

Manitoba Soccer Association Inc.

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Dear MSA Members,

The provincial health authorities confirmed on April 27th, 2021 their concern about the increase of COVID-19 cases, including variants, and rising positivity rates in Manitoba. As a result, new health orders have been provided that will be in effect until May 25th, 2021.

The new health orders still allow for outdoor and indoor sporting activities, however, there are restrictions and clarifications that must be followed.

The orders now allow for **ONE** caregiver (parent or guardian) per youth (U18 and under) to watch a youth sporting activity. The orders do not allow for spectators (parent, guardian, or family members) to attend any soccer activities for senior (18+) soccer.

Specifically, the orders for outdoor organized sporting activities (which includes practices, exhibition games, and competition) state:

- Only one caregiver (parent or guardian) for each minor (player under the age of 18) participating in a sporting activity at an outdoor sporting facility may watch the sporting activity and must maintain a separation of at least two metres from each other.
- No additional spectators are permitted at sporting activities taking place at outdoor sporting facilities.

For indoor sporting activities (practices and training only with limitations on numbers as outlined in the RTP protocols) the orders state:

- Only one caregiver (parent or guardian) for each minor (player under the age of 18) participating in a sporting activity at an indoor sporting facility may watch the sporting activity if the capacity restrictions are followed and must maintain a separation of at least two metres from each other.
- No additional spectators are permitted at sporting activities taking place at an indoor sporting facility.

Both the MSA Outdoor and Indoor RTP documents have been updated to reflect the new orders. They are attached and can also be accessed on the MSA website.

As evident by how quickly the orders have changed from last week, we remind our Members that we must adhere to the MSA RTP protocols and follow the provincial health orders to help avoid a full shut down of the province, which would include soccer activities. Please be reminded that the protocols are in place to keep players on the field so they can continue to receive both the physical and mental health benefits sports can provide.

Thank you,

Héctor Vergara
Executive Director