



G M A A

Greater Montreal Athletic Association – 5925 Monkland Ave, Suite 101, H4A 1G7

Phone: 514-482-8555 Fax: 514-487-0121 Email: gmaa@gmaa.rseq.ca Website: www.gmaa.rseq.ca**Meeting for All G.M.A.A. High Schools**

To: SAC Reps
From: Hughanna Gaw / Alexandra Eldon / Amanda Maks
Date: Wednesday, September 16th, 2020
Time: 4:00pm
Place: Zoom Meeting (information below)

100 Additions to and approval of Agenda

Welcome everyone to the meeting, we are very excited to be able to offer some form of school sports to our members this fall. Our motto for this year is, 'We are ready when you are ready'. If your school is ready to play, we are ready to offer a place for that to happen. That being said, there have been changes and things are not going to look like they once did. Here are some of our guiding principles for Fall GMAA Leagues: We want to allow the students to participate in a safe and enjoyable playing environment. We want to expose each team to a limited number of opposing teams. We want to try to reduce the amount of travel. And as always, we want to keep costs as low as possible. Please keep these guiding principles in mind as we present our league formats.

With the announcement on Friday concerning the approval ECA and interscholastic sport, I'm sure you have questions. From what we can gather, students will be permitted to be a part of their stable class group PLUS two other stable groups. Example, student 1 has class, art club and soccer, student 2 has class, soccer and flag football. These activities will only be permitted when our region is classified as Green or Yellow in the new regional alert system. If/when our region is classified as orange, extra stable groups are eliminated immediately, and the stable class group is the only one permitted.

Does anyone have questions about the stable class groups? Tryouts right now will be considered a bubble, if they student does not make the team, they will have 'used up' their bubble. The next question is if they wait 14-days can they join a different stable bubble? Not sure yet.

201 Sport Information

We have posted sport specific information sheet on each sports webpage. They outline what the sport will look like this fall, including important dates, cost and what is required of the school/team to register. Please make sure to read over them and ask any questions prior to registering a team. This year is unique, each sport federation has its own return to play protocols that must be followed for us to able to run the sport. This does mean added work on behalf of everyone; If we want to be able to have sports this year, we need to follow the return to play protocols set by each Sport Federation as well the Public Health Guidelines.

We will give a brief overview for what each league will look like this year, but it is important that you take the time to look at each sports requirement for the season on your own as well.

Team Fall Sports:

This year for Soccer and Boys Flag Football, we will be offering bantam, midget, and juvenile Division 3 and division 4.1 leagues.

For Softball we will be offering two leagues- Juvenile boys and Juvenile girls Division 3

Also please note for softball, all home teams will be responsible for getting their own umpires.

Registrations is due by Wed. Sept 23rd at 4:00pm

Season Dates: October 5th - November 6th.

To reduce travel, sections will be geographically based as much as possible.

Teams will play 4-6 games depending on their section.

There will be no playoffs. There will be the possibility of a section champion that we will discuss later in the meeting.

We will be making the schedules in the office; you must submit your team's availability with your registration. We will be sending out the document shared on the screen one must be filled out for each team. Valid conflicts are ped days, parent teacher night and open house.

All games will be scheduled as a 4:00pm start time to avoid any early dismissals. If you do not return your availability to us, we will automatically assume that your team is always available.

Schedules will be released Monday September 28th and you will have until Friday October 2nd to make any changes.

Finally, please refer to the info sheet for the cost to enter a team.

Golf: We will be running a golf tournament this year. It will be at Caughnawaga Golf Club on Wednesday, October 7th. Team and player registration are due by Tuesday, September 29. When registering the players please do not forget to include their handicap in the additional information section on S1. You will also need to register all coaches and/or scorekeeper on S1 - Anyone who will be there on the day of the tournament will have to be registered on S1.

To adhere to the Golf Quebec and the courses protocols, we will be capping registration at 52 golfers and we will be using tee times by foursome instead of a shotgun start this year.

Depending on numbers the tee time will go from 7:30 – 9:30am

To limit exposure to other schools, when at all possible we will keep golfers from the same school together. It is important to note that golf will count as a bubble.

Virtual Cross Country: To help facilitate class bubbles and school schedules, we will be offering a virtual cross country race this year. Each school will get to map out and schedule their own races which they will be able to run at any point during the week of October 12th.

Team and player registration by Thursday, October 1st

With your registration, you need to e-mail the office a copy of the routes you will be using for the races. After the races you will submit the times by category to the office and we will compile and publish the leagues full results.

Each school will be sent 1,2, & 3rd place ribbons for each race and race pinnies for each participant if requested.

202 Section Information/ Withdrawal Fee

As previously mentioned, deadline for team entries is 4pm on Wednesday, September 23rd. This is a hard deadline. On Thursday September 24th, the office will combine leagues (if needed), create sections, and contact any schools who are affected by any changes to their registration. At that we will start making schedules. Schedules will be posted at some point on Monday, September 28th.

At the Board Meeting yesterday it was passed that for team sports in the Fall the pre-season payment for all teams will include a non-refundable admin fee of \$120. Complementary to this however, they have agreed to waive any withdrawal fees for the season. If a team decides to withdraw from the league at any point in the season, they will not be charged a withdrawal fee. The \$120 admin fee is non-refundable, however, there will be no extra withdrawal fee on top of the \$120.

203 Non- Member Schools

The policy for non-member schools has not changed. GMAA member schools are not required to travel to non-member schools for their games (off-island or on-island). They can choose to travel to the schools, but they are not required to do so. You will be asked to indicate on your availability sheet whether you agree to travel to non-member schools.

