

Suburban Counties Soccer League



COVID Safety and Action Plan (8/13/20)

Adopted Unanimously by the Board and Members of the League on 8/20/2020

In accordance with guidelines set by the Centers for Disease Control and Eastern Pennsylvania Youth Soccer, our organization Suburban Counties Soccer League will return to play with the following safety and action plan. It is important to note that this plan is based on current directives in place as of August 19, 2020. This is an ever-changing situation and is subject to change as the situation evolves - our approach to adjusting for these changes is reflected in the document.

a. Communication & Education

- Primary Communication and Education of players and families shall be through their respective clubs
- Our League is a group of independent Clubs, Each Club will formulate their own safety plan and protocols, The role of the League is to ensure that each club is achieving compliance, and to provide guidance and coordination between member clubs as needed.
- All players and parents should receive communication on our safety and action plan before return to play begins.
- CDC Education materials should be shared with all participants (coaches, players, and parents) on behaviors that reduce the spread of COVID-19 to include but not limited to: hand hygiene, sanitizing

equipment, properly covering coughs and sneezes, and staying home when appropriate.

b. Steps to Reduce the Spread

1. Club Level

- Sharing of Information and guidelines as they become available
- Training and education of Coaches to promote safe play
- Minimize body contact, and maximize social distance during training
- No games, scrimmages or league participation will be permitted if there are restrictions by EPYS, County (Montgomery County PA), or State-wide guidelines. If guidelines are in conflict the organization will default to the most conservative restriction.
- Reduced numbers of participants per team.
- No shared equipment (including pinnies and water bottles). Soccer balls used in the course of play across participants will be sanitized after each training or playing session.
- Adult coaches must wear masks when with participants.
- Each club will create a separate safety team, from the staff level (including the health and safety officer and president) through to the team level. Each team will have a safety representative, who will work with their clubs risk management team directly.
- The Coaches primary job will be to Coach.

2. General Hygiene and Safety Protocols

- Have hand sanitizer available for players and coaches. Use regularly during training and games
- No sharing of water, snacks or equipment
- No shaking hands, high fives, fist bump, hugs, etc...
- Social distancing = six (6) feet apart
- Education maintaining safety when using restroom facilities will be provided to all families.
- Spectators should be minimized, and physically separated from the players and each other

- No player or coach can attend if they are feeling sick. Sick players or coaches must self quarantine as required by CDC/PA Dept. of Health. We are not health professionals, and if a child is sick, regardless of cause, they should not play, and can only return to play after clearance by a health professional.
- Disinfect all equipment- balls, cones, goals, flags etc. Only coaches can touch or move equipment.
- Coaches and spectators to wear a face mask.
- Players to wear face mask when not involved in soccer activities or on the bench. Player may wear mask during activity at parents or players discretion.
- No shared "pinny jerseys" Scrimmage vests should be washed after every session. It is our intent to provide every player with their own, at the end of the season, we will collect for reuse next season. Health and safety officer will oversee safe return and cleaning of equipment at the end of the season.
- Only one coach may attend to an injured player. Must wear mask and gloves.
- Minimize contact with other teams before, during and after each session.
- Minimize Car Pooling

3. Coaches

- Comply with Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Eastern Pennsylvania Youth Soccer and any additional club directives or requirements.
- Reinforce directives, policies and protocols as necessary with parents and children. Coaches can reach out to the health and safety officer with questions and concerns throughout the season.
- In conjunction with the the team safety representative coaches will ensure any players that appear to be ill home."
- Supply your medical kit or bag with gloves, extra masks, sanitizer, and facial tissues.
- Implement social distancing at all times. Each player and their equipment at least six (6) feet from the next player.

- Coaches wear masks at all times.
- Players may wear masks during training at their discretion. Must wear when not engaged in soccer activity.
- Only coaches may touch or move equipment. Players do not touch or move equipment.
- No bodily contact in training.
- Avoid activities involving lines where players are in close proximity to maintain social distancing in training (review the US Soccer Grassroots Recommendation Guide)
- Sanitize all equipment after training.
- Scrimmage vests should not be shared.
- Minimize interaction with other teams that train before or after you. Emphasize player should go straight to cars.
- Be positive, fun and engaging. Help the children acclimate and reintegrate.

4. Safety Representative

- Each team will have an independent safety representative, who will be responsible for record keeping and implementing safety procedures.
- Safety Representatives are considered volunteers - all SCSL volunteers are required to complete mandatory background checks. Safety Representatives are not coaches, they do not need to complete coaching training.
- Our intent is that the Coach and Safety Representative will work together, each focusing on their part of the process.
- The Safety Representative will perform record keeping of attendees at each team event, and will verify with each parent that their child is healthy before participation.
- Each child will need to be accompanied by a parent to each team event. That parent will “sign in” the player with the safety rep, and verify that the child is healthy for play, with no fever or symptoms.
- Reinforce directives, policies and protocols as necessary with parents and children. Provide communication on new policies as needed through the season to accommodate any needed adjustments as the situation evolves.

- Safety Reps will report to the club health and safety officer, NOT the coach to ensure an independent assessment of health and safety procedures.

