



ALBERTA SOCCER WORKING TO SAFELY RETURN TO THE FIELD

Alberta Soccer, in consultation with Canada Soccer and Alberta Health Services, continues to monitor the most recent developments surrounding the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. To support our game moving forward we are finalizing Alberta’s **Return to Soccer Plan**. The *Return to Soccer Plan* is a three-phased plan which outlines the minimum standards required to support the return to soccer through each phase. **Phase 1 – Return to Train**, will be released first and will support the return to modified on-field training.

CONDITIONS FOR RETURN TO SOCCER

Before on-field soccer activities can occur anywhere in Alberta, the following conditions must be met;



- ✓ Alberta Health Services lift applicable restrictions, **AND**
- ✓ Municipalities / Regions lift applicable restrictions, **AND**
- ✓ Canada Soccer lifts suspension of sanctioned soccer, **AND**
- ✓ Alberta Soccer insurers verify insurability of soccer activities, **AND**
- ✓ Districts support modified season in their jurisdiction, **THEN**
- ✓ **Return to Training** minimum standards implemented, **AND**
- ✓ Canada Soccer **Risk Assessment Tool** completed by individual Clubs/Communities, **THEN**
- ✓ Alberta Soccer will **partially** lift suspensions by individual clubs/communities/districts

RETURN TO SOCCER PLAN PROCESS

1. **Phase 1 - Return to Train** plan developed in consultation with Canada Soccer and Alberta Soccer members
2. Alberta Soccer’s **Return to Train** plan is presented to and approved or deemed compliant to Provincial Health Regulations as determined by:
 - ✓ The Alberta Government and/or Alberta Health Services
 - ✓ Canada Soccer
 - ✓ Alberta Soccer’s Insurance Provider
3. Canada Soccer releases their **Risk Assessment Tool** to Alberta Soccer
 - a. As per step 5 of [Canada Soccer’s May 13 news announcement](#)
4. Alberta Soccer provides the **Return to Train Guidelines** and **Risk Assessment Tool** to Districts to distribute to their member organizations.

***TENTATIVE DATE**





While we understand and appreciate the eagerness to prepare for when Return to Soccer happens, we ask that organizations do not develop protocols that are independent of Alberta Soccer, Alberta Health Services and Canada Soccer guidance as they will NOT be sanctioned.

SUSPENSIONS LIFTED REGIONALLY

Recent information from both Alberta Health Services and the Alberta Government's *Relaunch Strategy*, highlight the need to address easing of COVID-19 restrictions at a regional level. As such, Alberta Soccer intends to lift soccer suspensions by individual clubs/communities through their local District.

**Soccer
Suspension
still in
effect**

While we understand the recent opening of municipal and private facilities, alongside the launch of *Stage 1 of Alberta's Relaunch Strategy* may seem confusing. The Suspension of sanctioned, in person soccer activity remains in effect. ALL the **Conditions for Return to Soccer** MUST be met before the suspension can be lifted.

COMMUNICATIONS

We ask that organizations at all levels of membership actively communicate Alberta Soccer's official information updates to the members of their soccer community by posting applicable information on their website, sharing it via email and using social media.

CLOSING REMARKS

While Alberta Soccer would like nothing more than to see our members, affiliated clubs/teams, administrators, and coaches back on the fields sharing the game they love. **We must be patient! We must be safe! We must be responsible!** To safely and responsibly return to organized, on-field soccer, members **MUST**;

- ✓ Abide by the **Conditions for Return to Soccer**,
- ✓ Respect the **Return to Soccer Process**

Organizations or club/community coaches that offer soccer activity prior to the lifting of suspensions may be subject to disciplinary sanctions.

In closing, Alberta Soccer would like to thank all the members, affiliated clubs, and individuals across Alberta for your patience and understanding during these challenging times.