

Dear Soccer Parents,

I hope you all are safely navigating this once-in-a-lifetime (we hope) pandemic. The Board of Directors has been working to put together a soccer program that will provide the training necessary to improve your child's soccer skills while keeping them safe as possible. Alex Joslyn, Club COVID Director, has developed, with Board approval, a Return To Play plan. You can review this document along with Alex's Letter to Parents on the Club website. Based on that and the findings from our survey sent out in July, we will be offering an alternative program for the fall.

For our recreation program we will have training sessions each week for individual teams in their respective divisions (Minikicker, Nutmeg, Junior, and Senior). These will be held on specific nights and will be designed to develop each player's soccer skills while following our established COVID guidelines. As many respondents to our survey preferred training without scheduled games, we will not have a regular game schedule. Instead, we will offer a drop-in program for those wishing to play an organized game. These will be played on Saturday with specific fields and times still to be determined.

Additionally, to minimize common ball usage, we will be providing each player with their own ball for use both during the season and after so that they can keep working on their skills through the winter. Further, we will be providing reversible jerseys in lieu of uniforms so that we can more easily form teams during our pick-up sessions.

Finally, we are aware that this pandemic has created economic hardships throughout our community. To ensure that as many children as possible participate and to lessen the financial burden, the Club will be reducing the recreation registration fee to \$30 for the Fall season. This was not an easy decision for the Board as this will impact our financial reserves. However, we feel this is the best way for us to support a community that has been supporting us for 34 years.

These are difficult times for all of us. The Board of Directors remains committed to providing a soccer outlet for your children and will continue to work toward making that happen. Thank you for your continued support of Berlin Youth Soccer.

Sincerely,

John Riley
BYSA President