



Michigan State Youth Soccer Association

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) as of April 1, 2020*

**subject to change*

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General Questions

What guidance is MSYSA using to make its decision about a return-to-play date for the Spring 2020 season, and about whether to postpone or cancel certain MSYSA programs/events?

MSYSA is using guidance from the State of Michigan, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, CDC, US Youth Soccer, US Soccer, and MSYSA's insurance carrier.

If the start to the Spring 2020 season is delayed significantly, can our Spring season programming dates be adjusted (past the try-out date) in order to get more games or playing time in? How late can the 'Spring' season go?

Yes, spring programming dates may continue beyond the current try-out date in order to get more playing time in. MSYSA is prepared to allow the spring season to continue through July 31, if needed. The Fall season (in GotSoccer) begins on August 1, 2020.

If MSYSA further delays or cancels the Spring 2020 season, but soccer is not canceled in a different state, can my team travel there to play in a tournament?

No. MSYSA will not affiliate, sanction, or insure activities, such as team travel, until it is deemed safe to return to play in Michigan first.



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If MSYSA cancels the Spring 2020 season, can our club/league still decide to continue our soccer programming anyway?

MSYSA will not affiliate, sanction, or insure activities of any kind until it is deemed safe to return to play.

Do I get a refund if my club decides not to participate in the spring season if/when soccer resumes?

Please make contact with your child's club. Team/Club fees paid by parents directly to clubs should be addressed with your child's club and not with MSYSA. MSYSA does not intervene, as a third party, in parent/club financial agreements/obligations.

Can I transfer to a new club if my club dissolves or chooses not to play the spring season?

Yes, if the team or club dissolves, and if approval is granted by MSYSA, because the transfer request would be after the MSYSA transfer window. If the team/club chooses not to participate in the spring season once soccer resumes, please contact the MSYSA State Office for assistance or with questions.

Will transfers be entertained if/when soccer resumes? Any flexibility due to circumstances surrounding COVID-19?

Please contact the MSYSA State Office for assistance or with questions.

Spring 2020 Registration

Is MSYSA pushing back the spring registration deadlines?

Yes. For now, the Spring 2020 Registration deadline has been pushed back to April 30, 2020 (subject to change). This means that April 30, 2020 is the deadline to submit registrations (generate invoices in GotSoccer) and make a final registration payment to MSYSA. MSYSA has been actively working with our direct member organizations (e.g., clubs & leagues) to delay spring registration payments, upon request, until the final registration deadline. MSYSA has already offered clubs/leagues the option to disregard the initial registration invoice and postpone making a registration payment to MSYSA until final registrations are due.

What if my initial spring registration payment was already processed by MSYSA?

For those organizations that made an early payment to MSYSA, if your payment was processed successfully, you will see it reflected as a credit balance on your registration account in GotSoccer. If you don't see a credit balance in GotSoccer, it probably means MSYSA has not yet processed your



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payment (more info below). You can also confirm that your payment was processed if you see that those funds have cleared your club/league bank account. Please keep in mind that any existing credit balances for registration will be refunded back to clubs/leagues at the end of the seasonal year (more info below).

What if I already sent in my initial spring registration payment to MSYSA, but it hasn't yet been processed (e.g., check not yet deposited)?

For those organizations who sent in a check payment to MSYSA that has not yet been deposited, MSYSA will plan to process your payment unless you specifically notify Danielle Henry requesting that we do not process it. You will know if your payment has not yet been processed because those funds did not clear from your club/league bank account, and because you should not see a credit balance (equal to the amount of your payment check) on your registration account in GotSoccer. Please email Danielle Henry at dhenry@michiganyouthsoccer.org for assistance or with questions. If we received a payment from you but we did not receive notification of your request to postpone payment, your initial payment check will be processed.

What if I haven't sent in an initial spring registration payment to MSYSA yet? Do I still have to?

For those organizations who have not yet sent in a payment check to MSYSA, please contact Danielle Henry at dhenry@michiganyouthsoccer.org for assistance with questions. If MSYSA does not hear from you, we will assume and expect that your initial payment will be received at the MSYSA State Office in the coming days.

What about the April 25 registration deadline?

For now, MSYSA has extended the final April 25 registration deadline to April 30 (subject to change). We will communicate any future updates about registration deadlines as soon as those decisions are made, which will likely be when we have a better outlook on the Spring 2020 season. For now, for all clubs/leagues (including those who opted to skip the initial payment) – please plan to remit final payment to MSYSA based on your final registrations that will be invoiced in GotSoccer. Your amount owed will be shown as your registration account balance in GotSoccer, after you have completed your invoicing. Again, the current deadline is April 30 (subject to change) for your player and team official registration data to be submitted/invoiced in GotSoccer, along with your final payment made to MSYSA.