204 Coaches Commitment Program (Ali)

As most of you already know, a new paperless coaches commitment program has been designed. Each coach must read and complete the module with a passing grade of 6/8. If a coach receives a score lower than 6, their SAC rep will be contacted, and the coach will be expected to complete the program again. This is something that coaches must complete only once and not yearly (unless there is a coach's code issue, or the program has been updated). It is mandatory that all coaches are assigned to their teams on S1 for me to cross check who has completed the program. If there is no coach assigned to a team prior to their first game, a \$50 fine will be charged assuming they have not completed the coach's commitment program.

205 Ethical Points Program

Starting this fall, to help encourage good sportsmanship and reduce the number of disciplinary issues, ethical points will be added to team sports standings. In the standings each game will now be worth a maximum of 5 points:

3 points for a win – 1 point for a tie – 2 ethical points are available

The ethical points operate as a demerit system, at the beginning of every game each team starts with two points. Based on the parameters shown in the ethical point chart, points will be deducted for things like yellow cards, ejections, total penalty minutes etc.

The ethical points chart can be found in the governing rules as well as on the main page of the website. A few things to keep in mind:

- * The referee will include both teams' ethical points on the scoresheet following the game.
- * Both coaches must be present when the referee writes down the ethical points for each team.
- * The home coach will be responsible for putting in the ethical points when inputting the score on

S1 at the end of the game.

* The home coach will be expected to determine the ethical points if the referee does not do so.

* The office will have control when it comes to removing points if the referee does not do so.

206 Awards

Given that we will not be hosting playoffs for our teams this year, we thought that schools might be interested in a Sectional Champion bannerette that could be handed out to the first-place team in each section. For example:

Bantam Boys D3 Soccer - Section A Champion - Fall 2020

Midget Girls D4 Soccer – Section C Champion – Fall 2020

Are sectional bannerettes something that the schools are interested in? We set up a poll to vote. 28 people yes, 7 no. We will offer Sectional Champion Bannerettes.

301 S1- Coach/ Covid-Manager/Attendance

Coach: As mentioned earlier it is mandatory that each team have a coach registered on S1, this is how we will confirm that they have completed the coaches commitment program. As we won't be having scheduling meetings, it is also where we will get the contact information for each coach to share all league updates. When registering your coach please confirm that their contact information is up to date. If you do not have a coach registered with the team on S1 prior to your first game, the school will receive a 50\$ fine.

COVID Manager: Each team is required to have a designated COVID manager. They are responsible for reading, understanding, and implementing the sport federation return to play protocols at practices and games. This person may be on the coaching staff, if there is only one coach it is not recommended that they also be the COVID manager, as it is a lot of work, but it could be. The COVID manager will need to be registered on S1 as part of the coaching staff. It was asked if it had to be the same covid manager for all practices and games. No, as long as one of the COVID managers is present you can register multiple.

The link to each Sport Federations Return to Play Protocols can be found on the sports page. Each federation has a unique return to play protocol. To help we have put together a generic return to play as well as a game day check list which highlights the overlapping requirements. Including things like: Checking in all participants, symptom tracking, sanitizing, ensure social distancing measures are respected.

Attendance at games: The COVID manager is responsible for checking in and keep track of attendance at all activities. For games specifically, each coach (host and visiting) will be required to input their team's presence on S1 after the game. This means that all of your athletes must be registered on S1 to be able to track game day attendance.

302 COVID Commitment Form for SAC & Principal

Before registering any team this year, the Board of Directors is mandating that you as a school SAC Rep and your principal must sign the COVID Commitment form. It outlines that the responsibility to follow the Public Health Protocols, the Sport Federation Return to Play Protocols and the RSEQ Health Guide recommendations are the responsibility of the school. And that if these protocols are not properly followed by any team from a school, that school's

participation from all GMAA leagues could be suspended. The form will be sent out by email after this meeting and posted on the GMAA Website.

COVID Risk Forms

Before any student participates in any GMAA sport, they must sign a COVID Risk Form. These will be the responsibility of the school. The GMAA will assume that all students registered on S1 have submitted these risk forms to their schools. Forms will be posted on each sport side as soon as possible.

COVID Protocols for each school

If a school is hosting games, they will need send their school's COVID Safety Protocols into the Office. These protocols will be posted on each schools' website.

Example: which parking lot to use, enter the field through which gate, will there be lockerrooms, will there be access to a bathroom or water, will there be spectators permitted? Visiting schools must refer to the that information prior to their games. If they have any questions, they must contact the school SAC rep for information. Upon arrival at the field, both COVID managers must meet to discuss anything further.

303 New Website

Please if you have a moment, really take a look at the website and let me know of any changes that you feel should be made. Any feedback on our new website would be appreciated. I've been looking at it daily, I need new pairs of eyes on it.

304 Derogation procedure

There is no change to this years' derogation procedure. All derogations must be discussed at a Board Meeting. The next Board meeting is on Tuesday, October 6th.

401 De Facto Order

If you are interested in placing a t-shirt or mask order with De Facto contact me for information. The deadline for placing orders in October 2nd.

402 Participation Polls

We just put together a quick poll to see how many schools we would potentially have participating in our Fall Sports.

Girls Soccer: 4 schools

Girls Softball: 1 school

Boys Flag: 1 school

Virtual Cross Country: 12 schools

Boys soccer: 6 schools

Boys softball: 1 school

Golf: 9 schools