



Tuesday February 28, 2023

Hello SYSA Coaches and Managers:

Yesterday the Squamish Youth Soccer Association (SYSA) received notification that as of April 30 2023, Quest University will no longer be able to accommodate the SYSA in terms of providing access to their artificial turf. This of course is in line with Quest's recent announcement of closure and sale. The impact to the Squamish community cannot be overstated, and we are certainly shocked and disappointed.

This closure will have a significant impact to the SYSA. The gains that we have enjoyed in terms of turf availability and training space will unfortunately be greatly reduced and we will need to re-adjust our scheduling practices as a result.

To that, as many of you may already be aware, in 2022, the SYSA Board of Directors voted in favour to adopt of a "Turf Scheduling Matrix" which was set to be implemented at the start of the 2023/2024 Season. This Matrix is seen as means to help distribute our limited turf resource (Brennan Park) in a responsible manner that is fair and equitable to everyone regardless of age and gender. This matrix also ensures that we support our athletes by providing them adequate rest time between activities, and also allows for better planning outside of the SYSA specifically for non-soccer related activities and family vacations.

The unpredicted closure of Quest University unfortunately has put the SYSA in a position that necessitates the implementation this Turf Scheduling Matrix sooner than anticipated. **Effective MAY 1, 2023, ALL Brennan Park (BP) Turf Scheduling (training) will follow the following SYSA Turf Scheduling guidelines.**



### The SYSA Turf Scheduling Matrix:

The following Turf Scheduling Matrix is the current SYSA policy regarding the allocation of BP turf training time and is what will be adhered to as best as possible moving forward.

- 1) Girls' teams will be given preferential booking time on:  
**Tuesdays/Thursdays/Fridays\***  
*and*
- 2) Boys' teams will be given preferential booking time on:  
**Mondays/Wednesdays**  
*then*
- 3) Teams U12 and under will be given preferential booking time between:  
**4:45PM-6:00PM**  
*and*
- 4) Teams between U13-U15 will be given preferential booking time between:  
**6:00PM-7:15PM**  
*finally*
- 5) Teams U16 and older will be given preferential booking time between:  
**7:15PM-830PM**

- All team practices shall begin at either 4:45,6:00,7:15 or 830PM unless previously agreed by SYSA BOD and with coaching staff any other teams that may potentially be impacted.
- All practices shall be no longer than 1:15 in duration, warm up at kicking wall please
- All Teams U12 and younger will be allocated  $\frac{1}{4}$  turf sections unless  $\frac{1}{2}$  sections are available
- All U13 and older teams will be allocated  $\frac{1}{2}$  turf sections (if available).
- Girls team wishing to train Fridays may not train on Thursdays



We are aware that this policy may result in scheduling conflicts and potentially negatively affect your availability to coach or manage your team. We understand that this may be difficult for some of you and that change will be required. The SYSA will do as much as possible to mitigate these difficulties and help with this change, as we feel that the adoption of this guideline ultimately supports coaches in both the short and long-term. We ask for your understanding as we feel this change is unavoidable and necessary for the betterment of our club and soccer community as a whole. Please reach out for assistance such that we will try to help you navigate through this change.

The SYSA BOD want to take a moment to thank each and every one of you for your tireless efforts and commitment to bringing the great game of soccer to the youth of this community. Your role as a coach, manager and volunteer is indispensable, and together we will continue to provide the best possible soccer experiences to the youth of Squamish and the Sea-to-Sky.

On Behalf of the SYSA Board of Directors  
Michael Heinrich  
SYSA Vice President