



Alaska Youth Soccer Association

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www.alaskayouthsoccer.org



05/29/2020

To: Alaska Youth Soccer Membership

CC: Board of Directors

Re: AYSA Return-to-Play Guidelines

AYSA Members and Affiliates,

Alaska's Move to Phase IV the "Green Phase" Brings Back Full Team Competition "New Normal" including contact soccer, trainings, scrimmages, games, tournaments, camps, coaching and referee education courses and ADP programming.

Alaska Youth Soccer Association remains steadfast in our commitment to provide the upmost safest environment for our players, coaches, referees, families, and communities. Effective May 29, 2020, AYSA will reinstate all activities currently suspended as sanctioned. All Alaska Youth Soccer affiliate clubs and sanctioned activities will continue follow the COVID-19 Return-To-Play Protocols that have been put in place to mitigate the risk of spreading COVID-19.

The FIVE phased approach in the Return-To-Play Protocols will continue to provide clear direction and understanding for coaches, players, and families to engage within EACH DISTRICT. Affiliate Clubs who have been **Approved** for Return to Play may start programming when the appropriate Return-To-Play phase has been reached in their District.

It is imperative that everyone understands their role and demonstrate a commitment adhering to the AYSA Return-to-Play Protocols which have been created based on federal, state, and local directives and guidance with the intent of providing a safe environment to get back on the pitch. For the benefit of all AYSA clubs/ leagues and players, we ask that you strictly adhere to the regulations in your local municipality. AYSA reserves the right to amend its decisions on sanctioned activities and timelines to best adapt to and reflect all new Federal, State, Local and Public Health Authority recommendations, directives guidelines, and requirements.

Reverting to Earlier Phases; Regardless of which phase you are in you should be prepared to step back and revert to an earlier phase if any of the following occur. Always follow your local public health official guidelines.

- Cluster of infections occur
- Inability to maintain COVID-19 prevention and response protocols
- Inability to track and/or isolate players or staff
- External factor exposes a COVID-19 risk to your team or club or league
- Changes to local public health official guidelines regarding group gatherings
- Alaska Youth Soccer places the affiliate as not a "Member in Good Standing"

The information in the RTP Protocol is NOT intended or implied to be a substitute for professional medical advice, diagnosis, or treatment. All content, including text, graphics, images, and information, are provided for general informational purposes only. The knowledge and circumstances around COVID-19 are changing constantly and, as such, Alaska Youth Soccer makes no representation and assumes no responsibility.

Alaska Youth Soccer Updates

State Cup 2020- Alaska Youth Soccer will be opening registration for the annual tournament on June 1, 2020. We are planning for State Cup to be held July 30-Aug 2, 2020 in Fairbanks with appropriate modifications. More information on the modifications and team hotel links will be released next week.

Alaska Development Program (ADP)- We will be starting the 2020-21 ADP Season mid-June with District Site Visits (trainings) and the August Sub-Regional Camp (Aug 3- 5) in Anchorage.

New Alaska Affiliate Club- Welcome our newest affiliate- [Homer United F.C.](#) they will be offering recreational, developmental, and competitive programs.

Alaska Grassroots Referee Initiative- "Calling Referees Across Alaska" We will be kicking off June 1st the Initiative for the 2020 summer season. We are in need of youth players who would like to be certified and coaches, parents and community members to support the ambitions of these players with assisting with their cost of certification (\$30) and purchase of their USSF Starter kit (\$60). More information [@ AYSA](#)

Referee Certification- Getting Ahead of the Game; the [Online Grassroots Referee Module](#) is 4.5-hour e-learning experience that prepares candidates for their assigned tasks and responsibilities as a Grassroots Referee. This module is a part of AK's 2019/20 certification process. If you are interested in becoming a referee for this summer, get started on the online course. The required in person field session will be held once we can return to play. Must be 13 years or older to create a profile.

Coaching this Summer- Planning on coaching a team or being a manager? Please make sure you have updated your background check and completed the Safe Sport Training.

Upcoming Alaska Youth Soccer Calendar:

Alaska State Cup: (July 30 - August 2, 2020 Fairbanks)

Sub-Regional Camp: (Aug 3- 5, 2020 Anchorage)

VA Adaptive Soccer Camp: (Aug 14- 16, 2020 Anchorage)

AFL League: (October 10- December 6, 2020 Statewide)

Futsal State Cup: (December 5-6 & 11-13, 2020 Anchorage)

Alaska Youth Soccer AGM: (November 21- 22, 2020 Anchorage)

We hope to see you all safe, healthy, and back on the pitch. We Are Alaska Youth Soccer!

“In Unity is Strength”

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Linda J. Burke".

Linda Burke

Executive Director

Alaska Youth Soccer