



# ABBOTSFORD UNITED SOCCER CLUB

Return to Play Plan

June 19, 2020

## **1. Purpose**

The purpose of this document is to provide the details of Abbotsford United Soccer Club's (the "Club") Return to Play Plan ("RTPP"). This plan is intended to be read in parallel with the guidelines of governing bodies within government and BC Soccer. The purpose of the plan is intended to support informed decision-making by our members, players, volunteers, coaches, and other representatives of the Club related to their participation in the Club's programs.

## **2. Return to Play Guidelines**

In June 2020, two very important documents were released related to the soccer community's return to play. These documents are referenced and linked below and provide the foundation and guidelines that are included in this Return to Play Plan.

Monday June 1st: [ViaSport Return to Sport Guidelines](#)

Wednesday June 3rd: [BC Soccer Return to Play Plan](#)

## **3. Providing a Clean and Safe Environment**

Soccer is predominantly an outdoor sport in British Columbia and therefore, our fields are one of the safer environments for sports activity. The outdoor experience provides one of the hubs where the spread of the pandemic can be easily limited. The Club will implement the following health and safety precautions in providing a clean and safe environment: -

### **3.1. Office**

- 3.1.1. The Club office will be opened to the public within designated time periods of 5 PM to 7.30 PM Monday through Thursday.
- 3.1.2. In addition to staff, only one family will be permitted to enter the office.
- 3.1.3. Family and staff entry log will be maintained.
- 3.1.4. Markings will be used on the ground to facilitate physical distancing.
- 3.1.5. Other than the staff, there will be no seating in the office at all times.
- 3.1.6. Hand sanitizers will be available in the office.
- 3.1.7. Member meetings, if any, will be in open air while keeping 6 feet from each other.

### **3.2. Changerooms**

- 3.2.1. All changerrooms will not be available to all players.
- 3.2.2. Coaching and management staff may use the change rooms to sanitize the equipment's.

### **3.3. Equipment**

- 3.3.1. After each session, the coaching staff and team management will sanitize the equipment as per the club's specification.
- 3.3.2. Equipment may not be handled / touched by an individual other than the session coach or players at any time.

- 3.3.3. Players will be discouraged other than necessary training, to touch the equipment with their hands.
- 3.3.4. Equipment will be stored in onsite equipment container at a secure location after the final session of each day.

#### 3.4. Fields

- 3.4.1. Fields will have one entrance and one exit only.
- 3.4.2. Session start and end times will be staggered to permit coaches and players the opportunity to attend training sessions within appropriate physical distancing requirements and guidelines of health authorities.
- 3.4.3. Player backpacks will be placed in designated spaces along the fence only, physically distanced from any other player's bag in adherence to the requirements and guidelines of health authorities.
- 3.4.4. Hand sanitization stations will be available at every session and at each field for continued hand sanitizing of players, technical staff, and volunteers.
- 3.4.5. Players will be discouraged to share water, beverage bottles, or food.

#### 3.5. Parks

- 3.5.1. MRC Fields will be used for Club programming in the early stages of Return to Play.
- 3.5.2. Parents and guardians will be directed to stay in their vehicles during all training sessions or to leave the park and pick up their athlete at the end of the session to avoid any additional physical distancing challenges or risks to the players and Club staff/ volunteers.

### 4. Measures to Keep People Safe

#### 4.1. Check-In Requirements

- 4.1.1. Each player will be required to provide assurance to ensure they do not have any symptoms of Covid19.
- 4.1.2. Any player with symptoms will be asked to leave not permitted back until healthy.
- 4.1.3. Any coaches or volunteers with symptoms will be asked to leave and not permitted back until free of symptoms.

#### 4.2. Illness Policy

- 4.2.1. All individuals associated with the Club (players, coaches, volunteers, parents) will be required to adhere to the Illness Policy, **Appendix A – Illness Policy**, obtained from the ViaSport BC Return to Play guidelines.

#### 4.3. Players

- 4.3.1. All players and parents/guardians of youth players will complete the **Appendix B: - Return to Play Agreement**. Failure to complete the **Appendix B** will prohibit the players from participation in any Club or Club affiliated program or event.

4.3.2. Players will use the **Pre-Session Player Checklist** to reinforce the Club’s safety procedures before participating in Club programs before, or during or after every session.

