

# BRAMS UNITED GIRLS SOCCER CLUB



*Standing United  
Just 6 Feet Apart*

## RETURN TO PLAY

UPDATED: JUNE 8, 2021

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## LETTER TO OUR MEMBERS

On behalf of the Board and Staff of Brams United, I want to take a moment to thank our membership.

Due to the support and patience of all members, our organization has been fortunate to adapt and navigate an unprecedented pandemic. Although circumstances have not been ideal, and we have seen the lockdown restrictions impact our in-person activities, Brams United was proud to continue offering complimentary virtual sessions throughout the winter months and ensure that we stayed connected with the athletes and provided a safe option for them to continue enjoying the sport they love.

During the Indoor months, our organization has been working diligently to prepare for a safe Return to Play and actively researching various subsidies and assistance to ensure we can provide accessible and affordable programs through a pandemic. I am proud to announce that our organization was one of few to successfully be awarded support through the following grants:

1. Ontario Trillium Foundation
2. Canadian Tire Jumpstart
3. Peel Region Community Investment Program
4. City of Brampton Advanced Fund
5. Ontario Small Business Support
6. Canadian Red Cross

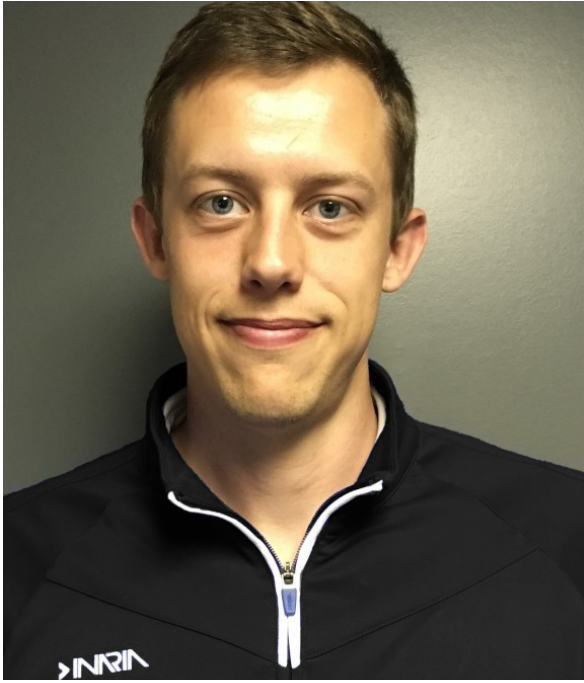
With the support, Brams United will be returning to the field this Spring and Summer with health and safety being our main priority, and being able to continue providing the highest standard of soccer programming without increasing fees. In addition to accessible programming, Brams United is excited to offer our athletes access to video footage (supported by VEO), fully certified and trained staff at all programming, and access to unique opportunities in partnership with our valuable Sponsors and Partners such as York United, MLSE, Dairy Queen, 407ETR, FanSaves and much more!

We are excited to return to the pitch and be able to see members of our community enjoying all the amazing aspects that soccer provides. The theme for 2021 is **re-connecting** with our community and standing strong together, **united**. We can't wait to see you all back on the field and thank you for your continued support, patience, and positivity.

Sincerely,

*Melanie Bradley*  
General Manager

## LETTER TO OUR MEMBERS



Dear Brams United Family, We are nearly there. It has been a grueling period for many and I hope you and your family have been able to navigate this difficult time as safely as possible. Whilst things slowly start returning to normal, the world of youth soccer is no different. It will take time to get back to exactly what it was over a year ago but we are taking our first steps on the journey to that destination. It may take longer than we want but we will get there with your support. I personally have been frustrated with how the pandemic has impacted my introduction to you and how the knock-on effects of COVID have created uncertainty in some areas of the soccer landscape. I had hoped to bring some exciting projects and a new direction to Brams United but that has been massively derailed by everything that has happened over the past few months.

