

VIA EMAIL

January 7, 2021

Attention: BC Soccer Full/Associate Members and Affiliated Soccer Clubs

From: BC Soccer

Re: Return to Play Update Provincial Health Authority Restrictions

Dear Full/Associate Members and Affiliated Clubs,

Firstly, we thank you all for the difficult work you did in a very challenging year to ensure soccer was offered to your members and the communities you serve. Here's looking forward with optimism for a more positive 2021 for soccer than what 2020 brought us.

As we all know, the current BC Health Authority Order is set to expire on January 8, 2021 (tomorrow). We would like to be communicating to you that the restrictions will lesson allowing for contact in training and potentially cohort model gameplay. However, unfortunately, that is not the case.

We have continued our ongoing and regular dialogue with ViaSport, our mechanism to learn and understand the direction coming forward from the BC Heath Authority, and what it means for sport. Even with this dialogue, we have no indication of what (if any) changes will occur in the near term or when.

Please know that we continue to advocate for soccer to be able to at least move back to where soccer was in the Fall of 2020.

As of today, and until the BC Health Authority and specifically Dr. Henry makes restriction adjustments, we must comply with the current orders. The information is on the [BC Government website](#) and we remind all members and affiliated clubs that the following applies to sanctioned soccer activity in BC (slight changes highlighted in yellow):

- The Order applies to all regions of the Province.
- Indoor and outdoor soccer for adults (22 years and older) is suspended.
- Indoor and outdoor soccer for youth (under 22 years of age) can occur under [BC Soccer's Phase 1 Guidelines](#) (the previous phase where players participated in-club "distance training" with no game-play) with the following restrictions in place:
 - o Physical distance is now classified as 3 metres.
 - o No spectators.
 - o Players may travel to their home club/team. Team travel must be limited to stay within each city/municipality.
 - Where there is a city and municipality or two or more municipalities in the same area, we consider them combined as one (i.e. Township of Langley and City of Langley are considered one). For clarity, this means team travel to, from, and

between cities/municipalities can not occur. Team location is based on the team's parent club/organization location.

- The only player exemption is noted on the BC Government [website](#).

We will continue to liaise with ViaSport, the link between the BC Health Authority and the BC Sport Sector, to gain any additional information and clarity on updated Orders. Once received, we will communicate to members/clubs as quickly as responsible.

Thank you all for your understanding and the hard work you are all doing to support soccer through these everchanging times.

-End-

CC: Charlene Krepiakovich, CEO, ViaSport British Columbia
BC Soccer Board of Directors and Staff