



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



**STATE
ASSOCIATION**

This communication serves as an update to our communication posted this morning [[MEMO](#)].

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 continues to be our primary focus.

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

- Governor DeWine has banned mass gatherings of 100 or more people. However, this does have an exclusion for family members and essential personnel at athletic events. He has further indicated that schools will be closed for a minimum of three (3) weeks.

That being said, in order to assist with the on-going effort to assess the impact and combat the spread of the Coronavirus:

- Major League Soccer has suspended all games for 30 days.
- U.S. Soccer has postponed or cancelled all scheduled events through **April 30**. This includes:
 - All National Team programming: Men's, Women's, Youth and Extended National Teams
 - Development Academy regular season matches
 - Spring Cup
 - All Coaching Education
 - Referee Courses
 - Talent Identification opportunities
- US Youth Soccer has suspended all National and Regional League games through **April 15**.

In a coordinated effort with US Youth Soccer and U.S. Soccer, Ohio North will follow suit effective immediately for all Ohio North ONPL and State League games, Cup Series games, ODP, TOPSoccer and coaching education through **April 15**. Ohio North further recommends member leagues to follow the same course of action.

All other activities, including tournaments and team training, should review and assess a course of action on a case-by-case basis.

It is critical that all of our members are aware of the most current and accurate information regarding Ohio North Soccer related activities as events unfold in the coming days and weeks. This can be found on our website at OhioNorthSoccer.org and social media channels @OhioNorthSoccer

More information will follow in the coming days regarding Ohio North Cup Series qualifications and timelines and the impact on the season in the days to come. We truly appreciate everyone's understanding and flexibility during these unprecedented times.

Below are U.S. Soccer's guidelines regarding best practices for health.

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



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](#).

Our primary commitment and focus always are the health and safety of our U.S. Soccer family.