Whilst the implementation was halted, the plan remains the same. The Technical staff and I have been working hard to develop some key structures and educational materials to help take the player development experience forward. We're excited to get back on the field with the players and work at providing a safe, enjoyable environment where players can develop their skill sets. A word on the fantastic commitment many of our players have had to continued online training sessions we have run the past few months. It is difficult to keep engaged online, especially with so much time in front of the screen for school. I am sure they are looking forward to putting their cleats back on and getting onto the field with their friends. We are extremely excited to get back on to the field but we need to approach this return with caution and understanding. After a period of inactivity, we will need to slowly reintroduce the players to consistent training sessions again and take our time allowing them to readjust their routines. Ultimately, we want them to enjoy their return, getting lots of touches of the ball, socializing, and getting the love back for the game. We also need to understand that different players are at different stages of return based on family circumstances. We will need to keep all players involved, even those who return more slowly to the field. I ask for your support and patience with your own daughters, and with teammates and our Brams United staff, who have all been off-field for an extended period. Our return to the field will be an exciting one for everyone and I encourage those of us who may have fallen away from Soccer during this time to take a moment to re-engage and rejoin the club. Not only will the activity provide much needed physical development, the social aspect of team sport is vital now more than ever for the young people in our community. We've worked hard to engage schools and the community during the lockdown and I encourage you to do the same. Invite your daughter's friends to get involved and learn to love the game. We have the perfect opportunity to provide meaningful personal development to the young girls of Brampton coming out of this difficult time and grow the game of soccer in the city. If you have any questions regarding return to play, please do not hesitate to reach out. Stay safe and see you soon!

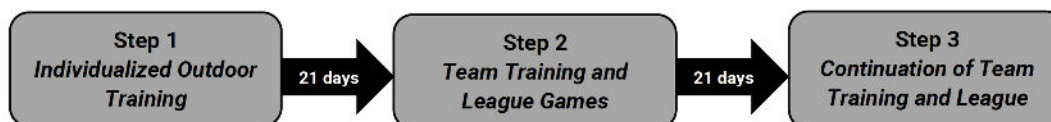
Sincerely,  
*Jordan Brown*  
Technical Director

# REFERENCE GUIDE

## Ontario Soccer's Return to Play Guide

[To access the full Return to Play document, please click here](#)

Ontario Soccer's Return to Play Guide (RTP) has been adjusted to reflect the Government of Ontario's new Three-Step Re-Opening Framework:



Note: Steps 2 and 3 are tentatively scheduled to start 21 days apart and subject to Government of Ontario assessment and approval. Ontario Soccer will advise membership confirmation of Steps through updated Information Bulletins that will include updates to this Return to Play Guide.

### Reference Guide (Steps) - OVERVIEW

	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3
Completion of Canada Soccer's Return to Soccer Risk Assessment Tool	YES	YES	YES
Organization's own RTP Guide/Plan in alignment to Ontario Soccer's RTP Guide	YES	YES	YES
Safety Field Marshal	YES	YES	TBD
Physical Distancing for Participants (2M)	YES	TBD	TBD
Equipment disinfecting after each game/practice	YES	TBD	TBD
Use of Change rooms	NO	TBD	TBD
Indoor Activities Permitted	NO	YES	YES
Outdoor Activities Permitted	YES	YES	YES
League Games or Scrimmages	NO	YES	YES
Travel to other Districts or Regions	NO	TBD	TBD
Trials/Tryouts/Open Evaluations/Camps	NO	YES	YES



Play. Inspire. Unite.



