

Royal Soccer Club



Monday, June 1, 2020

RE: 2020 ROYAL SOCCER CLUB 'in-person' SUMMER CAMPS CANCELLED

Dear Parents & Campers,

It is with great regret that I inform you of the necessary decision to cancel all in-person summer camps for the 2020 season hosted by the Royal Soccer Club. We have made the decision to pivot our 'in-person' summer camp to our NEW Virtual **Royal** Camp.

This decision has not been made lightly. At Royal Soccer Club, we understand the importance of summer day camps like ours to thousands of children across the country who participate in them; the friends they meet; the life and soccer skills they develop and the physical activity they engage in each day. We plan 10 months of the year for our July and August camp operations. In the 28 years we've hosted camps across the country, we've never had to cancel camps like this, so you can imagine how heartbreaking this is for us too.

Health officials and Premiers have closed all schools for the rest of this school year as they clearly see challenges in maintaining a safe environment for the children. The safety and health of our campers is the most important thing to us and ultimately was the main reason for the decision. There are, however, many other factors that weigh into this decision including the ability to train staff, uncertainty of fields and facilities re-opening in time, reduced capacity of group sizes and, of course, the uncertainty of the impact the COVID-19 will have in the coming weeks and months. If the Premier allows summer camps to take place under new guidelines, our camps will still NOT be running given all the other uncertainty and safety risks, however, we will be offering our virtual camps.

What is the status of your 'in-person' camp registration with Royal Soccer Club?

Summer camps have been hit extremely hard financially due to this pandemic. Many camps and organizations, like Royal Soccer Club, are non-profit meaning there are little to no reserve funds available. Most of the costs incurred for summer camp (some 90%) occur in the 10 months leading up to the camp. Currently, most government funding does not help with the non-recoverable costs incurred to this point. As schools closed, so did summer camp registrations. When registrations came to a screeching halt, so did cash flow. Summer camps everywhere need the help of their communities to survive. We do not have the reserves to refund families.

Royal Soccer Club is blessed to have some amazing staff working tirelessly to design a Virtual Camp experience that is fun and engaging for your children. We have a great Virtual program prepared for you and are looking forward to offering it. By utilizing the assistance of government summer job subsidy, we hope to be able to retain many of these great staff.

But we cannot do it without you.

As a non-profit our costs for the season have been incurred without an opportunity to recover them and, with no reserves available, to give us the best chance to come back next year and for years to come, we need you to pick one of the following options. Please show your support for Royal Soccer Club.

Option 1: DONATION

- Convert your 2020 'in-person' summer camp registration fee to a donation to the Royal Soccer Club mission.

Option 2: VIRTUAL

- Convert your 2020 'in-person' summer camp registration fee to Virtual camp sessions for the equivalent amount. Attached is a brochure on our Virtual Camp program details. For example, if you paid \$180 for 'in-person' camp registration, that would be equivalent to approximately 3 Virtual camp sessions.

Option 3: CREDIT for future years

- Convert your 2020 'in-person' summer camp registration fee to a credit for next year or future years of 'in-person' summer camp. Summer camp registration fees will increase next year but you will receive the equivalent number of camp sessions at NO COST (**a savings of up to 20% to you**). For example, if you registered 2 weeks this summer, you would get 2 FREE weeks next summer, or future summer sessions.

[By clicking this link](#), it will take you to a form where you can select the option you choose. Our staff will be responding to every family that fills out this form (over 3000 families) to help with your conversion to one of these options. If you don't choose an option within 7 days, we will automatically convert your balance to a CAMP CREDIT for future years.

Please note we do not have reserves to handle refunds.

Thank you so very much for your understanding and for helping to support Royal Soccer Club in the past and for many more years to come!

Best regards,
Jeff Bryer
Program Director

Canada's #1 grassroots soccer camps!

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