

March 6, 2021

Well, where to begin? I'm sure we all agree that 2020 was a year like no other that we have experienced. Recreational soccer has taken a back seat to the Covid pandemic, and there will be restrictions on all recreational sports for some time yet.

When the Covid lockdown first hit us last March, we had to postpone our AGM due to gathering restrictions. We never did hold our 2020 AGM but we will address unfinished business in this year's AGM.

Last summer we did have two teams play in West Ottawa 7v7 league. This winter, we have one team playing indoor but had a late start and an extended break during the most recent lockdown.

This coming summer, the OCSL is hopeful about having a summer season, but there is a good chance that they will not have any season. Ontario Soccer will decide what soccer activities are permitted in which regions according to the Covid framework of the Ontario provincial government. The EODSA has promised monthly updates and I will make that information available on our club web site Covid page.

It is generally anticipated that we will continue in Return To Play phase 2 for some months. The OCSL cannot resume normal operations until phase 3 which allows for no social distancing and relaxing most Covid health precautions. If we continue in phase 2 for the duration of the summer, then we expect that some organizations will offer 7v7 leagues with limited playing groups.

With the highly uncertain forecast for summer soccer, we are presenting a budget for what we believe is the most likely scenario. The club board is asking the membership for flexibility to plan for summer teams if the opportunity arises.

Regardless of what summer soccer options we have and when we will hear about them, we will proceed with the 2021 AGM to update our members on club business and have more discussion on 2021 possibilities.

I hope you and your family have been healthy throughout this pandemic. Hopefully we can start to resume our normal lives over the coming months. I look forward to reconnecting with you at our AGM. Please note that we need you to email the club so that we know to send you the Zoom meeting URL. Last but not least, please do our club web site survey, linked from the AGM page!

Mike Moran

Spitfires Soccer Club President