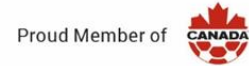




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INFORMATION BULLETIN

Bulletin #: I2020-053
Date: May 20, 2020
To: Ontario Soccer; District Membership, ORA, Associate Members
CC: Ontario Soccer Board of Directors, Staff
From: Johnny Misley, Chief Executive Officer
Subject: Lifting the suspension of physical conditioning and skill based training

Ontario Soccer, in consultation with Canada Soccer and governmental advisors, continues to monitor the most recent developments surrounding the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and are assessing operations and deciding cancelations and postponements on a month-to-month basis as the pandemic continues to unfold.

The Ontario Provincial Government announced last week that additional workplaces are scheduled to re-open.

As part of the announcement, the government stated that recreational, outdoor fields would be permitted to open, beginning on May 19, 2020.

The Provincial Government has now further amended that announcement to include **soccer fields** as part of facilities that can re-open.

This update provides for a return to limited training ONLY, with five people or less (i.e., one coach and four players), while practicing social distancing standards of two metres as per current government directives.

Due to this new announcement, Ontario Soccer is lifting the suspension of ONLY physical conditioning and skills training, while respecting the government order of no more than five people and the practice of social distancing of two meters.

The suspension of all other sanctioned, in-person soccer events and activities remains in effect, at this time.


Additionally, the Ontario Provincial Government has provided Ontario Soccer with the following information to ensure the Ontario Soccer membership complies with existing government orders as the re-opening of soccer fields takes effect:



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- Any person who enters or uses the facility maintains a physical distance of at least two metres from any other person who is using the facility
- Team training (six persons or more) is not practiced or played within the facility
- Other sports or games (six persons or more) that are likely to result in individuals coming within two metres of each other are not practiced or played within the facility
- Any locker rooms, change rooms, showers and clubhouses in the facility remain closed, except to the extent they provide access to a washroom or a portion of the facility
- The only persons permitted to use the facility are athletes (under the supervision of a Coach), who are registered members of a recognized Provincial Sport Organization (PSO – Ontario Soccer) sanctioned organization, League or Club (and Ontario Recognized Academy).
- No spectators are permitted at the facility, other than up to one accompanying parent guardian or other adult for each athlete under the age of 18.

Municipalities are handling this announcement according to their own directives. Please be sure to consult with your local Municipality, or private facility, as opening dates and field access will vary.

During this unprecedented time, while we continue to support our Districts, Clubs and Academies, Ontario Soccer must also remind our members to be compliant with the policies and procedures regarding registration and insurance coverage.

Please be advised insurance coverage will only be provided to participants registered and in good standing with Ontario Soccer. Any person providing training must also be registered. This includes but is not limited to coaches, instructors, and assessors. Any person participating in training must be registered. This includes but is not limited to players and match officials. Those individuals not registered with Ontario Soccer will not be eligible for insurance coverage.

Ontario Soccer will continue to update membership with all relevant and current information surrounding Return to Play protocols when known.

If your membership has further questions, please refer them to the latest bulletin, the [COVID-19 Updates](#) page, which has all the latest information from Ontario Soccer, as well as resources for your members to better inform themselves. As well, please consider placing a dedicated link to the [COVID-19 Updates](#) on the homepage on your website.

If you have not subscribed to our weekly e-Newsletter, [please do so here](#).

If you have any questions, please contact, [Patty Forbes](#), Director of Administration.