**Schuylkill Valley Youth Soccer**

**Communicable Disease Release of Liability**

**and Assumption of Risk Agreement**

**Health and Safety Waiver**

In consideration of being allowed to participate in any program, event, or activity sponsored or sanctioned by Schuylkill Valley Youth Soccer, I the undersigned, acknowledge, appreciate, and agree that:

I am aware there are risks to me and/or my child of exposure to directly or indirectly of any and all communicable disease, including but not limited to, Covid-19 and/or any mutation or variation thereof.

I, for myself and on behalf of my youth athlete and other participants and/or spectators, hereby release, indemnify, and hold harmless the Schuylkill Valley Youth Soccer program, its officers, officials, coaches, and other volunteers from any and all claims, demands, losses, and liability arising out of or related to any illness, injury, disability or death that may be suffered due to participation in the SVYS program to the fullest extent permitted by law.

I, as a parent/guardian with legal responsibility for this participant, consent and agree to his/her release as provided above to hold harmless SVYS from any and all liability incidents to my minor child’s involvement and other attendees in participation in these programs as provided above to the fullest extent of the law.

X \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature Date

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Child’s name

**Schuylkill Valley Youth Soccer Health and Safety Plan**

Schuylkill Valley Youth Soccer is a volunteer run program committed to providing high level athletic opportunities to our youth. Not only do we provide athletic training and appropriate socialization opportunities for the development of our youth, but their health and safety is of utmost importance as well. With the guidance of the CDC, EPYSA, and RBJSL, the following health and safety protocols will be enacted during the 2021-2022 soccer season. The health of our athletes and coaches need the support from families as well.

**Parents/guardians responsibilities:**

* Masks will be worn by all athletes and spectators at any indoor events.
* Masks will be optional for athletes and spectators following guidelines set forth by the CDC, PA Dept. of Health, and Governor’s mandates for all outdoor events.
* Properly sanitize personal gear, such as soccer ball, cleats, shin guards, water bottle, goalie shirt, goalie gloves, prior to practices and games.
* Properly launder uniforms and practice clothes prior to practices and games.
* Provide properly washed and adequately sized water bottle(s) for athlete during each practice and game.
* Check athlete’s temperature prior to all practices and games. If an athlete or spectator has a temperature above 100.4 degrees F, is ill, or lives with someone who is ill, he/or she should stay home.
* If an athlete or individual living with, the athlete tests positive for Covid-19, the coach will be notified so proper protocols can be followed.
* If the athlete is quarantined from school due to close contact, he/she should refrain from attending practices/games.
* Parents/Guardians will drop athlete off for practice, and if spectating, proper social distancing protocol must be followed.
* Limit the number of spectators watching games to allow for appropriate social distancing based upon field size and location.

**Coach Responsibilities:**

* Face masks will be optional outdoors for coaches following state mandates.
* Coaches will limit direct contact with athletes and their families and maintain social distancing during practices and games as able.
* Coaches will practice proper hygiene and maintain cleanliness of equipment.
* Coach, assistant coach, or parent volunteer will complete athletes’ health screenings prior to all practices and games.
* Any child with a fever of 100.4 degrees F or indicates he/she is ill will be asked to leave practice or games.
* Coaches will communicate with the SVYS Board Covid Coordinator and follow directions about informing their athletes’ families about protocols should an athlete and/or coach test positive for Covid-19.
* Coaches will self-quarantine should they test positive for Covid-19.

**Protocol for Covid-19 Illness**

Should a coach, athlete, or spectator who attends practices and/or games becomes ill, the following steps will be taken to help prevent the spread of the virus.

1. Coach will be notified by parent/guardian if an athlete or individual living with the athlete tests positive for any form of Covid-19.
2. Coach will notify the SVYS Covid Coordinator.
3. SVYS Covid Coordinator will conduct contact tracing protocol.
4. SVYS Covid Coordinator will notify any other affected teams who came into contact with the ill individual(s) 48 hours prior to symptoms beginning or positive test.
5. Team will self-quarantine for the recommended 10 days in which there will be no practices or games as deemed necessary.

**Returning to play**

* If a child has a fever of 100.4 degrees F or higher, he/she will be sent home from practice or games. He/she will be allowed to return if there is no fever for 3 or more consecutive days without medication and no other symptoms develop.
* If a child does not display a fever but has other Covid-19 symptoms, he/she will be sent home from practice or games. He/she will be allowed to return when symptom free for 3 or more consecutive days or it has been 10 days since the onset of symptoms.
* Child may immediately return to play if a doctor’s note is provided ensuring any displayed symptoms are not Covid-19 related.

It is our goal to provide athletic training, socialization opportunities, and uphold health and safety measures to the best of our ability. We appreciate your cooperation with these protocols and look forward to the best season possible.

