



May 14, 2020

Dear Richmond FC Members:

Thank you for your patience and commitment to our club. We appreciate the current environment is not conducive to sports or community activity and we want to thank you for your continued efforts to “flatten the curve”.

On Wednesday, May 13th, 2020, BC Soccer released an update on the plan to return to the pitch. We encourage all our members to read the release:

<https://www.bcsoccer.net/news/post/bc-soccer-provides-update-on-return-to-play-phase-1-plan-a-change-in-approval-process-and-impact-on-risk-insurance>

Until BC Soccer gives the ok to move forward with play, the expectation is that all soccer activities including, but not limited to, competitions, training, practices, matches, and team building activities will remain suspended. Until Richmond FC issues a “return to play” notice, please assume all such activities are cancelled.

Many of you watched and listened to the four-phase plan outlined by Premier John Horgan. (<https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2020PREM0026-000826>)

A number of questions were raised regarding the path for returning to soccer, sports, & camps. Top of the list for us, are:

- When will soccer resume?
- What will soccer look like when it does resume?

Both questions depend on the determinations made by the Recreational Sports Advisory Group, which includes BC Soccer.

They are working on specific guidelines for Clubs to follow based on the recommendations made by the Provincial government, Via Sport and health officials. We must be able to conduct our sports activities in a safe manner. At this time, we cannot say for certain what restrictions will be in place. However, it is likely there will be a ‘new normal’ for soccer that will look very different from what we had 3 months ago. This will possibly be restricted to controlled smaller groups with more coaches present.

At this time, our governing bodies are still forming decisions. It is prudent for Richmond FC to wait until these policies are reviewed, approved, and adopted by the Province. This will provide the pathway back to the resumption of our sport.

At this time, there is no change to the information previously provided:

- All Spring Programs - cancelled
- Provincial A Cup, and Provincial B Cup - cancelled May 12th, 2020
- Spring Camp with Michael Silberbauer - cancelled
- Preseason training registration will open for registration as soon as a date for the safe return to soccer is released
- Summer Camps will open for registration as soon as a date for the safe return to soccer is released
- Girls development program will start up as soon as a date for the safe return to soccer is released
- Fall / Winter Soccer is open for registration

BC Soccer has not made a final determination on:

- BC SPL season
- National Premier Cup

Once we have a return to play date in place from BC Soccer, there will still be several steps and clearances which will need to be executed prior to returning to the field. Richmond FC has a clear plan on how to return to soccer safely. Our members should expect a transition time between the Governing body's announcement on a return to play plan and the date of Richmond FC program delivery.

Richmond FC will ensure that our Club is compliant with all the necessary safety measures required to provide a safe environment for member families, coaches and staff.

Thank you for your patience and understanding. Stay safe, stay healthy and stay positive.

Sincerely,

Richmond FC