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What about late fees?

For now, the registration deadline is April 30 (subject to change). If the April 30 registration deadline is delayed, MSYSA will evaluate the late fee schedule at that time and will communicate that information accordingly to clubs and leagues.

Aside from making spring registration payments, what should we do about submitting (invoicing) our registrations in GotSoccer?

MSYSA would suggest that clubs and leagues do not submit (invoice) any new registrations in GotSoccer until we have a better idea on the outlook of the Spring 2020 season. For those who have already invoiced some registrations for the upcoming season, it is possible that you may have to adjust or redo your Spring invoicing to account for fluctuations in registrations. If that is the case, please contact Danielle Henry at dhenry@michiganyouthsoccer.org so we can work through that together.

If there is no Spring 2020 season, what happens to the money I paid to MSYSA as my initial spring registration payment?

At the conclusion of the seasonal year, any existing credit balances on registration accounts in GotSoccer will be refunded back to clubs and leagues. If the Spring 2020 season is canceled, MSYSA will issue and mail a refund check back to your club equal to the amount of your credit balance showing in GotSoccer for registration. MSYSA will communicate via email further about the timing expected for refund checks at a later date, as applicable.

What if MSYSA does not cancel the Spring 2020 season, but my club or league decides to cancel our Spring season programming? Do I have to submit any registrations? Do I still get a refund?

If your club/league decides to cancel your Spring season programming, you do not need to submit any registrations to MSYSA for the Spring season. However, you must inform MSYSA that your club/league has canceled your Spring programming, so that we know we will not be receiving any additional registrations from your organization. Then, we will also know that your registration account balance is final for the seasonal year, and we can confirm the amount of any refund owed back to your organization for registration. Clubs and leagues will receive a refund from MSYSA if they had submitted an initial payment toward spring registration. The refund will be equal to the existing credit balance on your registration account in GotSoccer at the conclusion of the seasonal year.



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If the Spring 2020 season is delayed significantly, will there be any reduced/discounted registration fees since we are only participating in a partial season?

MSYSA is not currently considering reducing registration fees for an abbreviated spring season but this could change.

If the Spring 2020 season does not take place, what happens with registrations for teams who obtained 'early pass cards' and used those rosters/pass cards to participate in tournaments (but did not otherwise participate in any official league season)? Do those teams need to be registered?

If teams DID participate in some capacity earlier this seasonal year (but after the Fall season), the teams do need to be registered. For clubs/leagues that conducted any winter programming or participation; those registrations need to be submitted to MSYSA (and paid for).

State Cup, Junior State Cup, Midwest Regional and National Championships

Will State Cup and Junior State Cup resume?

Unfortunately, MSYSA has canceled the 2020 Spring State Cup and 2020 Junior State Cup. This was a difficult decision that MSYSA did not take lightly. Many alternative options for State Cup were considered such as pushing dates back into the summer, eliminating preliminary games and going straight to a Quarterfinal or Semifinal round, changing the format to a series of friendly games, etc. However, several factors solidified our decision:

- Stress on Families – Many MSYSA families are experiencing economic and/or psychological stress due to COVID-19. When soccer resumes, many may be unable or unwilling to travel. MSYSA does not want to place additional burdens on families.
- Potential for Harm - As of April 1, the spring season in Michigan has been postponed through April 30 with a potential re-start date of May 1. If soccer were to resume May 1, teams and players would need time to get into soccer shape. Placing young athletes into competitive environments without the proper fitness and conditioning is potentially harmful to them.
- Focus on League Play – Many soccer clubs, and their coaches, rely on registration fees. At this point in time, MSYSA is hoping to offer an abbreviated spring season. If spring soccer is able to resume, whether that be May 1 or another date, MSYSA believes our focus should be on uniting our communities and celebrating the sport, instead of just winning championships.

If State Cup and Junior State Cup are canceled, will teams get a refund?

Yes. Those State Cup and Junior State Cup teams (or clubs) who paid by credit card will be refunded by credit card. Those who initially paid by check will be refunded by check. A timeline for refunds will be communicated to clubs/teams by email in the near future.



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What is the plan for the US Youth Soccer Regional and National Championships?

US Youth Soccer announced on March 31, 2020, that the Midwest Regional Championships and the US Youth Soccer National Championships are canceled.

What will happen with club tryouts? How will this impact State Cup?

MSYSA is currently discussing club tryouts. When decisions are made and information is known, this will be communicated to clubs and leagues via email.

Director's Academy

What's the plan for the Director's Academy?

