**Subject:** FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE -Edmonton Soccer Association return to play a success

Wednesday, August 12, 2020

Edmonton Soccer Association Return to play a success

ESA CEO Adrian Newman is pleased to convey that the reopening of the West and East Indoor facilities has been a smoother transition than anticipated. In the reopening month there have not been any reports of participants or spectators testing positive for COVID-19.

Many people were able to resume the sports they love under new return to play guidelines and protocols, and both spectators and players have reported that both a welcoming atmosphere and helpful staff have made returning to a new normal safe and enjoyable. While primary users for the summer months are Youth and Adult Ball Hockey, concrete sports such as Inline Hockey have been able to utilize floor time as well.

As deadlines for soccer registrations are fast approaching, ESA wants to reassure parents and players that all three Indoor Soccer facilities will be open for the upcoming fall and winter seasons, and all reasonable safety precautions have been taken including the installation of increased hand sanitizer stations, nightly disinfecting, social distancing signage and floor markings, fifteen minute cleaning breaks after each game, as well as screening and contact tracing upon entry to the facilities.

All players and spectators can register online at <https://www.esaf.ca/index.php/covid-19/contact-tracing>  to obtain a contact tracing preregistration number that will speed up the process for entry to the facilities.

If new government-ordered shut-downs occur, then all prepaid bookings will be eligible for full refunds or credits with a bonus 10%.

If any players test positive or come  into contact with someone who has tested positive protocols are in place to minimize the impact to different cohorts, and safely allow return to play once everyone is healthy, without negative financial impact.

Adrian Newman

CEO

Edmonton Soccer Association Facilities