

Garrett Holmes,
Chair,
The Canadian Student-Athlete Association.

July 27, 2020

Mr. Dick White,
Interim Chief Executive Officer,
USports,
45 Vogell Road #701,
Richmond Hill, Ontario.

Mr. White,

RE: USports to explore revised football eligibility policies.

The Canadian Student-Athlete Association strongly supports the announcement made today by USports regarding its intent to explore revised football eligibility policies with an anticipated completion date of February 2021.

The Canadian Student-Athlete Association also applauds the decision by USports to, as a result of the timeframe required to conduct the above noted review of football eligibility policies, provide a one-time exception to Policy 40.10.4.3.1.1, thereby permitting all currently eligible student-athletes to participate in the 2021 football season, even if they exceed the current policy before the start of the 2021 campaign.

This is a very positive move by USports showing strong leadership in listening and responding to concerns of stakeholders in a thoughtful, positive and constructive manner. The original decision to not allow an exemption was a difficult one for USports to make, and we respect and acknowledge the additional thought, outreach, and effort that went in to revisiting that decision.

I am pleased that even in these difficult times USports recognizes that there is opportunity, in this case an opportunity to address a long outstanding issue (why only football has an age exemption) whose time has come to address.

The Canadian Student-Athlete Association thanks USports for the opportunity to provide our comments and views on this matter and would welcome the opportunity, as the emerging voice of Canadian student-athletes to have a voice at the table when the consultation process, begins.

Regards,

Garrett Holmes,
Chair,
The Canadian Student-Athlete Association.

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