

## HELENA YOUTH SOCCER ASSOCIATION

### COVID-19 AND OPT-OUT PROCEDURES FOR SPRING 2020 ACADEMY AND ARSENAL PLAYERS

Adopted by the Board of Directors: June 15, 2020

The World Health Organization has declared the coronavirus known as COVID-19 a worldwide pandemic. COVID-19 is contagious and is believed to be spread mainly from person-to-person contact. This declaration, and the subsequent actions of the Governor of Montana and other health organizations, resulted in a delay of the Spring 2020 club soccer season. The Helena Youth Soccer Association (HYSA) teams began indoor practices on January 5, 2020, which continued through March 8, 2020. However, practices were then discontinued pursuant to the Governor's orders. This resulted in a disruption of the Montana Youth Soccer Association (MYSA) spring league.

HYSA has taken the precautionary measures provided by the Governor of Montana, MYSA, and the Lewis and Clark County Health Department to protect against the possible spread of COVID-19 and related illnesses. These measures include, but are not limited to, cleaning and disinfecting protocols, physical distancing guidance, limitations on the number of people present for HYSA events, and the use of masks. MYSA is proceeding with a late spring/summer league in order to allow children to enjoy soccer. In conjunction with these entities, HYSA began practice for this summer league the week of May 18, 2020.

HYSA recognizes that some Academy and Arsenal players have opted-out of this summer league over concerns with COVID-19 or because the summer schedule conflicts with other family plans. At the same time, HYSA has incurred expenses for each registered player as of January 2020. These expenses include:

- USYS dues and backup medical insurance in the amount of \$30 per player
- Coaching registration fees in the amount of \$20 per team
- Indoor practice space and coaching stipends (vary per team)

The HYSA Board of Directors has determined that Academy and Arsenal players who opted out of the summer league prior to May 18, 2020, are eligible for a credit in the following amount:

- Academy – \$175 credit
  - Registration fee was \$225
  - Actual expenses not recoverable by HYSA include the USYS dues, backup medical insurance, the coaching registration fees, and pro rata shares of indoor practice space and coaching stipends
  - HYSA will retain \$50 per player to cover these unrecoverable expenses
- Arsenal - \$360 credit
  - Registration fee was \$440
  - Actual expenses not recoverable by HYSA include the USYS dues, backup

- medical insurance, coaching registration fees, and pro rata shares of indoor practice space and coaching stipends
- HYSA will retain \$80 per player to cover these unrecoverable expenses

HYSA is highly dependent on registration fees to maintain its operations, including significant expenditures for fields, general programming, coaching, and payroll. These are fixed expenses that HYSA incurs regardless of how many players are participating in the summer league.

Therefore, when responding to requests from Academy and Arsenal players who opted out of the summer league prior to May 18, 2020, HYSA encourages those players to first consider donating their credited amount to HYSA. (HYSA is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation and the donation is tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.) If a donation is not possible, HYSA encourages players to accept a voucher/credit toward the next season of play. If neither of these work for the player, HYSA will provide a refund in the credited amount.

If an issue or dispute arises regarding a credit or opt out request, the Executive Director will consult with the HYSA Board's Executive Committee for assistance in resolution.