#### 4.4. Technical Staff, Club Volunteers

4.4.1. All technical staff and Club volunteers will complete the **Appendix B: - Return to Play Agreement**, obtained from ViaSport BC Return to Play guidelines, before start of the program.

4.4.2. Coaches and Managers will use the **Pre-Session Player Checklist**, including self-assessment to reinforce the Club’s safety procedures before participating in Club programs before, or during or after every session.

4.4.3. Technical Staff and Club volunteers will be trained on all sanitization requirements.

4.4.4. Personal Protective Equipment kits will be provided for any instance a technical staff member or volunteer find themselves unable to socially distance in an emergency (i.e., an injury on the field).

#### 4.5. Others

4.5.1. All participants will be encouraged to wear non-surgical masks.

4.5.2. Not more than 50 people including players, coaches, volunteers will be allowed on the fields.

4.5.3. The Club will advise the non-club members not to infringe on the field during Club events.

### 5. Technical Programs – Sport Activity Chart

5.1. The Club will be following BC Soccer’s Return to Play plan set out here:

	Stricest Controls Prior to May 19, 2020	Transition Measures Approx. May 19th to Sept	Progressively Loosen Future date TBC	New Normal Future date TBC
Restrictions in Place	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintain Physical Distance (2m)</li> <li>No non-essential travel</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintain Physical Distance (2m)</li> <li>No non-essential travel</li> <li>No group gatherings over 50 people</li> </ul>	Refer to PHO and local health authorities	Refer to PHO and local health authorities
Enhanced Protocols	Increased hand hygiene	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased hand hygiene</li> <li>Symptom Screening in place</li> </ul>	Increased hand hygiene	Increased hand hygiene
Facility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Outdoor or within home</li> <li>Facilities and playgrounds closed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Outdoor is safest</li> <li>Indoor facilities slowly re-opening</li> </ul>	Outdoor/Indoor	Outdoor/Indoor
Participants	Individual activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Small Groups</li> <li>No or limited spectators</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Groups sizes may increase</li> <li>Limited spectators</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Large groups allowed</li> <li>No restrictions on spectators</li> </ul>
Non-contact Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Low risk outdoor activities can occur (biking, running, etc).</li> <li>Virtual activities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fundamental movement skills</li> <li>Modified training activities, drills</li> </ul>	Expansion of training activities	No restrictions on activity type
Contact Activities	Should not occur	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Should not occur</li> <li>Contact sports should look for non-contact alternatives to training</li> </ul>	Introduction to pair or small group contact skills	No restrictions on activity type
Competition*	Should not occur	In club play or modified games may slowly be introduced	Interclub or regional game play may be considered	Provincial competitions and larger scale events may return
Equipment	No shared equipment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minimal shared equipment</li> <li>Disinfect any shared equipment before, during and after use</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Some shared equipment</li> <li>Enhanced cleaning protocols in place</li> </ul>	Shared equipment

## 6. Disclaimer

This Return to Play Plan is intended to be used for the purposes set in this document. While we have written this RTPP with relevant and timely information, information known about the COVID-19 coronavirus and recommended health and safety measures can change rapidly. No guarantee can be given as to completeness of any information provided in this RTPP.

In the event of an ambiguity or conflict between this RTPP, its referenced documents and the *Public Health Act*, regulations or orders thereunder, the *Public Health Act*, regulations and orders prevail. Nothing in this document is intended to provide legal advice.

This document contains links to third party web sites. Links are provided for convenience only and the Club does not guarantee its accuracy, timeliness or fitness for a particular purpose. The information in those links may be updated from time to time.

Anyone choosing to participate in any Club program is doing so with free will and at their discretion and accept the risks. Choosing to participate is a personal decision that must be made with full information. Where a participant is identified as a “high risk” individual doctor’s permission will be required before participation in any Abbotsford United Soccer Club activities.

## **Appendix A: - Illness Policy**

In this policy, "Team member" includes an employee, volunteer, participant or parent/spectator.

