



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 13A (10:00 AM) and 13B (7:00 PM)

Tuesday, December 8th 2020
Video Conference Meeting

1. Call to order

Present Members Meeting 13A

CUSA – Pearl Doupe, Raj Uppal
LSA – Frank Spadavechia
EMSA – Mario Charpentier
SASA – Chris Spaidal
SPDSA – Debbie Ballam
Airdrie – Melissa Collinson
EIYSA – Dan Curtis
RDCSA – Ado Sarcevic
CASA – Tammy Olson
CWSA: Jacquie Hertlein
NWPSA – Darren Snider
Lakeland - Cheri Wolgien

ASA BOD: Shaun Hammond, Danny Bowie,
Dave MacEachran

Life Member and Edmonton Soccer Facilities:
Adrian Newman

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

Present Members Meeting 13B

Sunny South - Paul Anwender
Foothills – Peter Mundy
NWPSA- Christine Donovan
FMYSA – Macky Singh
BCSA – John Brazelle
CMSA - Sue Cress
LSA – Arlene Paiha
EDSA – Mike Thome, Brad Odsen

ASA BOD: Shaun Hammond, Danny Bowie

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



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2. Canada Soccer Update

a. President's Forum Update (*Shaun Hammond*)

i. Canada Soccer Levies and NSR

- Canada Soccer sent a letter with a payment schedule for 2020 – 2022 levies
 - 2020: based on 2019 registered players x \$9 per player
 - First payment was due November 30th = 33% of 2020 player fees
 - Totalled \$300,000
 - Remaining 67% of 2020 player fees were waived
 - The PF has agreed to accept this schedule and expressed their appreciation for the deductions made.
 - 2021: Calculated at 75% of the 2019 registered player amount x \$9 per player
 - First payment due May 1, 2021 = 80% of estimated player fees
 - Second payment due November 1, 2021 = Actual 2021 player fees x \$9 per player (less first payment.)
 - The PF were not in agreement with this schedule and have submitted a counter proposal to Canada Soccer to use the actual 2020 payer registrations in calculations.
 - Additionally proposed a 3 part payment schedule; 1/3 due in May, 1/3 due in Sept and final payment any outstanding based on actuals due in November.
 - Similar fee structure proposed for 2022 fees as 2021
- A letter of agreement for Canada Soccer direct fee collection for players fee in 2023 to be signed by May 1, 2021 also included.
 - Alberta will not sign this agreement as it is not feasible for Canada Soccer to collect these fees as they describe.
 - Cannot work for the systems already in place for Alberta.
 - Possibility they are breaking Alberta Privacy laws which are stronger in Alberta than anywhere else contrary to the ones in QC which Canada Soccer says are and whose criteria they meet.
 - Using it to serve the very elite players who require a player passport under FIFA.

A01 – Shaun H. to enquire if any player fees are directed up to CONCACAF or otherwise or if they are only used by Canada Soccer.

- PF sent a request today asking to meet with Canada Soccer to talk about this issue.
 - Provinces involved control 67% of vote so Canada Soccer will not be able to enact fee collection as proposed without their support.



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- The letter included a request to sign an agreement for Canada Soccer to collect 2023 fees directly.
 - President's Forum unanimously agreed that they are not willing to sign the agreement.
 - The CSA levies are a huge concern for some PSO's who are already in dire financial straits and in danger of folding.
 - Shaun sent an enquiry to the GOA about indemnification and liability coverage for COVID-19 such as BC, SK are providing for not for profit Sport Organizations and ON is close to approving similar coverage.
 - Shaun H. will follow up on this.
 - Hopeful as the GOA is known to follow the lead of other Provinces.
- ii. Canada Soccer updates
 - New President and some new directors and we don't know their approach yet.
 - Canada Soccer is also struggling for money like everyone else due to decreased sponsorship, grants, etc.
- b. Executive Director's Update (Tammy McNutt)**
 - ii. Canada Soccer National Champions Volunteer Recognition Campaign
 - Honor the individuals in your organizations that have made a difference in their community at the grassroots level of the game.
 - Nominate a grassroots volunteer whose support enabled a safe return-to-soccer under Canada Soccer's Return-to-Soccer Guidelines over the past year.
 - Candidates must meet Canada Soccer's Safe Sport requirements such as:
 - Valid background check
 - Current Respect Group training credentials
 - Member organization in good standing
 - Nominations close on December 13th and can be made online at [Canada Soccer Nation Champions presented by Toyota – Canada Soccer](#)

