

REAL CO TRAVEL/TOURNAMENT POLICY Regarding COVID-19 – 11/3/20

***** General Real CO Travel/Tournament policy regarding guest players, coach and team expenses, etc. are still in effect unless specifically addressed in this addendum.*****

After many, very difficult discussions as a staff about team travel in the upcoming months, what we can all agree on is that there is no right answer that will suit everyone. Weighing the necessity of travel for our players, vs the safety concerns of the pandemic, it has become clear to us that we really can't make a unilateral decision for all our teams and families.

Therefore, we have decided that this decision can only be made on a team/individual family basis, as no two families are the same. We have families living with immune compromised individuals and other families who have been financially impacted as business owners or with job loss. We feel it is important to recognize these challenges and to give each of our families the opportunity to commit to travel in a way that makes the best sense for their unique situation.

FIRST, all coaches must discuss specific tournaments with their staff coach after they and their manager have gone through this policy and have made their team families aware of these requirements/guidelines

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Travel Booking Guidelines:

- 1) Teams must be aware and must adhere to all COVID restrictions/guidelines of the state in which the tournament will be played.
- 2) Teams must adhere to any special COVID rules set out by the tournament.
- 3) To allow for individual families to attend a travel tournament in a manner that suits them, individual teams should not book group flights, vans, or groups of players in hotels for an event.
- 4) If deposits are required for any part of travel tournament arrangements, the person handling those arrangements must obtain full knowledge of all refund policies, and if less than 100%, discussion must be had with the coach and manager as to whether the team should risk losing any funds.
- 5) Teams are still responsible for full payment of coach expenses.
- 6) It is more important than ever that budget planning is well-considered and accurate, still allowing for team meals (mentioned below) and supplies, any team transportation, coach expenses, and any needs specific to the whole team for any event.
- 7) All anticipated expenses must be paid prior to departure for a tournament.

Travel Suggestions:

- We suggest that individual tickets are booked for flights, so they are easily credited/refunded if the event is cancelled and so families are able to travel together.
- If a family/parent is not attending with their player, then they are responsible for working with another family/chaperone to host their player, and agreement must be made regarding appropriate payment for the host family of that player's lodging or meal expenses.
- If the tournament is Stay-to-Play, a block of rooms should be secured at a hotel for all families once the tournament opens up their hotel booking process.
- We do not suggest the use of large capacity vans as transportation for players.
- It is our suggestion that players not share a bed and we require that no more than two players are together per room.
- If a family/parent is not attending with their player, they are responsible for working with another family/chaperone to host their player, and agreement must be made regarding appropriate payment to the host family for that player's lodging/meal expenses, etc. This payment should be made to the team (for post-tournament reimbursement) prior to travel.
- When players are attending with a host family, that player be with that family for the whole tournament, i.e., same transportation, same meals, same flight, etc.
- ***If possible***, some team meals should be planned, i.e., an outdoor picnic (at the fields or a park or outdoor area at hotel) with Subway or other logical picnic-type vendors, or if an entire outdoor deck can be reserved. However, indoor team meals at restaurants are strongly discouraged. **NOTE:** if hotels provide special tournament breakfasts, these may be utilized provided appropriate social distancing is strictly adhered to by the hotel and players dine 6 ft. apart.

LASTLY, it is very important to remember that travel could be cancelled at the last minute due to COVID concerns here or at the tournament location or if there is COVID exposure on the team. We are certainly hoping that we can move forward from COVID in the Spring but need everyone to be cognizant of all possibilities when considering travel this year.

Any questions, please contact cindy@realcolorado.net.