



TO: Member Leagues/Clubs and Sanctioned Tournaments
FROM: Jen Fickett, Executive Director
DATE: March 27, 2020
RE: COVID-19: Ohio North Update

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All of us continue to have our lives changed by the global COVID-19 pandemic. There has been very little new information from our governing bodies; however, the US government, [Centers for Disease Control & Prevention \(CDC\)](#) and local and [state authorities](#) have continued to restrict activities and will seemingly continue for the foreseeable future.

US Youth Soccer currently plans to review its current suspension of play on April 1. We anticipate more information and direction at that time concerning play beyond April 15. Recently other youth organizations affiliated with U.S. Soccer announced their suspension of activities. US Youth Soccer had already been proactive and suspended activities so no further action on their part was necessary.

Ohio North will continue to monitor and update our membership. Our Board of Directors have been meeting on a weekly basis to discuss contingency planning and even though our State Office is currently closed, our staff is available to further assist you through email. In the near future, Ohio North will post a "COVID-19 FAQ" page on our [website](#) to provide updates and to answer member questions.

We commend those of you who continue to reach out through social media to your players and coaches with information, fun challenges and support. Times like this can be stressful for our players and families and while we can't participate in active in-person sessions, your interactions are extremely meaningful and give a sense of community.

Our main priority is the safety and well-being of everyone. Governor DeWine's actions have been aggressive because stopping the spread of COVID-19 is extremely important. Thus, please do your part to help flatten the curve.

Player Challenges & Coach Webinars

Watch Ohio North's social media channels as we launch our own player challenges as well as grassroots and premier coach webinars targeting the various levels of coaching motivation and expertise. We are thrilled to have April Heinrichs, former captain of the WNT 1991 World Champions, WNT Head Coach of the 2004 Olympic Champions and WNT Technical Director who worked alongside former WNT Head Coach Jill Ellis, join us for a webinar on Thursday, April 2 at 4:00 PM. More information, including webinar details, to follow.

SBA/Disaster Loan Program

Ohio North recognizes that that the global COVID-19 pandemic is creating stress and financial hardships for many. The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) has created the [COVID-19: Small Business Guidance & Loan Resources](#) for those anticipating financial hardship caused by the pandemic.



Loans are available to small businesses and private, non-profit organizations in designated areas of a state or territory to help alleviate economic injury caused by COVID-19.

For additional information, please contact the SBA disaster assistance customer service center at 1-800-659-2955 or disastercustomerservice@sba.gov.