3. COVID-19 Update (Tammy McNutt)

The following information was presented in the 10:00 AM meeting:

a. Current Environment

i. Enhanced Measures as of November 27th.

- No new updates since the November 27th enhanced measures were applied by AHS.
- The measures resulted in a return to suspension of soccer activities in identified regions until December 15th at minimum.



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- AHS has promised to provide an update on these measures no later than December 15th.
- Most impactful on soccer were the restrictions to outdoor gatherings to a maximum of 10 people (Province-wide) and restricted access to some businesses which included team sports suspension of activities (Regional).
- Alberta Soccer has had consultation/conversations with our insurance provider, Sport Consultant, Hockey Alberta, Risk Management Committee and staff about these enhanced measures.
 - Outdoor: AHS limits outdoor group 10 people, physically distant: While these restrictions are in place, no outdoor activity will be sanctioned and insured for members within the identified areas with targeted /enhanced public health measures at this time.
 - Indoor: **1-1 Indoor training is permitted so long as the Rule of Two is maintained.**
 - Coach must maintain physical distance and wear a mask at all times.
 - Training must be limited to one coach per player.
 - Exception: One coach may train more than one player at a time IF both players reside in the same household.
 - Rule of Two – Observing individual must be an individual who is 18+ from minor player's household within visual/audible distance when observing training session.
 - Grid style 1- 1 Training: AHS limits facilities to 25% capacity to offer individual training and/or 1-1 training. Alberta Soccer must approve any such plans prior to activation. Requests received by Alberta Soccer to date have been denied.
Why?
 - Townhall with Dr. Hinshaw on December 1st revealed an occurring theme:
 - Group activities are super-spreader events which Alberta cannot afford at this time.
 - Group activity has been shut down to reduce contact between individuals.
 - Key issue – group activities have the same start/end time which results in congregating at beginning and end of training. Whereas individual training sees staggered entry/exit.
 - Offering several 1-1 sessions at the same time cannot be used to circumvent the NO team training restriction.
 - The number of people allowed on a field at a time is tied to building code restrictions and compliance with the other guidelines.
 - Increasing the number of household members in a '1-1' session should be approached very cautiously as more than 2 could be defined as a 'group'.



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- Staggered starts for a couple of 1-1 training at the same time where facility space allows could possibly work.

ii. Regionalized Measures

- Reminder: Temporary suspension of all group soccer training, practicing and competition is limited to the areas identified by AHS as under Enhanced Measures
- Any members programs who operate outside of the areas identified by AHS may continue under Return to Modified Games.
- We know the restrictions are very difficult and recognize the strong desire to have more coaches, referees and parents actively engaged.
- The reality is that we are back in a virtual environment until the government lifts the restrictions. This will not happen until we see the daily case numbers start to trend downwards.

Stronger health measures were announced at 4 PM by the GoA and presented during the 7 PM meeting as follows:

- No further information than what was publicly announced and what is posted on the GoA website
- Alberta Soccer staff and the Risk Management Committee have not had the opportunity to meet and discuss these recent changes.
- Health Measures which affect soccer include:
 - Province-wide suspension of all soccer effective December 13th – at least January 12, 2021
 - Includes 1-1 training with coach/trainer (effective Dec 13th)
 - Working from home mandatory unless physical presence required
 - Recreational facilities will be closed.
 - **Indoor group physical activity is prohibited unless group only involves members of the same household*
 - **Outdoor group physical activity must be limited to 10 people and maintain 2 metre distance at all times (?)*

**Noted that these measures were still posted this way on the AHS site, but contradict the verbal measures noted in the 4 PM update so will need to be verified.*

- Virtual training & webinars with registered members are permitted under enhanced measures.

