



Cancelled - 2020 PYSL Fall Recreational Soccer Season

Good Evening PYSL Families,

First and foremost, I hope everyone is staying healthy during these tough times we find ourselves in! Secondly, I really want to thank everyone for being so patient and understanding as we have been watching and waiting for what would happen with Covid-19, what guidance we may receive from state and local authorities and what all of this would mean for PYSL Fall Rec Soccer.

Things have been changing daily in San Diego and Calif. Businesses have opened/then closed, schools were set to open, then they weren't, high school sports have been postponed and just recently, a large percentage of colleges and universities have postponed their fall sports as well. While the latest trends appear to be headed in the right direction; with everything that has been happening in the State and the continued postponement and cancellation of activities, there is still no clear path, timeline or guidance to begin to head back toward normal group activities.

It is with a heavy heart that I must inform everyone that PYSL has made the difficult decision to cancel this year's Fall Rec Season for all ages. As mentioned in my previous update, we are unable to indefinitely delay the season like high school and college sports are trying to do. There really is no indication of when we would even be able to hold normal practices, or game days with the number of kids and families we have at the fields at times. Also, according to the four phases of "Return-to-Play", we are able to operate and provide a "normal" league for everyone only once in Phase 4. Currently we are still in Phase 1, with a minimum of 2 weeks in each phase. Note: we have been in Phase 1 for over a month. So, in the best case, we are probably still at least 4-6 weeks away from even Phase 3. Unfortunately, starting a season in mid/late October or even early November for Rec is just not possible.

This is the hardest message I have had to convey in all of my years of youth sports. Between baseball and soccer, I have spent nearly 15 years coaching at all levels, volunteering on boards and have done everything I could to make sports accessible to as many kids as possible. To have to tell the kids and families we will not be having a Fall Rec season is difficult. We held out as long as we could, but a final decision and clarity for everyone has come. Definitely not the outcome we were hoping for.

While we will be unable to provide the Rec Soccer experience you have come to expect over the last few years, PYSL through our competitive branch, PVSC (Poway Vaqueros Soccer Club) is looking at alternate possibilities to allow kids to get out on the field in some capacity this fall. We are looking to see if we can provide a clinic / training type program for Rec players to still get out on the field and train with our PVSC coaches. If we can facilitate a program that allows the kids to come out and allow kids to continue playing soccer this fall, while still adhering to state and local health ordinances, we will send out information and

updates immediately.

If you are interested in playing at a higher level, our competitive teams are currently on the field training during Phase I and still have roster spots available on many teams. If you are interested in checking out our competitive program and coaching at a prorated rate, this may be a golden opportunity to come out, train and see if it is a fit for you. If interested, please contact our Director of Coaching, Becca Cheesman (Becca@pvscpoway.com), with your name, birth year and experience and she can put you in touch with the appropriate coach and team and get you on the field with them.

Please stay tuned for additional updates regarding a possible alternate fall program as we are working on that as quickly as possible to get notice out. Additionally, as stated from the beginning when we opened registration, refunds will be provided, and they will be automatically given. There is no action required on your part and we will begin processing them right away.

If you have any questions or would like additional information on anything, please feel free to contact me at any time. Thank you again for your understanding and wishing everyone good health and hope to see you soon!!!

Eric Schmid

Director of Recreation, PYSL