# REFERENCE GUIDE CONT'D

## Ontario Soccer's Return to Play Guide

[To access the full Return to Play document, please click here](#)

<b>Maximum number of Participants (Players, Coaches, Match Officials)</b>	10 PER FIELD QUADRANT WITH PHYSICAL DISTANCING (2M)	TBD	OUTDOOR: TBD INDOOR:TBD
<b>Maximum number of Spectators</b>	0*	TBD	TBD
<b>Masks</b>	FIELD : NO BENCH: YES	FIELD: NO BENCH: YES	TBD
<b>Physical Distancing (2m)</b>	YES	ON FIELD: NO ON BENCH: YES	TBD
<b>Field Safety Marshall</b>	YES	TBD	TBD
<b>Equipment Disinfecting</b>	YES	TBD	TBD
<b>Canada Soccer Risk assessment Tool Completed (cannot start without confirmation)</b>	YES	YES	YES
<b>Contact Tracing</b>	YES	TBD	TBD
<b>Ontario Soccer Club/Academy RTP Guide (cannot start without use of guide)</b>	YES	YES	YES

\* Person under the age of 18 years who is engaged in activities in the facility may be accompanied by one parent or guardian.



# HEALTH & SAFETY

## Organizational Protocols

1. Contact tracing logs will be kept for all sessions/programs.
2. Participants must complete the self-assessment through TeamSnap prior to each session.
3. All equipment is sanitized before and after each session by staff.
4. All equipment is locked away after all programs in a safe and clean unit. Equipment will only be handled by staff.
5. PPE provided to all staff. Staff must be wearing appropriate PPE where social distancing may not be maintained during sessions.
6. Additional PPE and sanitizer are accessible at the programs in case of emergencies.
7. [Emergency Action Plan \(EAP\)](#) in place and accessible to all participants.



## Player Protocols

1. Complete online health check through TeamSnap prior to attending the session.
2. Bring your own ball, hand sanitizer, water bottle and bag must be clearly labeled.
3. Attend session dressed ready to participate.
4. There are no accessible washrooms.
5. Utilize the designated drop-off and pick-up locations outlined by Club ([access field maps here](#)).
6. Parents/Guardians must be easily accessible (close to the facility) in case of an emergency.
7. Sanitize hands before and after each session.
8. Wear a mask when not on the field of play.
9. Maintain social distancing at all times outside of the field of play.



[Visit our Return to Play Hub here for guardian and participate checklists, and more!](#)

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# 2021 PROGRAM UPDATES

## Re-Connecting with the Community

Brams United recognizes there have been multiple impacts due to COVID-19 and the lockdowns that have taken place over the course of the year. In an effort to re-connect with our members and the community, we have amended our traditional House League Program in order to adapt to the ever-changing situation.

Our new and improved **Community Soccer Program** is designed to welcome children and youth back to soccer, and provide a safe and fun soccer environment for all ages and abilities. The program is available for females and males U4-U6 (born 2017- 2015) and females U7-U18 (born 2014-2003), and each session is overseen by certified and trained staff.

Staff will be onsite to manage contract tracing and health and safety, set up fields, and provide all sessions and teams with age and stage appropriate development activities to allow them time to become familiar with the ball again. After the activities, teams will break into age and stage-appropriate games. Staff will also assist should the program need to be adapted at the field to meet government guidelines, if a team has a short roster or other circumstances that may occur due to COVID-19.

Brams United designed the **Community Soccer Program** to ensure that throughout the Spring and Summer months, despite any changes due to COVID-19, we are able to adapt quickly and provide all participants with a safe and fun soccer experience.

## Re-Introducing Development and Competition

Our Technical Staff have been hard at work advancing the Club's new and improved development curriculum, game model, and identity documents. Staff will be working with players through a 4-week cycle, focusing on moments of the game and our playing principles in those moments. As players age through the program, more complex principles will be introduced whilst strengthening the knowledge of the original principles. Our newly acquired [Veo camera](#) will allow for feedback, and review of the principles with players and parents to track their child's development, as well as allow staff to review practices and develop our training methods.



For full program details, please visit our website at [www.bramsunited.ca](http://www.bramsunited.ca)



# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



## What equipment will my participant require? Will they be provided a ball?

Players are asked to bring their own ball and hand sanitizer to every session (limits cross exposure). The Club will provide a ball to those who have not yet received it in the first week. It is important that player's clearly labeled their ball and equipment to ensure it is not mistaken during pick-up. Each player will have a designated area for their bag beside their square that they are working in to avoid any players mixing up equipment, etc.

