



TO: Member Leagues/Clubs and Sanctioned Tournaments
FROM: Jen Fickett, Executive Director
DATE: March 12, 2020
RE: COVID-19: Ohio North Health & Travel Update

President
Paul R. Emhoff

Vice President
Tom Pickett

Secretary
Sarah Hodgson

Treasurer
Ronald Gedrich

District I
Commissioner
Scott MacMillan

District II
Commissioner
Nic Olechnowicz

District III
Commissioner
Oliver Condell

District IV
Commissioner
Paul Holdgate

As everyone is aware, the COVID-19 Virus (Coronavirus) and its impact on all of our local communities is front and center of our attention right now. It continues to be a very fluid situation and will continue to evolve. The safety of all of our members continue to be our primary focus.

As such, here is where we are at as of today:

- Governor Mike DeWine recommends INDOOR sporting events go on without spectators. At this time, DeWine said OUTDOOR sporting events can continue, but that may change.

<https://www.news5cleveland.com/news/continuing-coverage/coronavirus/gov-dewine-recommends-sports-without-spectators-remote-learning-at-colleges-to-slow-spread-of-coronavirus>

- US Youth Soccer further recommends suspension until further notice of all inter-state competition that involves air travel (travel between 2+ states or more). Other means of travel involving a significant distance and/or where specific cases have been reported should be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.
- As of right now, any Ohio North State League, State Cup and/or Presidents Cup games are on as scheduled. Again, this is subject to change as we move forward.
- U.S. Soccer recommends the guidelines below.

U . S . S O C C E R F E D E R A T I O N



STATE
ASSOCIATION

With the increasing number of cases of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) being reported across the world, U.S. Soccer's leadership has reviewed and will continue to monitor all domestic programming and competitions. As part of this review, we are working closely in partnership with the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and international agencies including the State Department, United States Olympic & Paralympic Committee (USOPC), International Olympic Committee (IOC) and FIFA in real time to guide decisions on travel and participation. Our main priority is the safety and well-being of our players, coaches and referees and we will continue to update you as the situation requires.

Best Practices for Health

There is currently no vaccine to prevent the Coronavirus. The best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed. Everyday preventive actions should be taken:

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.
- Follow the CDC's recommendations for using a facemask.
 - CDC does not recommend that people who are well wear a facemask to protect themselves from respiratory diseases, including Coronavirus.
 - Facemasks should be used by people who show symptoms to help prevent the spread of the disease.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom; before eating; and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
- If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol. Always wash hands with soap and water if hands are visibly dirty.

Additionally, there are a number of different resources and communications from the CDC regarding the Coronavirus that [you can watch HERE](#).

Ohio North recommends that you carefully look at your own programming, including events and travel that require air transportation, and stay in contact with local and state departments of Public Health with further questions. We believe these entities will continue to provide you with timely and relevant information on the Coronavirus.

Future updates on Ohio North programming will be posted on our [website](#) and/or shared as timely as possible.