



COVID PROTOCOL  
2020 TOURNAMENT

# Carolinas Cup - 2020 COVID PROTOCOLS INTRODUCTION



## CAROLINAS CUP – RETURN TO PLAY PROTOCOL

Returning to play in a manner that maximizes the health and safety of our players and referees is of utmost concern. In coordination with US Soccer Federation “Play On” guidelines, the United States Adult Soccer Association, NCASA, SCASA and Truist Sports Park (host site) a detailed protocol practice for the Carolinas Cup will be implemented.

The protocol policies outlined have been developed in consultation with legal professionals, insurance agencies, our governing bodies and other adult soccer organizations so our players, families, referees and coaches feel confident in returning to play.

These policies may be updated and are subject to change based on directives from the State of North Carolina, the NC Department of Health and Human Services, the Centers for Disease Control, the local governing bodies and soccer’s state and national governing bodies.

***There are increased responsibilities at every level to ensure everyone’s safety.***

***It is mandatory that every player follow the protocols as conditions of participating.***

The Carolinas Cup will be implementing a screening process prior to the tournament. This will require the completion of a self-health questionnaire as a pre-game roll call roster check to assist with contact tracing. Captains will be responsible for ensuring that each player has completed the online Covid-19 Liability Waiver and Self Health Screening Questionnaire. If any player on the official roster has not submitted the applicable COVID liability waiver or the self-health questionnaire including getting their temperature checked, they will NOT be able to play in the match.



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### PRE-GAME RESPONSIBILITIES

All teams **MUST** follow check-in procedures. The schedule is staggered to allow time for proper check-in and to minimize field transition traffic.

BELOW ARE 2 ONLINE FORMS TO COMPLETED BY ALL PLAYERS AND CAPTAINS

These forms are to be completed individually and can be accessed and submitted using a smart phone.

1) [Click Here for Covid-19 Liability Waiver.](#)

We are asking that this be completed by Thursday at midnight.

2) [Click Here for Covid-19 Health Screening Questionnaire..](#)

Please access and complete this prior to your first game on **Saturday AND Sunday and after 7:00 AM.**

You should arrive 40 minutes ahead of your match time.

If you arrive early... please stay in your car until the 40 Minute threshold is reached. At 40 minutes, please make your way (while wearing a mask) to the pitch of your match. Field Marshalls will be there to perform team check in and TEMP CHECK (this will occur before each match) and provide a color-coded indicator to prove you have gone through the process.

**YOU CANNOT PLAY WITHOUT THIS COLOR-CODED INDICATOR.**

The Carolinas Cup Committee will work to expedite the process to the best of our ability. The Carolinas Cup Committee asks for players to come prepared, follow the guidelines, and have patience so that we may complete the process in a timely manner.

The maximum temperature allowed for match entry is 99.4 degrees F.

The CDC considers a person to have a fever when he or she has measured temperature of 100.4°F (38°C) or above. Maximum safe allowable temperature is 99.4 degrees F (as opposed to 100.4 degrees F) as it has been determined that "Non-Contact Forehead Thermometers" have on average a one (1) degree F lower reading.



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Once TEMP checked and passed, the player will receive a color-coded temp indicator for your match kick off time. Without that indicator you WILL NOT BE authorized to play. **NO TEMP INDICATOR, NO MATCH.**

After the TEMP check, you will be released and allowed to make your way to your assigned pitch to warm up.

## PLAYERS' RESPONSIBILITIES

### DO NOT PLAY IF...

You are exhibiting **any** symptoms of the COVID-19 illness; fever or chills, cough, difficulty breathing, loss of taste or smell, sore throat, headaches, or other symptoms, mild to severe, identified by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) within 14 days of respective match.

**Do not play if you have been diagnosed with or tested positive for COVID-19**

**Do not play unless it has been at least 14 days since you last had COVID-19 symptoms**

**Do not play if in the past 14 days you have been in close contact with someone with COVID-19 or with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 in the last 14 days.**

**Do not play unless it has been at least 14 days since you tested positive for COVID-19 AND it has been at least 14 days since you last had COVID-19 symptoms.**



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### KICK OFF

**ALL PLAYERS MUST WEAR A MASK at ALL TIMES including during play AND maintain a 6ft. social distance when on the sidelines and all other times when on the Truist Sports Park property and outside of your personal vehicle.**

In accordance to Governor Roy Cooper's executive order No. 180 the following is an update to the previously published Carolinas Cup COVID-19 protocols:

1. All persons must wear a mask at all times. From the time you exit your vehicle upon arrival to the time you return to your vehicle to exit the complex your mask **must cover your nose and mouth**.
2. All players / spectators / officials / coaches / medical staff / attendees / assessors are required to wear a mask **covering the nose and mouth** at all times. This will include but not limited to the wearing of masks WHILE playing.
3. Any player that doesn't have a mask can receive a complimentary disposable mask or purchase a gator mask for \$6.00. This mask is very breathable and will meet compliance standards for the complex and the governor's mandate.
4. Any player or spectator asked repeatedly to put on his/her mask (covering both nose and mouth) by an official (referee or tournament official) will be suspended from play and/or spectating for the remainder of the match. If the behavior continues the player or spectator will be suspended from the Tournament.
5. Any player or spectator refusing to wear a mask at all times will be escorted from the premises by law enforcement.

