Futures 2020 COVID-19 Cancellation Refund Policy

When the pandemic started in early March, the Futures program had already started in some areas and was ready to begin in others. USA Field Hockey immediately adapted by creating and delivering an interactive online program and exclusive webinars to engage athletes during stay-at-home orders. In addition, it was planned to hold Regional Futures Camps throughout the country offering in-person training and talent identification opportunities leading to the National Futures Championship in July.

Due to ongoing safety concerns related to the pandemic, USA Field Hockey made the difficult decision to cancel the Regional Futures Camps and the National Futures Championship in 2020. The safety, health and well-being of all athletes comes first. This decision was made following guidance and best practices of the United States Olympic and Paralympic Committee, fellow National Governing Bodies and national youth sports experts. The following considerations helped to form this decision:

- Continued uncertainties around the pandemic,
- The wide range of federal, state and local guidelines prohibiting and restricting training and competition
- Cautions about non-essential travel within and across regions
- Best practices from health experts on possible return to play safety scenarios
- Mandates limiting large group activities

USA Field Hockey recognizes this news is disappointing, share in this disappointment and are saddened by the number of youth and professional sporting events that have been canceled worldwide. The organization waited as long as possible and examined all options regarding delivering in-person Regional Futures Camps and determined the following:

- USA Field Hockey cannot guarantee the safety of athletes in regional camps.
- Social distancing requirements limiting competition does not achieve the goal or maintain the integrity of the process needed to develop and identify athletes for the Olympic Development Pathway.
- Phased re-opening timelines for youth sport delivery do not allow for Futures programming given the varied start of fall high school field hockey seasons.

Futures Refunds

With Regional Futures Camps canceled, USA Field Hockey will provide a number of options to Futures participants relating to partial refunds or credits for next year:
1. Receive a refund of $35.00 per Futures training session not delivered.
2. Receive a credit for $35.00 per Futures training session not delivered plus $50.00 toward the 2021 Futures Program registration. Selecting this option would enable USA Field Hockey to bear the financial impact of COVID-19 over two years.
3. You can choose to apply your refund as a tax-deductible donation to support USA Field Hockey’s mission.

Detailed information was sent to each Futures participant on June 8, 2020. If you did not receive that information please email futures@usafieldhockey.com with the full name and membership number of the registered participant. USA Field Hockey’s Futures team will reply with the necessary information to process your account.

**Selections and Olympic Development**
Futures has served as the Olympic Development Pathway for USA Field Hockey’s Junior U.S. Women’s National Teams since 1990. With Regional Futures Camps and the National Futures Championship canceled in 2020 and uncertainty about the exact return to play timeline, USA Field Hockey is in uncharted territory and are assessing all options for talent identification and selection to the 2021 Junior U.S. Women’s National Teams. USA Field Hockey will share further information when available.

The COVID-19 pandemic has been extremely difficult for many families, businesses and organizations, including USA Field Hockey. All support is appreciated as USA Field Hockey navigates internal organizational reductions and restructuring with the ongoing uncertainties. USA Field Hockey continues to work to promote field hockey for future generations to enjoy and look forward to a time when all can return to the field and play safely, together.