

EMSA COVID 19 RESPONSE COMMITTEE
MINUTES
Thursday November 5, 2020 7pm
VIA ZOOM

Attendance: John L for intro, Eliana, Michelle, Simon, Tom, Chris G, Nelson R, Abbi L, Mark M, Daniel W, Mark L, Tom P, Chris, Anita
Regrets: Dave Humphrey, David Debenedictis, Jenn J, Jenn

1. Welcoming Remarks: John Laverty President of EMSA

- Welcome to this important committee, Respect work of Health Unit and doing best as can be. Thank club & league executives for joining, work together and help each other and understand what is happening in these ever changing times
- EMSA Board looking for advise and thinking this committee will provide us insight from varying perspectives, as there will be more difficult decisions coming forward.
- Will be dropping in on meetings in the future

- **Introduction to Committee Chairs:** Eliana, Michelle
 - Eliana; works in health care field was deployed on COVID unit for 5 months. Even though work in the field do not have all the answers, and will have to consult with our MLHU and other HU.
 - Michelle: new to board and wants to brainstorm to help each other.

2. Round Table Intro

- Simon: help brainstorm and provide feedback and use his contacts in areas to get answers.
- Dan - WOSL –risk management knowledge to committee
- Mark Locker - Tillsonburg FC– President perspective from little town, things we want to do and allow perspective from outside of London
- Mark M - Alliance: - involved in soccer for many years, different experience for other boards and what they are doing as their clubs
- Abbi - Whitecaps – if can contribute to help bring soccer back to happy to do so
- Tom - BMO Facility – London Optimist Sports Centre, very important to our players, coaches and members to get them involved in soccer again. Would like to see how we can keep soccer open and the centre engage so many people from 5yo to 70yo
- Chris – LOSL -what needs to be done to register players and have all information and willing to help and work together to get some solutions and answers
- Nelson – LAWSL – has played, coached and now Executive. Would like to see adults as well the youth to player and have solutions for both.
- Chris – EMDSL – move in the right direction and done safely

4 Review of Committee Description

Screenshare document and discussed

Open to Questions:

Do not see representation of small clubs on this committee, they will have more struggles than large clubs. Suggested to have more small clubs join or at least have their interests involved in this committee.

No further questions/comments.

5. EMSA REPORT Recent updates in response to the pandemic

Highlighted following OS Bulletins

- Oct 16 New Covid 19 Screening
- Oct 20 Ontario Government Announcement on COVID-19 Liability Protection Legislation – Bill 218
- Nov 3 –Government of Ontario announcement on new Public Health Unit framework

- Motion Passed last night at an EMSA Board meeting in regards to teams from out of district wanting to play into our district, look at how EMSA will communicate that to leagues. Hoping it may not be a huge impact but maintain the safety of our players. With every decisions being made looking at OS guidelines and HU

- Number allowed on field, did get confirmation max of 25 people on field, (11player 1 coach + 1 ref = 25) just got clarification on that so for this weekend will allow 12 players

- OS does have online courses continue to do courses how to make improvement and education.

- EMSA has been in contact with HU and will continue to update FAQ, available on website another way to get updates

6. Review of Sports for Life Document

Screenshare document and discussed

7. Group Discussion the impacts of the pandemic

- Comparison of how many clubs played Outdoor 2019 vs Outdoor 2020 as well as Indoor 19-20 and Indoor 20-21?

-LOSL believe may lose 1/3 of players, even younger adults were concerned to play due to COVID 19

-BMO not even 42% of what they had last year for registration from last Indoor to this Indoor. EMSA should be sending out survey to clubs to see how they have been impacted from COVID and what their plan may be for next outdoor/indoor

-Smaller clubs difficult time to participate, from experience what is the issue to keep them going?

- paper work, too much feeling overwhelmed

- fear about money

- need help to get players back

- April – May clubs were thinking it will just pass, didn't anticipate it was going to take so long

- maybe Mentorship and clubs help each other out on what needs to be done

- would like to see soccer district to reach out to other sports districts to consult one another and work/form a collaborative effort

- funding – what kind of funding is out there and to advise clubs/members of this funding

- no place to play/practice, gyms closed some areas (IE Tillsonburg) had no place to practice, losing interest from players, was suppose to have 13 teams for Outdoor 2019, worry losing more and more players.

- Insurance for gyms is an problem due to commercial liability COVID issues are not covered, schools aren't willing to take chance that club is cleaning well enough before and after they practice, as well as staffing issues etc.

8. Committee Initiatives – Next Step

Not just talk we need to do

Action Items:

Action Item: Survey out to membership on their impact on COVID – Eliana and Michelle (EMSA has Survey Monkey account that they can be used)

Action Item: Nelson to send a few suggestions about other small clubs

Action Item: Funding – Resources are out there. Bring resources together quickly google and look through and provide a short list. MICHELLE

Action Item: Practice facilities – up to board of education, municipality, community centers etc. Not sure we can do anything in this regard, possibly take back to EMSA Board for ideas?

Action Item: player registration # and club participation #s
Outdoor 2019 = 73 clubs = 15745 players
Outdoor 2020 - 16 Clubs = 3405 players

Indoor 19-20 = 40 clubs = 4788 Players
Indoor 20 -21 = 11 clubs - 2215 players (as of Nov 12, 2020) not all registered yet.

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, Dec 3, 2020

Adjournment 835pm

CARRYFORWARD

Collaboration with other district sports

ZOOM INVITE

Topic: EMSA COVID 19 Response Committee

Time: Dec 3, 2020 07:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86908905764?pwd=UEJSemdiaWVIV2txelZOQW9ieUdKZz09>

Meeting ID: 869 0890 5764

Passcode: 748361