- 1) **Inform an individual in a position of authority (coach, team manager, program coordinator) immediately if, you feel any symptoms of COVID-19** such as fever, chills, cough, shortness of breath, sore throat and painful swallowing, stuffy or runny nose, loss of sense of smell, headache, muscle aches, fatigue and loss of appetite.
- 2) **Assessment**
  - a) Team members must review the self-assessment signage located at Club's website and posted outside of the club office of the COVID 19 symptoms.
  - b) Managers/coaches will visually monitor team members to assess any early warning signs as to the status of their health and to touch base on how they are regarding their personal safety throughout the practice/activity.
  - c) If Team Members are unsure please have them use the self-assessment tool <https://bc.thrive.health/covid19/en> or through the COVID-19 BC Support App self-assessment tool.
- 3) **If a Team Member is feeling sick with COVID-19 symptoms**
  - a) They will be asked to remain at home and contact Health Link BC at 8-1-1.
  - b) If they feel sick and /or are showing symptoms while at Club event, they will be sent home immediately and have them contact 8-1-1 or a doctor for further guidance.
  - c) No Team Member may participate in a practice/activity if they are symptomatic.
- 4) **If a Team Member tests positive for COVID-19**
  - a) The Team Member will not be permitted to return to the workplace/practice/facility until they are free of the COVID-19 virus.
  - b) Any Team Members who work/play closely with the infected Team Member will also be removed from the Club events for at least 14 days to ensure the infection does not spread further.
  - c) Close off, clean and disinfect their practice/facility area immediately and any surfaces that could have potentially be infected/touched.
- 5) **If a Team Member has been tested and is waiting for the results of a COVID-19 Test**
  - a) As with the confirmed case, the Team Member will be removed from the facility.
  - b) The Public Health Agency of Canada advises that any person who has even mild symptoms to stay home and call the public health authority of B.C.
  - c) Other Team Members who may have been exposed will be informed and removed from the activity for at least 14 days or until the diagnosis of COVID-19 is ruled out by health authorities.
  - d) The activity space will be closed off, cleaned, and disinfected immediately and any other surfaces that could have potentially been infected/touched.

**6) If a Team Member has come in to contact with someone who is confirmed to have COVID-19**

- a) Team Members must advise their Club representative if they reasonably believe they have been exposed to COVID-19.
- b) Once the contact is confirmed, the Team Member will be removed from the activity for at least 14 days or as otherwise directed by public health authorities. Team Members who may have come into close contact with the Team Member will also be removed from the workplace for at least 14 days.
- c) The activity area will be closed off, cleaned, and disinfected immediately and any other surfaces that could have potentially been infected/touched.

**7) Quarantine or Self-Isolate if:**

- a) Any Member who has travelled outside of Canada or the province within the last 14 days is not permitted to enter any part of the facility and must quarantine and self-isolate.
- b) Any Team Member with any symptoms of COVID-19 is not permitted to enter any part of the facility and must quarantine and self-isolate.
- c) Any Team Member from a household with someone showing symptoms of COVID-19 is not permitted to enter any part of the facility and must quarantine and self-isolate.
- d) Any Team Member who is in quarantine or self-isolating as a result of contact with an infected person or in families who are self-isolating, is not permitted to enter any part of the facility.

## Appendix B: - Return to Play Agreement

Application - all athletes, coaches, members, volunteers, participants and family members of participants while in attendance at club activities (“Participants”)

All Participants of **Abbotsford United Soccer Club** agree to abide by the following points when entering club facilities and/or participating in club activities under the COVID-19 Response plan and RTP Protocol:

- I agree to symptom screening checks and will let my club know if I have experienced any of the symptoms in the last 14 days.
- I agree to stay home if feeling sick and remain home for 14 days if experiencing COVID-19 symptoms.
- I agree to sanitize my hands upon entering and exiting the facility, with soap or sanitizer.
- I agree to sanitize the equipment I use throughout my practice with approved cleaning products provided by the club (shared and personal equipment).
- I agree to continue to follow social distancing protocols of staying at least 2m away from others.
- I agree to not share any equipment during practice times.
- I agree to abide by all of the Clubs COVID-19 Policies and Guidelines.
- I understand that if I do not abide by the policies/guidelines, that I may be asked to leave the club for up to 14 days to help protect myself and others around me.
- I acknowledge that any abuse of the policies and/or guidelines may result in suspension of my club membership temporarily.
- I understand and acknowledge that I am participating in Club activities with my free will, full discretion, and knowledge that, I may be get exposed to the COVID 19. Therefore, I absolve the Club, its staff, volunteers, members and other associates from any liabilities arising from my participation.
- I acknowledge that there are risks associated with entering club facilities and/or participating in club activities, and that the measures taken by the club and participants, including those set out above and under the COVID-19 Response Plan and Return to Sport Protocols, will not entirely eliminate those risks.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_