5. Game Day Procedures

- Each team will have a safety rep
- Each player should be accompanied by one parent, with no other spectators permitted
- Parents and players will be kept separated during the game
- Parents should be masked
- Players should be masked when not actively playing
- Social Distance and safe conduct shall be maintained
- Games should be scheduled with adequate time between to avoid clustering on the sidelines
- Each Club, team, and their safety reps will be responsible for all record keeping
- No child, Coach, or Parent should attend any event if they have been exposed, are symptomatic, or have tested positive
- Parents should confirm that the player exhibits no signs of COVID-19 for the past 14 days and no known exposure before sending him or her to training or games.
- Sick players and coaches must stay at home and follow appropriate health guidelines.

6. Parents and Guardians

- Comply with Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Eastern Pennsylvania Youth Soccer and any additional club directives or requirements. Share information with their player..
- Each child will need to be accompanied by a parent to each team event. That parent will “sign in” the player with the safety rep, and verify that the child is healthy for play, with no fever or symptoms.
- No signs of COVID-19 for the player the past 14 days and no known exposure before sending him or her to training. Sick players and coaches must stay at home and follow appropriate health guidelines.

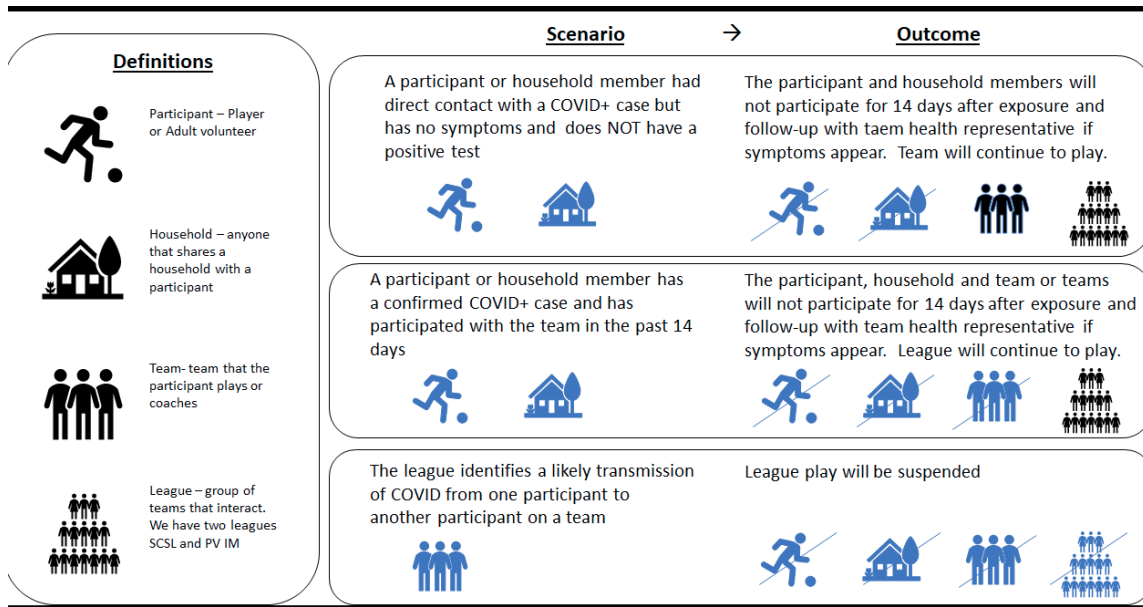
- Determine if you want your child to wear a face mask during training.
- Sanitize and wash all equipment and uniforms after training
- Pack hand sanitizer and a face mask in his or her bag.
- Spectators are not essential to training and not recommended to attend, however, it may be necessary for younger players.
- Comply with social distancing and mask directives. Adhere to rules of the club regarding attending training session
- Direct your child to never share water, snacks or equipment.
- Notify the club and coach/safety representative should your child become ill.
- Do not assist the coach or coaches with equipment at the beginning or end of practice.
- When the ball goes off the touchline or end line allow players or coach to retrieve the ball.
- Parents make the ultimate decision on their child's attendance and participation

c. Identification of COVID exposure

Parents of participants will notify the Safety Team of Suburban Counties Soccer League if a participant or someone in the participant's home is presumptive positive or tests positive for COVID. The full board will be notified of a positive case but we will limit the identify of the positive case to the safety team.

Suburban Counties Soccer League will notify participants who came in contact with the individual of potential exposure following CDC guidelines and HIPAA regulations on confidentiality. Suburban Counties Soccer League will (in conjunction with local health authorities where appropriate) postpone further play for the impacted player, team or teams and club as needed.

d. In case of Contact



e. COVID Point of Contact

For all Suburban Counties Soccer League COVID related policy questions and concerns, our club President and/or Vice President will serve as the point of contact.

President: Kevin Mac Donald kmacdonald@perkvalleysoccer.org

Vice President: David Nelligan nelligan@ptd.n

e. Summary

Soccer is a contact sport, and by its nature, we cannot eliminate all risk or potential for spread of a contagious disease. We have adopted a set of procedures and policies intended to minimize this risk. Each family will need to make their own decision whether they want to play or not and will have to assume any risks involved with that decision to play.

We are hoping that we will be able to get the kids out on the field, however if the situation changes, we may have to make changes to these procedures. This plan is designed to help ensure we can adjust as the situation changes in a timely manner. We have always emphasized that this is a game, and these are children. If we can't do it safely, we won't do it.

The Officer and Board and Member Clubs of Suburban Counties Soccer League

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