4. Operational Updates (*Jeannie Hawksworth*)

a. Alberta Soccer Financial Status

- Current cash on hand will cover 16 months of expenses



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- Fixed regular expenses are around \$65,000 per month
 - With COVID-19 subsidies they are currently at \$45,000 per month
- Audit to be released mid-January.
- Actively monitoring cash and updating cash forecasts
 - CSA levy due May 1st has been included in forecasting.
 - Alberta Soccer created the 2020-21 budget with very modest budget in regard to membership fees in anticipation of lower registrations.
 - Finance Committee has committed to meeting soon to have next level discussion about member struggles and concerns related to fees.
 - Scenario planning has taken place previously but no activation of these would take place until after the finance committee and BOD have met to discuss the impact of today's AHS update.
 - Members will be informed of results of these discussions.

b. Heritage Grant Applications

- Reminder: applications due no later than December 15th
 - Contact Jeannie Hawksworth if you have any questions.

c. Additional Funding Support:

- CEBA Loan – a top off of \$20,000 will be available, but the application has not been made available yet.
- Relaunch Grant is also having a second round with the application expected to become available by mid-December.
- Jeannie is just completing a summary sheet with all funding opportunities including criteria which will be circulated to Districts shortly.

d. Indoor Reporting

- Districts are asked to report their indoor registration numbers sometime between December 15 - January 10th.
 - This information will be helpful for the finance committee and BOD to have an accurate picture of where Districts are in planning.
 - EDSA noted it will be difficult to invoice their teams for fees due over and above their deposit if they will not be able to provide them a full schedule of games.

e. Additional:

- Alberta Soccer understands that a multi year recovery plan will be required to recover from the effects of the pandemic.



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- Priorities identified early in the pandemic by the BOD included:
 - Priority 1– cash management
 - Priority 2 – Relationship with Membership with a priority on maintaining the connection to them, hence the bi-weekly (at first) and now monthly member meetings.
 - Priority 3 – Managing staff – who needs to stay and maintaining morale

- f. Alberta Soccer Technical Team (John Clubb, Matt Thomas)**
 - The key to getting grassroots soccer back is supporting and engaging the coaches, parents of the players during this time so they are ready to go when we can get back on the field.
 - Grassroots Coaching Circles are a sharing circle where a wide array of topics, not just SQS and LTPD can be discussed.
 - Districts are encouraged to reach out to their members to ask them what they need and how Alberta Soccer can support them during this time.
 - Small or large communities
 - Social, technical, grassroots
 - How to keep people engaged.
 - Webinars

- g. Quick wins from Nov 28th Planning Session – Return to Outdoor 2021**
 - Canada Soccer Risk Assessment for Adult Teams
 - Contacted Canada Soccer about the Risk Assessment requirement for adult teams; positive response to letting the leagues complete this; will confirm with members shortly.
 - Request to make RAMP available sooner.
 - Central registration will be managed via the RAMP platform.
 - Individual district sites are ready for member interaction.
 - Historical data for Outdoor 2020 has been uploaded for those who submitted it.
 - Districts who want to consider the RAMP system for their district's registration platform can contact Richard Adams at projects@albertasoccer.com.
 - Pre-screening and waiver is included in the system

- h. Save the Date**
 - Alberta Soccer Annual General Meeting will be held on Sunday, February 28, 2021.
 - Virtual format
 - Official announcement will be sent to Districts soon.



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5. Next COVID-19 Update Meetings

- Tuesday, January 12
- Tuesday, February 9

Closing remarks (*Tammy McNutt*)

- The Alberta Soccer office will be closed for the holidays starting December 21st, reopening for regular business hours on January 4th, 2021.
- Thanks to everyone for their time and input.

6. Adjournment

13A – 10:52 hrs.

13B – 20:11 hrs.