For now, assume that soccer will resume on May 1 and the Director's Academy will also resume then. As each team is already scheduled for only 6 games, MSYSA does not plan to decrease the number of games per team. The season may be extended to allow teams to play their games. The length of extension will be communicated by MSYSA to teams/clubs at a later date via email.

If there are additional delays and soccer does not resume on May 1, MSYSA will still aim to have some sort of spring season. Our hope is that every team can at least play 4 games – even if that means playing the games in June and July. Additional information will be communicated to teams/clubs by MSYSA via email as more is known.

If circumstances out of our control prevent any sort of spring season, clubs will be refunded a portion of their programming fees to reflect the missed spring season and the missed Junior State Cup. Team registration fees will not be refunded, as the teams did register and played with MSYSA during the fall season.

What if soccer resumes but my team decides not to participate in the Director's Academy program?

For the Director's Academy program, notify Sarah Shiguango at sarah@michiganyouthsoccer.org within 3 days of official word that competition will resume. MSYSA will evaluate on a case-by-case basis.

What will happen with club tryouts? How will this impact Director's Academy?

MSYSA is currently discussing club tryouts. When decisions are made and information is known, this will be communicated to clubs and leagues via email.



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National League

What's the plan for the National League Conferences?

Decisions about the National League Conferences (NLC) will come from US Youth Soccer. MSYSA will assist with sharing communication from US Youth Soccer to the NLC teams.

If there is no spring season for NLC teams, will refunds be given?

If there is no spring season, MSYSA will refund the team registration fees. However, decisions on whether to refund the \$550 NLC fees will be at the discretion of US Youth Soccer.

If there is a partial spring season, MSYSA will evaluate the question of refunds once more is known.

What if soccer resumes but my team decides not to participate in the NLC?

Unless US Youth Soccer releases a statement with a different process, please notify MSYSA within 3 days of official word that competition will resume. MSYSA will direct your inquiry to US Youth Soccer. Any decisions on credits and/or refunds are at the discretion of US Youth Soccer.

What will happen with club tryouts? How will this impact National League Conferences?

MSYSA is currently discussing club tryouts. When decisions are made and information is known, this will be communicated to clubs and leagues via email.

MSPSP

What's the plan for MSPSP?

If soccer resumes May 1, MSPSP will also resume at that time. If there are additional delays and soccer does not resume May 1, MSPSP hopes to have an abbreviated season (each team plays 5-6 matches) in which case the season may be extended. The length of such extension, and its implications, would be communicated at a later date to teams/clubs as decided by MSPSP.

If the spring season requires cancellation due to circumstances out of our control, additional information will be communicated teams and clubs via email by MSPSP.



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When can we expect a decision on MSPSP either way?

For now, MSPSP remains hopeful that soccer will resume on May 1. If/when there are additional delays, MSYSA & MSPSP will communicate with the teams/clubs via email.

What will happen to our MSPSP schedule if our season is shortened?

Teams may see their schedule change (example: not playing every opponent in your division). MSPSP is likely to consider a 5 or 6 game schedule. Using the existing schedule, matches could be removed until teams each have 5 or 6 matches. In this case, it's possible some of the matches would need to be rescheduled (reschedule fees would not apply). All teams within the same division would play the same number of matches. Different divisions could play a different number of matches (5 or 6 matches).

What's the plan if there is no MSPSP spring season?

Spring 2020 team registration fees would be refunded. More information will be provided to teams and clubs by MSPSP via email if this transpires.

How could an abbreviated season or no season impact MSPSP Fall 2020 / Spring 2021 divisioning?

MSPSP will review and consider how an abbreviated season or no season could impact Fall 2020 and Spring 2021 divisioning and will communicate accordingly with teams and clubs.

What if soccer resumes but my team decides not to participate in MSPSP?

Please notify MSPSP within 3 days of official word that competition will resume. MSPSP will evaluate on a case-by-case basis.

What will happen with club tryouts? How will this impact MSPSP?

MSYSA is currently discussing club tryouts. When decisions are made and information is known, this will be communicated to clubs and leagues via email.

ODP & ODP 101

Will ODP Regional Camp be postponed, or even canceled?

This is a US Youth Soccer decision. At this time, USYS plans to move forward with the ODP Regional Camp taking place at SVSU in Saginaw, MI in July. The Boys camp runs July 6-10 and the Girls camp runs



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July 11-15. The cost is \$600. If anything changes, Brandon Francis from MSYSA will be in touch, via email, with participants.

Will the ODP ID Weekend (Tryouts) be postponed, or even canceled?

