



**ALBERTA SOCCER ASSOCIATION**  
*The Governing Body of Soccer in Alberta*

9023 111 Avenue  
Edmonton, AB T5B 0C3

Ph: 780 474 2200  
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**Members Bi-Weekly COVID-19 Update**  
**Meeting Minutes for 4A (10:00 AM) and 4B (7:00 PM)**

Monday, May 11, 2020

Video Conference Meeting

**1. Call to order**

**Present Members Meeting 4A**

LSA – Frank Spadavecchia  
MHSA – Rob Cavicchia  
CUSA - Pearl Doupe, Raj Uppal  
CWSA - Jacquie Hertlein  
EMSA – Mario Charpentier, Dragos Niculescu  
EDSA – Mike Thome  
SASA – Chris Spaidal  
SPDSA – Debbie Ballam  
Airdrie – Melissa Collinson  
EIYSA – Dan Curtis  
Canal Links – Henry Faucher  
CMSA – Susan Cress  
CASA – Tammy Olson, Jason Blake  
Battle River – Rob Russell

ASA Life Member: Adrien Newman

ASA BOD: Shaun Hammond, David MacEachran, Danny Bowie, Steve Cupit

ASA Staff: Shaun Lowther, Tammy McNutt, Carmen Charron, Claire Paterson, David O'Neill, Jeannie Hawksworth, John Clubb, Matt Thomas

**Present Members Meeting 4B**

LSA - Arlene Paiha, Frank Spadavecchia  
BCSA – John Brazelle  
Sunny South – Paul Anwender  
CWSA – Jacquie Hertlein  
EDSA- Mike Thome  
Lakeland: Wayne Roach, Cheri Wolgien  
NWPSA – Christine Donovan  
SASA – Chris Spaidal  
Fort McMurray – Aaron Bessong  
SPDSA – Debbie Ballam  
RDCSA – Ado Sarcevic  
Tri-County - James Wolters

ASA BOD: Shaun Hammond, Julie Beschell, Danny Bowie, David MacEachran, Steve Cupit, Maureen Keough, Phil Michailides

ASA Staff: Shaun Lowther, Tammy McNutt, John Clubb, Carmen Charron, Jeannie Hawksworth, Matt Thomas, Claire Paterson



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## 2. Canada Soccer (Presented by Shaun Hammond)

### a. Presidents Forum

#### i. CSA Levy

- No information update received as of this morning following review of the MA input, and recommendations at the past weekend's CSA Board Meeting.
- CSA President noted the immediate goal was to provide financial certainty for the member Associations and Canada Soccer for the 2020 budgeting cycle.
- CSA stressed the need to find a balance so that all participants will be able to come through this crisis financially solvent.
  - Of particular concern to the MA's is the formula proposed for CSA levy for 2021 – 23 as it's impossible to predict what numbers will look like with the COVID impact on returning players in the future.

#### Update during 4B on CSA Player Levy post President's Forum Call which took place at 5 PM

- MA's given verbal confirmation that levy will be calculated as follows:
  - 2020 levy will be calculated on 1/3 or 33.333% of 2019 registration numbers
    - 1<sup>st</sup> payment (1/3) will be due November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020
    - MA's may defer/delay payments and pay by installments with a 6% interest rate per annum.
    - The total for ASA is \$300,000- \$303,000 due November 30<sup>th</sup>.
  - 2021 levy will be based on actual 2021 registration numbers (Jan 1 – Dec 31, 2021)
    - 1<sup>st</sup> payment due May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021
    - 2<sup>nd</sup> payment due November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021
- CSA used high end of estimated numbers for 2021 gathered from MA's (75% of 2019 numbers) to determine levies.
  - If MA's do not reach 75%, CSA would rebate the difference.
  - If MA's exceed 75% then CSA will go into some kind of revenue sharing or bonus payment back to provinces – details to follow on this when received.
  - For ASA - 75% would = 75,000 players x \$9 x 80% for first payment due May 1<sup>st</sup> and the remaining 20% due Nov 1<sup>st</sup>.
- 2022 levy would be calculated the same way - based on actual 2022 registration numbers and due on the same dates in 2022, but in 2023 CSA still expects to collect the levy directly.
- CSA is concerned about rebound in player registrations and possibility of multiple waves of the coronavirus and a risk management plan is being worked onto address those concerns.
- When formal notification is received from CSA about player levies it will be distributed to the membership.
- CSA has indicated the \$9 fee will remain the same for 2020, 2021 and 2022 but did not say what will be charged in 2023.



