



Alaska Youth Soccer Association

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www.alaskayouthsoccer.org



05/15/2020

To: Alaska Youth Soccer Membership

CC: Board of Directors

Re: AYSA Return-to-Play Guidelines

AYSA Members and Affiliates,

Alaska Youth Soccer is announcing that the suspension of sanctioned activities will expire today May 15, 2020. As our State begins to institute new guidelines for youth sports activities, we are beginning our [Return-to-Play Protocols](#). While we are all anxious to jump on the field and start playing, we need to be cognizant of our States rules and requirements. It is our goal to maintain a spirit of fun and enjoyment, while making sure we comply with all State rules in order to better protect the health of our community. Alaska Youth Soccer remains steadfast in our commitment to the safety of our players, coaches, referees, families, and communities. It is imperative that everyone understand 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 field.

Your club will be contacting you in regards to how they will start their RTP for team practices. Every parent/guardian of a player will be asked to complete and sign a Health Status Agreement prior to returning to play.

Things may initially be very different than what we're all familiar with, but hopefully each phase will allow for the introduction of more and better programming. We are excited to get started with these protocols, and we hope this phased approach to play will take us back to playing the game we love sooner versus later.

The AYSA Return-to-Play Protocols Phase II will go into effect on May 16, 2020. The implementation of the Return-to-Play Protocols will require a cooperative relationship between the club /league, coaches, players, and parents. Each club will take the time to ensure that they have put in place all protocols and standards prior to starting Phase II. The clubs will make the decision on the best time to open their program in coordination with the appropriate phases. Reminder clubs may have stricture protocols/ guidelines than AYSA and the state mandates.

While the club and coach must create a safe environment, as the parent you must make the decision for your child to return to play. If you are not comfortable in the return to play, do NOT participate at this time. Players also must be responsible to adhere to and respect the social distancing requirements and contact guidelines that have been established.

Alaska Youth Soccer Updates

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.

Senior Recognition- Alaska Youth Soccer congratulates all high school seniors and would like to share in their celebration. Please share your picture with us along with your school and plans for the future; include if you have committed to a College or University! Submit to alaskayouthsoccer@gmail.com Thank you!

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.

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

"In Unity is Strength"

Sincerely,

Linda Burke

Executive Director

Alaska Youth Soccer