**Do Not to engage in the standard group celebration of goals  
Refrain from the traditional pre-game and post-game handshakes or high fives**

### HALF-TIME

During half-time all players will be required to stay in their respective team area.

### DISCIPLINARY CAUTION

Any player who intentionally spits or coughs on, or fights/touches another player or referee - **will** be suspended for the rest of the tournament and may be subject to additional fines, sanctions, or other penalties by the League's Disciplinary Committee.



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## OFFICIALS

Under NO circumstances is any player or spectator allowed to be face to face or touch an official. ALL officials have been mandated to issue a straight RED CARD for any player that violates this rule. If this is a spectator violation the spectator will be removed from the Tournament.

## SPECTATORS

Spectators are required to keep the standard social distance of 6ft or more from each other and players and at least 10 feet from the sideline. Spectators are expected to view from the same side of the pitch as the team they are supporting while avoiding the center sideline area and players, and viewing from left and right of center.

Players are asked to please limit bringing spectators.

Everyone will be required to wear a mask anytime they are not in their vehicle.

## AFTER THE MATCH

When the final whistle is blown, players should collect their belongings, exit the pitch and make their way immediately to the parking area. It is at their cars that players should change. We require this to ensure the next set of matches to be played can be set up (including sanitation of corner flags, goal posts, balls, etc) and the players in the next match can access the pitch without large crowds.

The tournament officials know that changing at your car is not ideal, but this protocol is the best practice for keeping everyone safe during the tournament.

## INCLEMENT WEATHER

In case of delay due to inclement weather players are to return to their personal vehicle; multiple players sheltering in one vehicle is strongly discouraged. Do not gather collectively under a gazebo or any other complex structure.





## NOTIFICATION OF COVID-19 ILLNESS

Communication is key to protecting the health of all those participating in the Carolinas Cup Tournament as well as participants' families and communities.

### THIS IS A VERY IMPORTANT STEP

**AFTER** participating in tournament play, If you have tested positive for COVID-19 or developed symptoms consistent with COVID-19 after participation in a team meeting, practice, or game, you **must** notify your team captain and the League Administrator **immediately**.

**ALSO** Player or players participating in the Carolinas Cup Tournament **MUST** notify the Tournament Administrator by using the **CAROLINAS CUP COVID-19 REPORTING FORM** below if any of the following conditions apply to yourself or teammates.

#### Please report if any player or team captain:

- exhibits symptoms of COVID-19
- has been diagnosed with or tested positive for COVID-19
- has been notified by a health department or health care provider to quarantine or
- has had close contact (within 6 feet for at least 15 minutes) in the last 14 days with someone diagnosed with COVID-19

**Reporting must occur within 24 hours of such knowledge.**

[Click Here](#) for the CAROLINAS CUP COVID-19 REPORTING FORM

**Note:** Due to privacy issues and HIPAA laws, the identity of that person will remain anonymous, but the Tournament Committee shall notify your team, your opponents, the referees, and anyone else who you may have been in contact with at your match.





## BEST PRACTICES

Do the bulk of stretching prior to arriving.

Stay in your car until 40 mins before your match time.

Arrive wearing a mask. Consider having back-up masks due to sweat or weather conditions.

Must bring your own water bottle. **NO SHARING WATER BOTTLES OR WATER COOLERS.**

Bring personal hand sanitizer.

Teams will NOT share a sideline. There will be a designated side for home and away teams, on opposite sides of the field. Players are to go to their designated side of the field and do not stop to mingle with other individuals.

It is mandatory that players and spectators wear masks covering the nose and mouth for the entire time while on Truist Park Property including WHILE playing.  
Exemption: Masks are not required while inside your personal vehicle.

Spectators are required to keep the standard social distance of 6ft or more from each other and players and at least 10 feet from the sideline. Spectators are expected to view from the same side of the pitch as the team they are supporting while avoiding the center sideline area and players, and viewing from left and right of center. Players are asked to please limit bringing spectators.

Continue to practice 6' social distancing from teammates and other individuals.

There will be no coin toss. Home team will decide "ball or side".

Teams continue to practice social distancing during half-time.

Referees must not be approached at half-time or after the game for any reason. Comments to the referees should be made from a distance of at least 6 feet away.

Confronting the referees during the match including; getting in the referee's face, approaching too close or physically touching an official will result in an immediate RED CARD.

No shaking hands or high fives. Minimize group goal celebrations.

Players should be responsible for their own equipment, jersey, warm-ups, and bibs.