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## **Additional Updates:**

- Both Alberta and Ontario reiterated their concerns with respect to the National Soccer Registry, both in terms of privacy, cyber security concerns and the use of the NSR for the central registration of players.
  - CSA is currently working to include privacy protocols using Quebec Privacy law as a reference which considered the toughest in the country.
  - ASA will still need to ensure our Privacy Commissioner and the membership of ASA's privacy concerns have been addressed sufficiently.
- Member associations indicated the NSR and Direct Payment needed to be separated from the Player Levy relief. CSA has agreed to this.
- Member Associations had not discussed direct payment previously so that item will require additional discussions.
  - MA's feel that an intended consequence of direct billing may be far less registrations at the local levels if players are expected to essentially complete duplicate registrations.
- CSA feel the concerns re: the NSR are not valid as other NSO's such as Hockey Canada and Volleyball Canada moved to this system this a number of years ago.
  - ASA will be reaching out to these associations to learn more about the historical impact this system has had on them, particularly regarding registration numbers at the Provincial levels and how privacy concerns have been addressed.
  - CSA creating a membership advisory group, Shaun H. is not sure that ASA will be invited to participate.
- CSA wants MA's to sign an NSR agreement by June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020. ASA will not do this until they see the agreement, a legal analysis has been completed on it, consultations with District members and and privacy concerns have been sufficiently addressed.

## **b. Executive Directors Committee (presented by Shaun Lowther)**

### **i. Return to Play Protocols**

- ED's have been discussing what each are doing. BC seems is ahead of the others as they were engaged by their government from the earliest stages of the pandemic.
  - ASA will build on these ideas to pull together recommendation for the GoA.

### **ii. Other Updates (4B Meeting)**

- GOA released some updated information this afternoon addressing return to play and the use of facilities.
  - Shaun L has contacted the GOA for more details.
  - CSA is creating a Return to Play Risk Management tool for MA's to utilize for regional lifting of suspensions. MA's are waiting for official notification that this will be permitted, and the RM tool and ASA will notify members when it has been received.



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- Municipal/Local restrictions and protocols would still have to be followed.
- Manitoba Soccer has been informed by their insurance provider about additional requirements to ensure coverage for participants is in place i.e. a signed waiver.
- Shaun L. will be contacting ASA Insurance Provider to determine any requirements that ASA membership will need to follow to ensure coverage for participants.

## **c. Nationals Competition**

### **i. PSO Feedback**

- CSA has requested that PSO's ask members if they would still be able to field teams in the (unlikely) event National competitions take place in 2020.
  - Shaun L. will be connecting with the Members to gather this input.
- CSA has stated previously that they will decide if Nationals will take place by June 30<sup>th</sup>.

## **3. Government of Alberta**

### **a. PSO Consultation on Return to Play protocols**

- Initially advised by the GoA that each sport to complete a Return to Play Plan and submit to the Government for approval.
  - ASA just informed that the GoA is now examining the New Zealand Return to Play Plan as the Gold Standard.
  - Early indications are that they will now use the New Zealand Plan as a template to develop an overarching Alberta Return to Play Plan. <https://sportnz.org.nz/assets/Uploads/Play-Active-Recreation-Sport-Alert-Level-Two.pdf>
  - Members will be informed once this has been confirmed.

