



PYSL Covid-19 Registration Update

Dear PYSL families,

We trust that this is reaching you in good health and spirits.

In March PYSL promised to be there for our community once our children were able to safely play soccer again. Since making that promise, we have remained in constant contact with local officials, closely monitored emerging state guidelines, and met with regional soccer clubs all with the goal of answering the question- "when it will be safe to return to play?".

Now, over three months later, our community is beginning to cautiously re-open. Both the Governor and Cal North Soccer have issued guidelines for what a safe return to play should look like. This involves a phased approach to returning to normal soccer beginning with social distance trainings and eventually growing into group practices and small sided games.

STATUS OF YOUTH SPORTS IN PETALUMA:

The most recent order from the County of Sonoma Health Officer has authorized resuming organized group activity at our local parks. This activity is subject to many restrictions designed to ensure the health and safety of our young athletes and still prohibits tournaments, games and competitions of any kind.

Our partners at the City of Petaluma Parks and Recreation Department have worked hard to ensure a safe reopening of our community sports fields at Prince Park and East Washington Community Sports Complex. Just this week, these facilities have opened up for permitted activity, and the City of Petaluma has encouraged PYSL to prepare for some form of a Fall season.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR PYSL'S FALL SEASON?

Unfortunately, there are a lot of unknowns currently regarding what type of play will be safe and permitted in August. Many leagues have discussed forming small training groups who then scrimmage against each other, while other leagues are holding out hope that normal game play will resume. The difficulty lies in opening a registration for a season with so many unknowns. The last thing that PYSL would want to do is provide hope of a normal Fall Season, only to have to delay or cancel.

That being said, our kids (and many of us) need something to look forward to. Additionally, in order to be prepared once normal soccer activities are permitted to resume- PYSL needs to start getting an idea of how many of you will feel safe allowing your players to return. Because of this, PYSL has decided to open an "interest only" registration for our Fall program.

NO-FEE REGISTRATION

PYSL's Interest only registration is a no cost registration which will allow you to register your players for a Fall season and will also allow PYSL to begin to work behind the scenes to organize our age groups, team numbers, etc. When guidelines for safe return to play are eventually expanded to include games, PYSL will need to move quickly to tailor our program to those guidelines. Having a list of registered players will allow us to do that more efficiently.

This is a no obligation registration. We recognize that the decision to permit your children to return to play is a very personal one, and one that necessarily involves details that we simply can not provide at this time. Because of this, PYSL will contact all the registered players once we have the details of our Fall program- and give each family the opportunity to choose to participate or to opt out.

PYSL encourages you to register, even if you are on the fence about playing. Unfortunately, because of the short timeframes that PYSL anticipates having to work with to get a Fall program started, it is likely that we may only be able to provide services to those who registered their interest in advance. While we strive to include every child who wants to play, we can not guarantee that we will be able to "re-open" registration to add more players after the details of the program are released.

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER

Thanks to all of you for your understanding as we attempt to adapt to the new normal of youth sports. In the event we are unable to offer our normal Fall Season, we would like your opinion about what sort of other programs PYSL can provide to serve our community. Please take a minute to complete this survey to help guide our decisions in the future.

[HTTPS://WWW.SURVEYMONKEY.COM/R/RCNMM9Y](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/RCNMM9Y)

Please know that while we are all anxious to get back to some normalcy, our decisions regarding a return to play will be guided by the safety and well-being of your players. Stay Safe. We hope to see everyone on the pitch soon.



Sean A. Kensinger

President, Petaluma Youth Soccer League