



August 6th, 2020

To: EMSA membership

Re: Letter from the President

Greetings Soccer Families,

Well, we have quite a difficult start to the 2020 year with this pandemic and it has affected many of us in so many ways. We have become appreciative of the things we used to do without giving it a second thought, like playing sports and gathering with friends and families. When this all passes, and it will, let us not forget how much we need everyone around us. Please know that EMSA is working every day to try to plan and plan and plan so that we can have our children play this amazing sport again, sooner rather than later.

I wanted to let everyone know what our proposed plans are for the Indoor Season 2020/2021, but please keep in mind this could all change at a moment's notice.

1. We are looking to form cohorts with 4 teams with a maximum of 12 players on each team.... To keep us below the 50 maximum cohort set out by Albert Health (If AHS increases the Sport Cohort number, we can have more players per team or increase the number of teams)
2. The leagues will be round robin formats and we will re-seed the cohort teams after a two-week break (quarantine), so teams will get an opportunity to play others, not just the same 3 teams. We will look at Natural breaks such as December to re-seed.
3. Dressing rooms will be available to teams but would encourage players to come dressed for the game.
4. Teams to arrive no more than 15 minutes prior to kickoff and to leave right after the game to avoid unnecessary contact in the halls and areas.
5. All participants including adults who will be entering the buildings will need to register with facilities and sign waivers online (<https://www.esaf.ca/index.php/covid-19/self-declaration>) (<https://www.esaf.ca/images/waiver%20minor18-19.pdf>) (<https://esaf.ca/images/waiver%20adult19-20.pdf>), and pre-register for contact tracing (<https://www.esaf.ca/index.php/covid-19/contact-tracing>) - grandparents, cousins or anyone who will be entering the building will need to do this.
6. All persons entering the building will need to be wearing a mask regardless if they are players or coaches, according to level two of the Edmonton Facilities mandate (https://www.edmonton.ca/programs_services/emergency_preparedness/masks.aspx)
7. Hand sanitizer will be available at all areas in the building
8. Tournaments may not be able to organize due to the two-week quarantine period needed to re-cohort the groups. If AHS increase the cohort number from 50-100 things could change.
9. Trialists or Guest players will not be accepted due to the Cohort restrictions

10. All parents, players, organization will need to be ready to discontinue the program if Alberta Health Services cancels the Cohort system.
11. Every team must have a Covid Contact Person that will be responsible to contact the EMSA office for any reports of possible Covid exposure and follow all protocols from AHS.
12. All refunds due to cancelations will be pro-rated depending on the number of games played.

For the club teams playing non boarded is a different format ,they will form cohort of two teams, play two games (RR) against each other , then go to a 14 days training and come back to play in a new cohort of two teams two more games, like that until the end of the season or when the situation with the virus change, the advantage of forming cohorts with only two teams is that those teams won't have the problem with the number of players registered (cohorts can be form of a maximum of 50) they do not need to make smaller teams, less players, to comply with the maximum numbers for a cohort.

We are all aware that there may be a cancelation of games, league, or season. We would ask that everyone is patient in these uncertain times, and we hope with all of these precautions we can get our kids back playing again. Please ensure that you speak to your EMSA Zone/Club Office, look at the web site of the EMSA Zone/Club and EMSA Main, talk to your coach, so that you are aware of all of the information prior to registering your child.

The Registration for the Indoor Season 2020/2021 will open on August 21st, 2020.

Thank you for your understanding,

Mario Charpentier

President

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