

August 19, 2020

Gabriola Soccer Association Return to Play Fall 2020

Dear Soccer Enthusiasts,

The Gabriola Soccer Association has been deemed a low risk club to return to play by Canada Soccer. On learning this, we have decided to open registration for youth soccer beginning Monday August 24th. BC Soccer has a multi stage plan for the return to soccer play, and we are currently in stage 1. Stage 1 allows for only skills training with no small sided games. Stage 2 allows for the return to game play, but there is no date specified for when this can occur. In light of this information, the GSA Board has decided to significantly reduce fees for this upcoming season.

Players looking for game play will have one practice a week and if it is allowed by transitioning into stage 2, one game on Saturdays. Early bird registration for these players will be from August 24th to September 20th at a cost of \$150, after that date the fee will be \$175. For younger players up to grade 3, the option of the 'I love to play Soccer' program will again be available. These players will have one practice a week and the cost is \$100.

For those parents of children who would be interested in league play, there is one more added unknown for the moment. Stage 2 allows for small sided games but isn't clear on whether or not travel for games between small communities like Gabriola and Nanaimo would be permitted. When we move into stage 2 and if we find normal league play is not an option, the GSA plans to have some sort of mini league games on Saturdays here on Gabriola.

This, like everything right now, is an evolving situation and may be subject to change at any given time. We hope to offer as much soccer as we possibly can but safety is paramount. Precise dates on when we will begin our programs will be released as soon as possible, but we are aiming to get going by mid- September and hope to run until March. Coaches and assistants will have Covid protocols to follow and we will do our best to make sure everyone stays safe and has fun.

Please refer to our website at gabriolasoccer.ca to register.

Cheers,

Gabriola Soccer Association