



Ottawa TFC

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July 17, 2020

We are excited that as of today, our club will be moving into phase 2 of our [return to play protocol](#). This means that our players will soon be playing their first small-sided games since March!

You will receive more information from your coaches, but generally speaking, the changes from phase 1 are:

- Increased group sizes and more allowed on a field (up to 50 per field as per city of Ottawa)
- Incidental contact and game play is now permitted for team sports.
- Club balls and pinnies can be used now (they will be washed after every individual use by a player).

Marshals, questionnaires, hand washing, and general distancing of equipment and even players as much as possible will continue to remain in effect. **Parents are still asked not to attend the sessions.** This goes a long way to reducing the volume of people at each session. We do hope to work towards relieving these restrictions, but for now we ask that you continue the good work in cooperating with these guidelines.

Great work from everyone so far in implementing our return to play. And thank you also for the volume of encouragement and assistance you've given to our staff over the past few weeks, as I know they really appreciate your support. It's been a lot of work, and we could not have done it without your daily help both on the field and in helping to get your kids ready. Our culture at Ottawa TFC has grown stronger yet again in going through this challenge.

Rest assured that we will continue to work hard to make sure our kids are getting back to the game and environment they love and grow in, all while keeping everyone as safe as possible. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to let us know!

July 13, 2020

Thanks to everyone who made our first week back a great success! To the parents, coaches, players, and volunteers, thank you for your support with the additional measures put in place to help keep us safe.

As you may know, the Province of Ontario has announced that we will be moving to Stage 3 at the end of this week. While the Ontario Soccer guidelines are not tied to the province's stages, we will be reviewing what this means for our programs and our protocols.

Stay tuned for more information! In the meantime, if you have questions, please review our Frequently Asked Questions, or email the club at admin@ottawatfc.com and we will do our best to respond as quickly as possible.

July 2, 2020

Thanks to all the parents who were able to attend our virtual information sessions. If you have more questions, please reach out to your coach or manager, or email admin@ottawatfc.com and we can add the question to our FAQ document:

We look forward to seeing our Competitive, Academy and Elite players on the field starting next week. We hope to soon be able to welcome back our other players, as well, once social distancing restrictions ease.

June 24, 2020

Registration information is now available! We have now posted information on our programs, registration details and our Return to Play protocol. Please visit the links below for all the exciting details:

Registration/program write-ups: <http://ottawatfc.com/covid-season-programming>

Protocol: <http://ottawatfc.com/covid-season-programming/return-to-play-protocol>

We will be hosting two Academy and Competitive parent meetings Friday, June 26, and Monday, June 29. The two meetings will be identical, and we ask that Competitive/Academy parents take the time to attend one of these meetings. If you don't have the meeting details, please reach out to your Team Manager or the club.

The meeting will cover:

- Return to play phases and targeted dates
- Ottawa TFC return to play protocol and expectations
- Overview of programs and adjustments
- Q&As
- Break out into small groups for more targeted conversations

We look forward to seeing everyone soon!

June 19, 2020

We are very excited to share that it looks very likely that July 6 will be a return to outdoor training for our Competitive, Academy and Elite teams! We will be focusing purely on training activities for the first few weeks (so no games) until provincial and municipal guidelines relax around social distancing.

This means that the outdoor season for our other leagues, such as Recreational and Adult, will also have to wait a couple more weeks to allow for more of a gameplay format, ensuring we can host more exciting and interactive activities.

Registration and pricing information will be posted soon!

We are putting in a number of safety measures to reduce the potential spread of COVID-19, including questionnaires at every practice, increased sanitization of equipment and availability of hand sanitizer at practice. There will also be a number of guidelines for parents and players to follow. We will be releasing more information in the days to come, so please ensure that you read all materials carefully to ensure the safety of our players and our program.

Stay tuned for more information as we get ready to launch our 2020 Outdoor Season!

June 16, 2020

The Board of Directors is meeting later this week to discuss our OTFC Return to Play plan so that we can submit it to Ontario Soccer as soon as possible. Once we have their approval, we can put our plan into action!

If you haven't had a chance to review it, the Ontario Soccer plan has three phases, which are different from the province's three phases. We are in Phase One of the Ontario Soccer plan, which, will allow for training activities with specific parameters, such as social distancing and defined group sizes. Once the club determines how we will align to these parameters, and our plan is approved, we will share them with coaches, players and parents. The city of Ottawa will also have to adjust field rentals by sports groups again, before we are able to resume outdoor training.

June 15, 2020

Ontario Soccer has delivered their Return to Play plan! It's a large document – 77 pages – and the club will be spending the next several days piecing through the material, what it means for our club and what we will need to do to return to the pitch. If you are interested in giving it a read yourself, it is available by [clicking here](#).

In the meantime, we wanted to caution parents, coaches and members that we still have a ways to go before we are back on the field. We remain cautiously optimistic for an early July return, and we will continue to work towards that, however, many factors are outside of our control.

We are committed to keeping you informed along the way, so stay tuned for more information, take a look at our FAQs and feel free to email the club if you have more questions that you would like us to address. Thank you again for your continued support of the players and the club.

June 11, 2020

The club is expecting to receive Ontario Soccer's Return to Play plan this week! The next steps, once we have a chance to review, will be to prepare and submit our club's individual Return to Play plan and obtain approval. We also need the City of Ottawa to approve reopening of the soccer fields across the region. We don't know the timeline for these activities, but know that we are working hard to have our players on the field as soon as we can.

Stay up-to-date on the latest information and Frequently Asked Questions by visiting this site regularly. If you have questions, please email the club at admin@ottawatfc.com.

June 10, 2020

No updates on Return to Play. We are working on preparing and posting a list of Frequently Asked Questions that will hopefully address some of your questions. If you have a question that you would like addressed, please email the club at admin@ottawatfc.com.

June 9, 2020

While we await the Return to Play plan from Ontario Soccer, we are working diligently behind the scenes to prepare our return to the pitch. At this time, group sizes are still limited to 5-10 people, with social distancing, so our in-person training may look different initially. Specific details are still to be determined, but we will provide all relevant details as they are finalized with coaches and managers, so they will share information as it is available.

In the meantime, please feel free to visit this site for additional updates and answers to frequently asked questions.

June 8, 2020

Dear Ottawa TFC Members,

The province of Ontario has announced that the city of Ottawa will be progressing to stage 2 of opening the province back up. This will include some increased liberties surrounding recreational sports, which is some welcome good news. In regards to our club and organized soccer in general, some of the next important steps will include:

1. Ontario Soccer will be releasing their return to play protocol which will govern and apply to all clubs and academies in the province.
2. The city of Ottawa will have to approve the use of city fields for organized sports (originally planned for the beginning of July).

Once these steps are in place, Ottawa TFC will communicate with members the specific plans for getting back on the field as a club.

Thank you for your continued patience and diligence. It's nice to hear that our return to the pitch may not be too far away!

As always, the most up to date information from Ontario Soccer regarding COVID and return to play can be found here: <https://www.ontariosoccer.net/page/show/5697170-covid-19-updates>

Sincerely,
Ottawa TFC