\*\*Guidelines/policies are subject to change as guidance from EPYSA, RBJSL, CDC, and DOH change. All mandates from the PA Gov. will be followed.\*\*

**Parent drop off and pick up procedures**:

1. Child should come to practice wearing shorts/sweatpants, shin guards, soccer socks, and soccer cleats. He or she should also have a large water bottle or two, soccer ball (size 3 for U5 - U8, size 4 for U9 - U12, size 5 for U13), and goalie gloves (if needed for older groups). On chillier nights, please have a sweatshirt in your child’s bag.
2. If choosing to apply sunscreen and/or bug spray, this should be done before arriving to the practice field or quickly in the parking lot.
3. Child should arrive at the practice field with a parent or guardian 5-10 minutes prior to practice start time.
4. Child should check in at the screening station. Child’s temperature will be taken and basic health questions will be asked.
5. If the child’s temperature is below 100.4 degrees F and all questions are answered in the negative (“no”), he or she will be directed to the practice area.
6. If the child’s temperature is above 100.4 degrees F and/or any questions are answered in the affirmative (“yes”), the child will be asked to go home.
7. Once screening is completed, the parent/guardian will either go back to the parking lot or wait in the spectating area following social distancing best practices. If leaving during practice, return for pick up no less than 10 minutes before practice ends.
	1. Willow Glen spectators should remain on the hill (being mindful of neighbors’ yards) or near the playground area.
	2. Centerport spectators should remain near the rocky barrier entering the fields
	3. Leesport fields spectators should remain 6 feet or more from the field sideline opposite the athletes.

**Note**: Port-a-potties will be available at the fields. They will be cleaned and maintained by the company providing them. SVYS board members, coaches, and/or any volunteers will NOT be responsible for sanitizing them and should be used at one’s own risk. Please have your child use the restroom immediately prior to practice arrival if you prefer them not to use the port-a-potties.

Health screenings will also be occurring at games. Spectating will be allowed as long as the number of spectators is limited and social distancing may be maintained between familial groups. Spectators are expected to be respectful to coaches, refs, athletes, and others in attendance in all aspects of game play and health and safety measures.

**Coach and Assistant Coach Practice Procedures**

1. Arrive to practice early in order to set up stations for independent drills/warm-up.
2. Coach, assistant coach, or designated parent volunteer should prepare a health screening station for athletes to check in.
3. Temperatures will be taken, health screening questions asked, and attendance/health screening with pass or fail results will be recorded for all coaches and athletes.
4. Child should be directed to his or her practice area keeping water bottles and bags distanced, and parent(s) should spectate a safe distance from the field and others.
5. If the child’s temperature is above 100.4 degrees F or he/she exhibits Covid-19 related symptoms and/or has been in direct/close contact with someone who tested positive for Covid-19, ask them to leave and contact the SVYS Covid Coordinator.
6. At the conclusion of practice, athletes will gather their belongings and meet their parent/guardian safely off the field.
7. Coach will maintain cleanliness of equipment used throughout the practice.

Notes: SVYS board will be providing hand sanitizer and no touch infrared forehead thermometers for each team. Coaches are asked to have their own face covering if preferred.

Health screenings should also be completed at games, and parents may socially distance and spectate from the sidelines. If you notice a problem following guidelines or too many spectators for our teams, please remind your parents/guardians of the Code of Conduct and Health and Safety guidelines that were signed during registration.

**Covid Questions with Notes**:

1. Please remember, we are a separate entity from the school and must have our own Health and Safety/Action Plan. We may respect the school district’s protocols, but they do not have to match exactly. (We are “governed” by RBJSL and EPYSA and must follow their criteria.)
2. When asked if the athlete was in close/direct contact with someone who tested positive, if they are quarantined from school based on their standards for contact tracing, the answer should be yes as the school follows CDC’s definition of close contact being within 6 feet for 15 cumulative minutes in a 24 hour period.
3. When asked if the athlete is currently in quarantine, if the entire school building is shut down for Covid-related incidences, only athletes whose families were contacted about having close/direct contact need to stay home from practice. Remember, due to FERPA and HIPPA Laws, the school district and its employees are not legally allowed to provide identifying information to the club about students. It is up to the parents/guardians to be honest and inform SVYS coaches or SVYS Covid Coordinator of symptoms, positive tests, close contact, and/or quarantine status.
4. All athletes who have a fever, show signs or symptoms of Covid, and/or answered yes to any of the questions should be excluded from practice.
5. If anyone has questions or concerns, please address them to the SVYS Covid Coordinator at SVYSVicePresident@gmail.com.

**Possible Covid-19 Symptoms:**

* Fever
* Cough
* Shortness of breath/difficulty breathing
* Chills
* Muscle aches
* Headache (beyond anything than what may be normally experienced)
* Sore throat
* Diarrhea
* Loss of taste/smell or new sense of taste/smell

\*\*\*These are symptoms beyond what is normal for an individual. We know some individuals are coming to us with asthma, allergies, or other pre-existing health conditions that have some of these symptoms already associated with them.\*\*\*

**Health Screening Questions:**

* Are you currently experiencing any symptoms of Covid-19?
* Have you or anyone you live with tested positive for Covid-19 in the last 48 hours?
* Have you been in close contact with anyone positive for Covid-19 in the last 48 hours?
* Are you currently in quarantine?

\*\*\*If any of the answers to these questions is ‘yes’, the coach or athlete should not be permitted to attend practice or games, and the SVYS Covid Coordinator must be informed.\*\*\*