



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

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As the State of Ohio continues its reopening process, we wanted to bring everyone up to speed of where we are at with regards to return to activity, training and games.

US Youth Soccer (USYS) has established a Return to Play Committee led by Tim Turney, USYS Vice President and U.S. Soccer board member. The Committee is scheduled to have the first draft for review by the 55 State Associations sometime in the next few days. Understanding that each State Association will have individual variances depending on local situations, these guidelines after being established so we can have some level of consistency where possible.

This is also happening at the National level as USYS CEO Skip Gilbert sits on a panel with 20 other sport organizations within the United States Olympic and Paralympic Committee (USOPC). All of these National Governing Bodies (NGBs) want there to be a level of consistency of messaging and coordination across the full youth sports spectrum.

At the State level, Governor DeWine has formed a task force on return to activity and play for youth sports-related activities. We are hopeful we will be given some direction and timeline in the coming days/weeks.

The State of Indiana has already begun this process. We want to share with you their return to activity protocols, not to imply this is what the recommendations will be from the State of Ohio or Ohio North, rather that it gives a sense of what the timelines and structure could look like. We encourage you to take a moment to review these protocols to assist your league or club in appropriate future planning purposes.

- State of Indiana: [Back on Track Program](#)
- Indiana Soccer Association: [Return to Activity](#)

In the meantime, until we receive amendments to the last Public Order or further guidelines from the State of Ohio, Ohio North still has a suspension in place for all of our soccer activities, all Ohio North sanctioned tournaments and all Ohio North affiliated activities. If any league, club or tournament engages in these activities until authorized by Ohio North, this will be considered an unsanctioned activity and will not be covered by any State Association benefits or insurance. Please note, as the return to activity guidelines are released by the State of Ohio, it will probably be a few days until Ohio North makes its announcement. Like most of the Public Orders so far, there may be some elements not clearly defined that we may need to consult with the Ohio Department of Health.

We truly appreciate everyone's understanding and flexibility during these unprecedented times.

Ohio North COVID-19 Updates

Visit our website for the latest [Ohio North COVID-19 updates, FAQs and resources](#)



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