

Good Morning NRU Travel,

We wanted to reach out to you at this juncture as no doubt, there are a litany of questions and uncertainties as we approach the start of our fall training, and with fingers crossed, fall playing season. As you are all aware, things are very fluid right now and we continue to closely monitor the situation in the country and more specifically our community, that will determine all the details of this season and how it eventually pans out. To that end, our club has developed a comprehensive return-to-play policy and phased reopening plan (attached to this email). This policy is based on the recommendations and insights of both the health and soccer authorities nationally, in addition to that of our commonwealth and the local authorities. We have continued to be guided by these respective bodies and will continue to map our course based on the recommendations of these professionals in their respective fields.

Note: We have steadfastly maintained and advised that should you or your family's personal preference, situation, or circumstance lead you to a decision that you are not yet ready to return to train and/or play, we as a club respect that decision without prejudice or question, and assure you that NRU will always endeavor to be a home for your child and their soccer playing when it is the right time in your estimation for your family to return to the field. The health and safety of our family's is first and foremost in our planning, under the directives and suggestions delivered by the relevant authorities. Please note that we are currently in the Phase 3 of the return-to-play protocol. In this phase team training and matches are allowed with the following guidance:

Participants/Coaches/Spectators should maintain a minimum of 10 feet apart where practical--From the Virginia Youth Soccer Association's (VYSA) Phase 3 Guidelines: "Per Virginia Governor's Office, matches are permitted during Phase 3".

Please read the attached PDF document in its entirety as it reflects the most current knowledge and policies established to keep our club and community safe.

Tentative schedule

We have adopted an incremental approach to the fall season and made the following decisions which of course are subject to being amended should things change within our state and region. There have been a lot of things flying around as to the plans such as proposed tentative friendly matches in Richmond, but based on discussions we continually have with many of the stakeholders involved in decision-making, we felt as a club, we were not ready to take our families to that area given their current rates of transmission of the virus. See below:

- Practices will start as early as 8/3 but no later than 8/10 and follow out our Return to Play Guidelines
- In lieu of CCL matches in Richmond against FC Richmond on 8/16 (originally planned as reciprocation for their CCL Premiership's teams visit here last fall), we will schedule inter-team internal club games on that weekend to keep play as local as possible that weekend. We know that there are also State Cup tryouts that Saturday, so the game schedule will be designed with that in mind.
- Teams are invited to participate in the Kimoyo Cup being hosted by VBR and Valley on August 22/23. At the moment we are working daily with the tournament organizers and the hosting clubs to see if this would be an appropriate place to take our teams. Team managers and

coaches will be reaching out to you, if they already haven't to gauge the comfort level of your respective teams for playing in this event. Please note that as of late evening yesterday according to the tournament organizers, the teams who are presently enrolled in this event are mostly from the hosting clubs with a few other regional teams within our state also registered. We were told that NC clubs at this time do not have permission to travel out of state for game play and other neighboring states were yet to register teams though there is an expectation that perhaps a few WV teams have been inquiring about participating. Again, our thought process in this regard is to keep ourselves as localized as possible as we slowly return to competition play.

- We expect the first league games to take place on the final weekend of August or the weekend after Labor Day depending on the next directives of the Governor. The various leagues are aware of the concerns that families and clubs have at this time and have been working on scheduling that is initially localized and grows out from there. In our respective leagues, the teams that we have been pitted to play include VBR, CVU, SVU, CSC, Valley, Salem, etc depending on the league. As soon as we know more about these matches we will disseminate the information.

We appreciate your understanding and flexibility during these fluid and challenging times. We look forward to seeing our players on the pitch again this fall.

If you have any questions, please contact the club office at info@nrusa.org or reach out to myself at ed@nrusa.org and Technical Director Steve Oakey at td@nrusa.org.

kindest Regards and Safe Health,
 Leslie