



Hello Parents,

Please take the time to read this entire communication as this will impact you as well as your player.

Thank you for your patience in waiting for EMSA West to provide a soccer program in these extraordinary times. In our endeavor to provide a soccer program during COVID 19, we have met with Canada Soccer, Alberta Soccer, EMSA and EMSA west to develop a program which we are hopeful will be successful for EMSA west participants.

Due to COVID-19 we have had a steep learning curve with many regulations advised by Alberta Health Services.

Alberta Soccer in conjunction with Alberta Health has approved Phase 1 learn to train effective June 12<sup>th</sup>. Phase 1 has social distancing restrictions which are difficult to implement in soccer with many age groups.

Phase 2 which begins June 19 allows return to sport with many changes from our historical soccer program. Our program will closely align with the Alberta Government Return to Sport, Physical Activity and Recreation – Stage 2 outline released last week.

At this time, we are able to participate in training but will not be able to have league games until we reach Phase 3 under Alberta Health Services Guidelines.

However we do have a great deal of information on what to expect from Phase 2 so our organization is now working very hard to prepare for this phase 2 launch, in conjunction working with the City of Edmonton to open fields – hopefully on June 19<sup>th</sup>

Some high level items to consider as we approach this phase 2:

- In this phase we will be most likely following the COHORT model which means that teams within the same COHORT may practice and play small games with one another.
- What is a COHORT? This is a closed small group of no more than 50 individuals who participate in the same sport or activity and remain together for the duration of phase 2.
- COHORT's can only play within their 50 person COHORT and if a member or team that is part of this COHORT would like to play with another COHORT then they must self-isolate for 14 days prior to switching COHORTS.
- This means players who would normally participate in multi-sport or multi activities that are now approved to COHORT, will need to choose which activity they would like to be a part of and an individual may only belong to 1 COHORT
- Coaches who coach multiple teams or play themselves may participate in more than one COHORT so as long as they are social distancing while coaching all of their teams. It is recommended if a coach participates in more than one COHORT they are NOT the designated official in charge of equipment sterilization.
- Families may attend games as spectators as long as social distancing measures are in place and do not exceed 100 people per field as per the governmental guidelines
- Multiple members in one house hold may be involved in different COHORTS, this is allowed so as each member is only involved in 1 with the exception of coaches who follow social distancing guidelines for the teams they coach.

**West Zone 2020 Outdoor Soccer Program:** six week program starting the week of July 6<sup>th</sup>.

- What you can expect:
  - U4 – U7 program will consist of teams working on coach lead skill and drills with scrimmages.
  - U9 – U15 program will consist of 1 Instructor lead session and 1 coach lead session per week for 6 weeks.
  - U17 – U19 program will consist of 1 Instructor lead session and 1 coach lead session per week for 6 weeks.
    - \* Instructors are hired by the West Zone and will be given lesson plans.
    - Soccer fees will remain the same.

Please note this is all based on the willingness of volunteer coaches, 2 volunteers are required for each team.

What do you as parents and your players need to do in order to be prepared for phase 2 (pending its approval):

1. New waivers have been put up in the EMSA Soccer portal. Please review these waivers and sign the waivers online. You can access the waivers on your [emsasoccerportal.com](http://emsasoccerportal.com) account (instructions attached). Your child will be unable to participate without these waivers being completed.
2. Parents and players must all review and understand the attached policies so that everyone is properly informed on requirements and responsibilities and measures for the upcoming season. Please note that these policies and processes have been based on the information that we currently know and that they are subject to change and if they do we will notify our members immediately.
3. If you have reviewed all the documentation regarding the opening of the season and its requirements and you feel that this will not work for your family based on dates, health concerns etc. You MUST inform the EMSA West office by June 19<sup>th</sup> in order to be eligible for a refund as our zone will require a drop dead date to reformulate teams for the season. If you choose to cancel and do not notify us by this date then no refund will be provided. Please email the players full name and request a refund to [finance@ewzsa.com](mailto:finance@ewzsa.com) by June 19<sup>th</sup>.

EMSA West

## Covid-19 Symptoms Checklist for Staff / Coaches / Participants

Covid-19 Symptoms Checklist for Staff / Coaches / Participants			
<b>1.</b>	<b>Do you have any of the below symptoms?</b>		
	• Fever (greater than 38.0C)	YES	NO
	• Cough	YES	NO
	• Shortness of Breath / Difficulty Breathing	YES	NO
	• Sore Throat	YES	NO
	• Runny Nose	YES	NO
<b>2.</b>	<b>Has anyone in your household experienced any of the above symptoms in the last 14 days?</b>	YES	NO
<b>3.</b>	<b>Have you, or anyone in your household travelled outside of Canada in the last 14 days?</b>	YES	NO
<b>4.</b>	<b>Have you, or anyone in your household been in contact in the last 14 days with someone who is being investigated or confirmed to be a case of Covid-19?</b>	YES	NO
<b>5.</b>	<b>Are you currently being investigated as a suspect case of Covid-19?</b>	YES	NO
<b>6.</b>	<b>Have you tested positive for Covid-19 within the last 10 days?</b>	YES	NO

*If an individual answer 'YES' to any of the questions above, they are not to be permitted to participate in training for a minimum of 14 days.*