players would most likely have to be tested and quarantined until we have clear test results. At this time a paediatric test in Durham Region can be up to 8 days before your child is tested.

06.10.20

