**West Brazos Soccer Club, Covid-19 Return to Play Guidelines**

The BYSA and WBSC Boards have reviewed several factors and guidelines to enable **BYSA Recreational Play** to move forward with having a Fall 2020 Season maintaining as much safety as is required while engaging in a way for our youth to provide as much recreational competition and normalcy as possible.   We have relied on several sources to formulate our BYSA Seasonal Opening Guidelines.  Please keep in mind that these dates and parameters can change at any time depending on several factors, including but not limited to, the severity of COVID-19 in our community.  We utilize several sources to formulate our decisions, some are listed below:

* State of Texas Executive Orders and Mandates
* US Soccer, US Youth, and STYSA
* CDC Guidance
* STSR
* County and City Policies, Mandates, and Guidelines

As of August 5, 2020 STYSA, has moved to Phase III. On August 6, 2020 BYSA executive board moved from phase 2 to phase 3 as well and WBSC followed.

**Phase II** Introduction to defensive pressure and contact in training. Use of small-sided within the cohort. Intra-squad scrimmages acceptable within the cohort. IMPLEMENTING A PROGRESSIVE RETURN TO PLAY.

**Phase III** No restrictions on training activities for players. Teams can return to scrimmaging within their own club and playing games outside their club following recommended guidelines. Local and same-day travel for scrimmages or games with teams outside the same club is recommended.

**WBSC Field and player management protocol for returning to play while in Phase III.**

* Coaches will keep a log of players attendance per Practice/Game either on paper or electronically. They will be held for a minimum of 30days.
* Coaches will check temperatures of players prior to practice or games and document on an attendance log. If a player is showing temperature above 99.8°F player will not be allowed to play or attend practice.
* Any team with a suspected case of Covid-19 in a player, staff member, Coach or referee should contact a WBSC board member so that we can contact anyone in contact with the individual within the previous 14 days. Following confidentiality requirements.
* If WBSC is notified of a confirmed case of COVID-19 in a player, staff member, coach, or referee should notify any other organization/teams involved in competitions with that individual in the 14 days prior to the diagnosis of COVID-19.
* Any team with more than 3 confirmed positive cases of COVID-19 is considered to have an outbreak within their team and should pause team activity until all participants have completed a self-quarantine according to CDC guidelines.
* Coaches will ask players/parents if they are showing any symptoms of COVID-19 prior to any practice or game, such as:
  + FEVER
  + Cough
  + Shortness of Breath
  + Chills
  + Fatigue
  + Muscle or body aches
  + Headache
  + New loss of taste or smell
  + Sore throat
  + Congestion or runny nose
  + Nausea or vomiting
  + Diarrhea
* Players 10 years old and above who are **not** participating in game or practice such as sitting on the sideline waiting to be subbed in and cannot social distance must wear a mask. Not required while hydrating.
* Players will be required to have their own chair to sit on the sidelines. Placed six feet apart. No Team benches will be allowed.
* Coaches will be responsible to make sure players are abiding social distancing on sidelines while not playing.
* Players will **not** be allowed to share food or drinks.
* WBSC will mark designated social distancing seating areas along the sideline line for parents/guardians.
* Coaches or designee from each team will make sure parents on their team are following social distance protocol while at the field.
* West Brazos Board members will be making rounds to make sure social distancing protocol is being followed for players and parents/guardians.
* WBSC will be posting signs to remind parents and players “Social Distancing” at our game fields.
* WBSC will provide hand washing stations to help with good hygiene practices at the Brazoria Game fields.

**When to return to play following a confirmed or suspected COVID-19 infection**

These recommendations are intended to guide decision-making regarding participants with a suspected or documented COVID-19 infection in order to reduce the risk of disease transmission and can change. Checking with health care providers is always recommended before returning to any activity.

Symptomatic or asymptomatic player, coach, official or staff member with suspected or laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 infection cannot attend training, games, or events until:

A. At least ten (10) days have passed since symptoms first appeared.

B. At least three (3) days (72 hours) after all symptoms have passed.

OR

C. Negative results of an authorized SARS-CoV-2 test from at least two consecutive samples collected at least 24 hours apart.

D. At least fourteen (14) days since the date of known exposure with no symptoms

**Best Practices**

The following practices should be reinforced within your soccer organization to mitigate the transmission of any infectious disease.

* Avoid touching your face
* Frequently wash hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer
* Cover mouth and nose (with arm or elbow, not hands) when coughing or sneezing and wash hands afterward.
* Wear a clean or new face mask or covering when outside
* Understand how to wear a face mask properly
* Frequently disinfect commonly used surfaces and equipment
* Avoid contact with other individuals (shaking hands or high fives)
* Maintain social distancing of 6 feet between you and others
* Outdoor spaces pose less risk than indoor spaces
* Individuals with a higher risk (including players, coaches, officials, and spectators) should assess their risk level and limit exposure

Guidelines are subject to change as State and local laws change as the COVID-19 pandemic continues.

The Cities of West Columbia, Sweeny and Brazoria are following state mandates such as EO-GA-29. EO-GA-29 part 4 as written - the wearing of a mask is required by all in the state of Texas over 9 years of age when they are exercising outdoors or engaging in physical activity outdoors and could not maintain a safe distance from other people.   We have received NO official guidance as of yet from our state or county officials (they are working on getting a decision to us regarding how exactly this applies to soccer on the field of play [games or scrimmages]).  We have been advised by STYSA that UIL (which we DO NOT fall under, in any way, - but is under the state mandate for compliance as well) has interpreted this to mean that registered players and official 2020 USSF Licensed Referees do not have to have face coverings (masks) on while actually playing games or scrimmages ON the field but do have to have a mask on while off the field and not maintaining social distance in accordance with EO-GA-29.  Until / unless we are given a superseding directive from a state / county / city governing authority regarding EO-GA-29 and how it specifically applies to the application / exemption of wearing a mask during soccer games / scrimmages we will follow STYSA's guidance in how they interpret and apply the Executive Order and mandates.

Player Attendance Log

COVID-19 Symptoms

Fever, Cough, Shortness of Breath, Chills, Fatigue, Muscle or body aches, Headache, New loss of taste or smell, Sore throat, Congestion or runny nose, Nausea or vomiting, Diarrhea

