

Updated  
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# RICHMOND FC RETURN TO PLAY GUIDE





# RICHMOND FC RETURN TO PLAY

## INTRODUCTION

On May 6, 2020 the Government of B.C. announced [BC's Restart Plan: Next Steps to Move Through the Pandemic](#). The goal outlined within this plan "is to slow the spread of COVID-19, protecting our most vulnerable and ensuring our health-care system can respond to increased demand while we develop a vaccine."

On June 1st ViaSport released [Return to Sports Guidelines for BC](#).

ViaSport is a non-profit society that acts as an agent for the Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture to enable the growth, governance, and stewardship of amateur sport in BC. To help organizations in their planning, stakeholders in each sector were asked to create sector-specific guidance documents. ViaSport was asked by the Minister of Tourism, Arts and Culture, Lisa Beare, to develop this Return To Sport Guidelines document to support amateur sports in BC. All provincial sport organizations and their clubs should use the ViaSport Guidelines to develop their own sport specific Return to Sport plan and work towards careful and gradual restarting within their own communities.

On June 1<sup>st</sup> ViaSport released their [Return to Sport Guidelines](#).

On June 2nd BC Soccer released their [Return to Play – Phase 1 Plan](#).

On August 24<sup>th</sup> ViaSport announces move to [Next Phase of Return to Play](#).

On August 24<sup>th</sup> BC Soccer released their [Return to Play – Phase 2 Plan](#).

*Following the release of BC Soccer's Phase 2 Plan which aligns with ViaSport's Return to Play Phase 3, the Richmond FC Board of Directors passed a motion to offer soccer programming under BC Soccer's Phase 2 terms while placing the health and well-being of players, coaches, staff, volunteers and referees at the forefront of all planning and activities.*

In consultation with the Richmond Soccer Association and the City of Richmond, Richmond FC has used the above resources to create the Club's Return to Play Guide. We recommend all families carefully review the processes outlined to fully understand the measures Richmond FC is taking to mitigate the risks associated with returning to play. It is important that all participants abide by all Club official and staff instructions communicated prior to and during sessions. *Participation in Richmond FC programming is considered voluntary, and anyone feeling uncomfortable with the current risks, should either not register or remove themselves from the program. Where a participant is considered high-risk, Richmond FC recommends a doctor's permission to participate in Richmond FC activities.*

The Richmond FC Board of Directors and staff are excited to get back on the field and look forward to welcoming you back in a safe manner. We look forward to seeing you for the 2020/21 season.



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## PHASES OF RETURN TO PLAY

As of August 24, Richmond FC is currently in the *Progressively Loosen Phase*. This phase extends until further notice and permits the Club to offer training and games with limited contact and modified rules to game as provided by BC Soccer. *Limited contact* is defined as players being able to come together and have involuntary contact (i.e. challenging for the ball, etc.).

During the *Progressively Loosen phase*, Richmond FC will offer team-based training/skill development and game play. Limited contact is now permitted in training and games. Programming should be considered as fluid and could change based on updated information from BC Soccer and Provincial health authorities.

	<b>Strictest Controls</b> Prior to May 19, 2020	<b>Transition Measures</b> Approx. May 19th to Sept	<b>Progressively Loosen</b> Future date TBC	<b>New Normal</b> 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

\*Introduction of competitive activities should be in alignment with Sport Specific guidelines

Source: viaSport



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## SAFE SOCCER ENVIRONMENT

Soccer has the advantage of being an outdoor sport, so soccer fields are one of the safer venues for activity.

Richmond FC has worked with the City of Richmond to create a Safe Soccer Plan to ensure that the club is providing a safe environment for players, staff and volunteers. Initially soccer programming will only be delivered at all Boyd Turf fields, Boyd Oval Grass Field, Richmond High Turf, Minoru Oval Turf, King George Turf, and Minoru 2 Turf. Following are a list of health and safety protocols that Richmond FC will be following.

### Equipment

- Richmond FC staff, coaches and volunteers are not required to wear masks, but should do so in situations where 2m social distancing cannot be maintained or if it makes them feel more comfortable. Players are not required to wear masks but should do so if it makes them feel more comfortable.
- All equipment will be sanitized by the Club after each training session.
- Pinnies/Bibs will not be used.
- Player are not permitted to touch any equipment.
- Players are not permitted to touch the soccer balls with their hands or head. Only coaches can touch equipment/soccer balls. Goalkeepers will be permitted to touch the soccer balls with approved/sanitized gloves. Goalkeepers will not be permitted to share gloves.
- Players will bring all belongings to their designated playing area and placed in an area respecting social distancing protocols.
- Players will not share any personal belongings, such as water bottles or clothing.

### Clubhouse/Change Rooms

- The Boyd Clubhouse and change rooms will be closed and not available for use.
- The Boyd clubhouse will be used exclusively for equipment sanitation.
- Washrooms will be available on the east side of the West Richmond Community Centre.

### Fields

- Fields will have one entrance and one exit only. [CLICK HERE for Richmond Fields Entry/Exit.](#)
- Maximum number of people on field will never exceed 50.
- Parents/family member are not permitted on the fields, e.g., within the fence, except if a coach and officially registered with Richmond FC as a coach. (see next section "Spectators")
- Players should remain outside the fence/gate until brought onto the field by the coaches.
- Hand sanitization and check-in/screening will be done by coaches.
- There will be a designated area for backpacks and water bottles.



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## Spectators

- Family members of players in the U11-U18 (2010 to 2003) age groups are asked to drop their child off at designated entry area and return at pick-up to the designated exit area.
- Parents/guardians/siblings of players in the U5-U10 (2016 to 2011) are permitted to have one member of the same household accompany the player to the field entrance. A family member is not permitted on the field, e.g., inside the fence, at any time unless the family member is a team coach and officially registered with Richmond FC as a coach.
- *The Club appreciates your cooperation on this matter so that we avoid any violation of the social distancing protocols and thus endangering the health and safety of players, staff and volunteers.*

## Daily Pre-Training Requirements

- Prior to each session, all participants (players and coaches) are required to complete the [Richmond FC Self-Assessment Tool](#) to determine ability to participate in that day's training session.
- You should not come to the field if:
  - You do not feel well or are displaying symptoms of COVID-19.
  - Someone in your household has COVID-19 or is showing symptoms of COVID-19.
  - You have traveled outside of Canada within the last 14 days.
  - Someone in your household has traveled outside of Canada within the last 14 days.
- Familiarize yourself with Richmond FC's Illness Policy.
- All players must be registered in the appropriate program and have completed the [Richmond FC Return to Play Participant Waiver and Safety Agreement](#).
- All coaches, must be officially registered with Richmond FC as a coach.

## ILLNESS POLICY

Richmond FC has created an Illness Policy specifically for COVID-19 that must be followed by all in attendance at or participating in any Club programming or events. Failure to abide by the terms of the Illness Policy will result in removal from the session. In circumstances of extreme disregard, removal from Club for either the remainder of the program or the season, is at the Club's sole discretion. Click here to review the [Richmond FC Illness Policy](#).