



Portsmouth Soccer Club Family,

First I want to make sure that everyone is healthy and doing well. I am sure that even if it is not the front question on your mind with everything going on at this time that at some point you have wondered what is happening with the Spring 2020 Soccer Season. Well just to let you know that the Board of Directors has been in contact regularly on this subject, we have been evaluating information available to us from many different sources. At the moment there is not a consistent answer from the many differing organizations that we work with, below I will lay out what we are getting from the partners we work with and then lay out our current plan moving forward for this season.

The City of Portsmouth following mandates from the Governor of Virginia currently has all city run parks and recreation facilities closed in order to meet the social distancing guidelines until April 23.

Virginia Youth Soccer Association (VYSA) is following the original recommendation of US Soccer suspending all soccer related activities until at least April 12.

Virginia Soccer League is following the recommendations of VYSA.

Tidewater Advance Soccer League (TASL) has cancelled their Spring 2020 Season.

All of the recommendations do not matter as long as Federal, State and Local Governments are mandating social distancing guidelines and limiting the sizes of gatherings. I expect as the recommended dates above get closer the organizations will meet again and review those dates moving them to meet governmental mandates.

Making hard decisions without complete information is something that we are trying to avoid, and we want to assure you that the health and safety of our staff, players and families are our first priority. If Local, State and Federal governments allow we are committed to move forward with some sort of programming for the season. The Board of Directors of Portsmouth Soccer Club is considering many different options and making plans to run a modified season if possible, working to get all games in but doing so in a shortened time frame. Unfortunately, outside of the U4, U6 and U9 Jr. Academy our plans rely on other organizations to provide teams for us to have matches with so getting everyone on board with this is the part that is going to be tricky.

Much like everyone reading this email, the past two weeks has ushered in many significant challenges. We have been in constant communication with other clubs and leagues within our state. Best practices are being established. The vast majority of clubs have adopted the "patient" approach that we are taking. I promise that our best efforts are being put forth to resolve this situation to maintain the best long-term opportunities for our membership, our community and our club. As soon as we are able to make final decisions regarding the spring season, we will quickly communicate that information to you.

Thank you for your continued patience and support during this difficult time. We will get through this and be able to enjoy the many benefits of youth soccer for years to come.

Jimmy Holland  
Commissioner  
Portsmouth Soccer Club