At this time, the ODP ID Weekend has not been postponed or canceled. We hope to hold the event July 31- August 2, 2020 at Canton Independence Park in Canton, MI. The cost to register is \$125, if registered before July 11, 2020. If anything changes, Brandon Francis from MSYSA will be in touch, via email, with registered participants.

What will happen with ODP 101/GK Academy Spring registrations?

The ODP 101/GK Academy Spring sessions have been canceled. Spring registrations will be transferred to the Summer dates by MSYSA, unless otherwise requested. MSYSA is offering full refunds to those individuals who are unable to attend the Summer sessions. For those who registered for both Spring and Summer sessions, a partial refund for the Spring component will be provided. Please email Brandon Francis at bfrancis@michiganyouthsoccer.org for assistance or with questions.

Will ODP 101/GK Academy Summer Training sessions be postponed or canceled?

At this time, the ODP 101/GK Academy Summer sessions remain as scheduled. If anything changes, Brandon Francis from MSYSA will be in touch, via email, with registered participants.

Tournament Sanctioning

What will happen to my sanctioned tournament and sanctioning fee?

Currently, MSYSA will not sanction or insure any affiliated tournaments through April 30, 2020. However, this could change. Tournament Directors are encouraged to contact Brandon Francis, MSYSA Programs Coordinator, at bfrancis@michiganyouthsoccer.org, on rescheduling tournaments impacted by this temporary pause.

Can I cancel my tournament (due to COVID-19) even if soccer resumes?

Yes. The MSYSA sanctioning fee and tournament bond is refundable. Please contact Brandon Francis at bfrancis@michiganyouthsoccer.org for assistance.

Can I still hold my tournament without MSYSA sanctioning?

If you choose to hold a non-MSYSA sanctioned tournament, MSYSA insurance coverage is NOT extended.



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MI Soccer Publication

Is the deadline for Michigan Soccer Tryout Guide going to be moved beyond April 3, 2020?

Decisions on the Michigan Soccer publications (printed and electronic) will be made at some point in the near future. Brandon Francis, bfrancis@michiganyouthsoccer.org, will make contact with all advertisers by email.

Will the publication still be mailed? If so, when?

Decisions on the Michigan Soccer publications (printed and electronic) will be made at some point in the near future. Brandon Francis, bfrancis@michiganyouthsoccer.org, will make contact with all advertisers by email.

My advertisement currently aligns with the MSYSA Tryout Date. Will there be any adjustments to the MSYSA Tryout Date? (I may need to adjust my ad)

MSYSA is currently discussing club tryouts. When decisions are made and information is known, this will be communicated to clubs and leagues via email.

Coach Education

What will happen with the US Soccer Coaching Education courses that are currently 'in-session', and those on the horizon?

This decision will be made by US Soccer. Currently, all US Soccer Coaching Education courses hosted by MSYSA have been suspended through April 30, 2020. MSYSA will reschedule pre-May 2020 courses to a later date. In addition, the National 'C' Course is moving forward as scheduled. Refunds by MSYSA will be considered on a case by case basis. Please contact Brandon Francis, bfrancis@michiganyouthsoccer.org for assistance or with questions.

Certificates of Insurance

Are we (MSYSA) issuing new Certificates of Insurance?

MSYSA will not issue new certificate of insurance, for any reason, until it is deemed safe to return to play. Please contact Julie Pearson at jpearson@michiganyouthsoccer.org for assistance or with questions.



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Are players/team officials covered if they contract COVID-19 at a soccer related activity?

No. MSYSA's secondary medical insurance coverages excludes illnesses, such as COVID-19.

Guest Player Pass Cards

If the spring season is canceled, can we secure a refund for Guest Player Pass Cards (GPPs) issued for the spring season issued prior to the temporary pause?

This is not known at the moment. Please contact Julie Pearson at jpearson@michiganyouthsoccer.org for assistance or with questions.

When will MSYSA be issuing Guest Player Pass Cards again?

MSYSA will not process any Guest Player Pass Card requests until it is deemed safe to return to play. Please contact Julie Pearson at jpearson@michiganyouthsoccer.org for assistance or with questions.

Tournament Only Teams

When will MSYSA be issuing Tournament Only Teams again?

MSYSA will not process Tournament Only Team requests until it is deemed safe to return to play. Please contact Julie Pearson at jpearson@michiganyouthsoccer.org for assistance or with questions.

If clubs are still taking registration for tournaments (e.g. Canton Cup) and they have a registration deadline, can we still get a Tournament Only Team, so their deadline is not missed?

Please contact the Tournament Director. MSYSA will not process Tournament Only Team Requests until it is deemed safe to return to play. Please contact Julie Pearson at jpearson@michiganyouthsoccer.org for assistance or with questions.