## **4. District Working Committee on Communications & Business Continuity (presented by Susan Cress/Steve Cupit)**

### **a. First Meeting Update**

- Reaffirmed purpose of the committee:
  - Information and resource sharing between group members with a focus on their own business continuity, not ASA's.
- Meeting every other week (alternate week to ASA COVID-19 Update meetings)
- Discussed how to ramp up communication flow with their members and importance of keeping membership engaged during shutdown.
- Meeting every other week (alternate week to ASA COVID-19 Update meetings)
- Return to Play discussions
- Sharing HR practices



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- Communication with members
- ADSA developing safe practice guidelines for when practices are permitted, to be shared with group when ready.
- SASA will be sharing training plans.
- CWSA/CUSA sent out updates with members which were well received.
- CMSA shared info on Town Hall meeting with members which Shaun H and Shaun L. attended. Shaun H. noted 2 areas CMSA members prioritized:
  - Insurance coverage
    - What is covered, who is covered, what activities, etc. and any conditions that apply
    - ASA will be engaging Insurance Provider to get clarification on this and will circulate to all ASA members.
  - Use of Facilities
    - In Calgary all city owned recreational facilities are closed so question raised about possibility to utilize privately owned facilities.
    - Calgary City Councillor clarified that while the city is under a state of emergency, restrictions for recreation facilities use applies to private and city owned facilities.

## 5. Comments / Questions

### 4A Meeting:

Adrian Newman (LM): Update on GoA unilaterally setting terms of return to play for all sport needs to be opposed or at least modified to be a starting point for each sport. Contradicts Hinshaw's comments yesterday encouraging groups to present their protocols and possible justification for earlier relaxed return to normal. This was in the case of small gyms.

Frank Spadevecchia (LSA): Has there been a decision made by CSA on when suspensions will be lifted?

Shaun H: Not at this time. There is acknowledgement that the pandemic situation is different regionally and that it's very likely that CSA will lift suspensions on a Regional basis. Provincial and local restrictions would still have to be followed as well if they are.

Mario Charpentier (EMSA): How will ASA manage qualifiers should they be required. ASA should be working on this now so it's ready to go if they will be needed.

Shaun H: First we need to know if CSA will hold them at all, and then where, when and in what format. CSA is supposed to provide a decision on or before June 30<sup>th</sup>. One idea is to have winners of South Playdowns and North Playdowns compete centrally to determine who would advance to Nationals. The process would have to be fair and just and members will be consulted. ASA Team 2020 is developing options as one of their tasks for how Nationals qualifiers could work should they be required

Mario C.: Facilities situation is different (more open) in Edmonton and area than Calgary.



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Shaun H: CSA will still have to lift suspensions for soccer activities to resume in any fashion and Provincial/local restrictions would also be in effect.

Mario C.: EMSA did a survey with their members asking if they will be willing to play later in the summer months. 70% of respondents said they would, and they have only had 500 requests for refunds for 17,000 registrations.

Dan Curtis (EIYSA) Has there be any thoughts from ASA on adjusting indoor tryout dates should the outdoor season be a wash?

Shaun H: Yes, looking at different scenarios. This will be dependent on what ultimately occurs with outdoor programming.

Pearl Doupe (CUSA) Has ASA discussed their expectations on their fees for this year any further from the AB membership? In previous meeting held a few weeks back it was stated that ASA would expect larger Districts to submit 50% of last year's registrations fees, Will the new reduced 2020 fees be payable for indoor, if no outdoor registrations occur? What restrictions will ASA place if there are regional openings either within province or between provinces? Or we all recognize teams/players will travel.

Shaun H.: ASA expects to collect \$0 for Outdoor 2020. The next intake is likely to be for 2020/21 Indoor fees, currently being looked at and ultimately would need member approval. ASA is focused on what will transpire for 2021, dependent on what will be determined by CSA i.e. 2020 registration numbers.