## How is contact tracing and health checks managed?

The health check form online via TeamSnap or Ontario's self-assessment form must be completed no earlier than 24 hours before the session/practice. Once submitted the results are sent directly to the office, so you are not required to e-mail a copy. This will be required for every session the participant attends. Attendance logs will be taken at the field by Technical Staff for each session for contact tracing purposes.

## What is the process if a player contracts COVID-19 or is exposed to COVID-19 outside of soccer?

The EAP Lead will advise members to stay home until they are well enough based on Public Health Agency of Canada and Provincial Health Authority guidelines. Members are reminded that sick individuals are not permitted to attend any Club activities and must notify the Club if any members are sick with COVID-19 symptoms, test positive, or have been exposed to someone with COVID-19 symptoms or a confirmed/suspected case. [Please review more details and information regarding our Emergency Action Plan by clicking here.](#)

## What is the drop-off and pick-up procedures? Are spectators allowed?

Our scheduling allows for staggered drop-off and pick-up so that participants can always adhere to social distancing, and avoid any potential gatherings. Participants must arrive 5 minutes prior to their designed drop-off time and must be picked up on time at the pick-up location. To limit the number of touchpoints, we ask that participants come fully dressed ready to train as soon as they get out of their vehicle. Once the player gets to the field, they should only require administering their personal hand sanitizer and the session may commence. Due to the limit of time, it is important as well to come prepared. Depending on the colour-coded stage our region is in, spectators may be limited or not allowed. The Club will ensure proper communication is provided throughout the season. We ask that a guardian is always within 5 minutes of the field in case of an emergency.

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



## **If a player or their family is not comfortable returning at a specific stage, will this impact their position on a team or program?**

Brams United requests that families do not return unless they feel comfortable doing so. It is important that the player and family feel safe at training so they may have the best experience possible. The Club understands and appreciates that not everyone may feel comfortable right away and therefore will be continuing online virtual options. Additionally, we encourage any families that may still be unsure to organize a “drive-by” one evening to see the program structure and protocols in play. We kindly remind you that social distancing must be maintained at all times when visiting programs. It is to be noted that if a player would like to attend a program at a later stage, there are fixed costs that cannot be prorated in the program fee.

## **If there is a government lockdown, what will happen with the deposits and upcoming payments?**

Our organization appreciates the uncertainty that the pandemic causes for families and that programs may be closed at any point throughout the year. Should there be any cancellations of programs, Brams United will ensure to promptly freeze any upcoming payments. Timely communication will be provided to the membership regarding the program fees based on the timing of the closures, and any refundable amounts will be returned directly to the member. As the lockdown can vary, we ask for members' patience until we are notified by the government of when restrictions will be lifted or should a program be canceled entirely before we can provide final communication on any refunds. New this year, programs have been split into Spring and Summer seasons to allow for stopped payments or further program adaptations should there be any closures.

## **What is your refund policy should a family withdraw during the pandemic?**

It is important for members to review all policies prior to registering. Typically there are specific guidelines when withdrawing your registration. Due to COVID-19, these deadlines and fees will be reviewed and adjusted on a case-to-case basis.

All refunds, due to personal reasons or closures, are calculated on variable costs such as unused fields, returned league fees, returned referee fees, etc. Fixed costs such as player registration fees, purchased equipment, or utilized league/referee fees are non-refundable.

To review our [refund policy](#), please visit our website directly.

# RESOURCES AND LINKS

[\*\*Ontario Soccer's Return to Play Guide\*\*](#)

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[\*\*Ontario Soccer Return to Play FAQ\*\*](#)

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[\*\*Return to Play Updates \(Ontario Soccer\)\*\*](#)

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[\*\*Brams United Return to Play Hub\*\*](#)

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[\*\*Coronavirus disease \(COVID-19\): Prevention and risks \(Government of Canada\)\*\*](#)

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[\*\*Brams United At Home Resources\*\*](#)

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