Shaun L.: The 50% scenario was based on a partial outdoor season occurring.

Mike Thome (EDSA): Has the Government of Alberta given any indication of when we would expect Phase 2 and Phase 3 to begin?

Shaun Hammond: We do not have any indication about when that would happen. They are not willing to give a specific date at this time and will be dependent on how things are looking with Phase 1 and 2.

On money side - During meeting with Minister we are still waiting for clarification on \$500,000,000 relief announced for Not for Profits, Sports and Cultural organizations. Of that, \$72,000,000 to go to Sports & Recreation NSO's. No information yet by GoA about any other support they will provide for Alberta PSO's. There are many other groups seeking relief outside of Sport i.e. cultural and arts organizations so there is a lot of competition and need for support.

#### **4B Meeting:**

Paul Anwendar (Sunny South) 2020 Outdoor fees? Will ASA bill Districts based on 2019 numbers?

Shaun H. No, we expect to collect \$0 for 2020 OD, just deferral of 2019 Indoor registrations. In the event there is some kind of income for Outdoor 2020 then we would use a previously circulated a price list which was at a 50% reduced rate. CSA will still collect 1/3 of 2019 registration numbers, but that is currently sitting in ASA's cash flow and do not anticipate that we would go to members to collect any fees related to this.



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James Wolters (BCSA): Is there any guidance re: fundraising? is that type of activity covered by the CSA suspension.? This would be at the club level.

Shaun H: These cannot include any soccer activities during the CSA suspension period. ASA will be as liberal as possible in granting permission and could possibly go to CSA to request special dispensation if needed.

Chris Spaidal (SASA): Is it advised then for the districts to develop and submit return to play protocols pertaining to their area as step in moving forward to having a return to the field?

Shaun H: Yes, Shaun L. will be requesting that you submit these so ASA has a better understanding of local needs and they can be forwarded to CSA.

Mike Thome (EDSA) Do we also need municipal agreement to allow return to play, considering the state of emergency declarations across the province?

Shaun H: Yes, we will.

Jacquie Hertlein (CWSA) for SL - what exactly is the EDSA document you were referring too for return to play?

Shaun L: It was not an EDSA document it was a GoA document. I will send it out.

John Brazzale (BCSA): Is the New Zealand return to play standard available for review or can you give some indication of what "return to play" looks like?

Shaun L: Here is the link: <https://sportnz.org.nz/assets/Uploads/Play-Active-Recreation-Sport-Alert-Level-Two.pdf>

Paul Anwendar (Sunny South): Has CSA indicated what they would require to lift suspensions?

Shaun H: If CSA Return to Play Risk profile guidelines are met a request can be submitted and depending on ASA Risk management requirements, Provincial and local requirements also being met, they will approve lifting suspensions on a Regional basis.

John Brazzale (BCSA): How long would the suspension lifting process be?

Shaun H. and Shaun L. – Once a District has submitted all the required information and meets insurance and Government requirements, we hope it would not take more than a couple weeks for final approval.

Mike Thome (EDSA): How does the CSA expect to coordinate direct billing to players with the province and districts to confirm payments made?

Shaun H: This is unknown. In any case, ASA does not anticipate acting as a collection agency for CSA if they proceed with direct billing to players for a NR.

### **Closing remarks (Shaun H.)**

- Insurance requirements for relaunch are concerning, could be large scale or small scale and potentially cumbersome or difficult to activate. Getting this information will be a priority for ASA so it can be addressed.
- Reminder that Shaun L will be reaching out to collect local Return to Play protocols and the value of members input on this.
- All CSA official communication re: player levy, etc. and any other updates will be shared as they are received.



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**7. Adjournment**

4A – 10:41 hrs.

4B – 19:40 hrs.

*Please provide us your feedback on these meetings, if the information we are providing has value to you or if we're missing information that you would like to have.*

