



Welcome to Fall 2020 AYSO Soccer! We are looking forward to a fun season, albeit with some changes that we are all familiar with at this point. Below you will find a list of protocols for soccer this spring. Your volunteer staff has been meeting throughout the winter to plan for a program that follows federal, state, and local guidelines and provides the safest possible program for our kids. Note that while AYSO National employs paid professionals, your Region 199 staff are all unpaid volunteers – so please remember that while interacting with them this season. Without these volunteers, Pleasantville would not have this program.

In accordance with New York's Phase 4 sports and recreation guidelines and AYSO guidelines, Region 199 has established the following Return to Play Plan for Fall 2020 and beyond. We understand that several of the guidelines may be difficult as players enjoy interacting with their teammates. However, we need to be diligent at enforcing these protocols for the health and safety of our players, coaches, staff, and their families.

Implementing the protocols will require a collaborative relationship between Region 199, Coaches, Parents, and Players. All Players must be responsible to adhere to and respect the social distancing requirements and no-contact guidelines that have been established. As circumstances dictate, Region 199 reserves the right to update and modify the protocols. Region 199 reserves the right to ask any party not adhering to the protocols to leave the program without refund. Failure to adhere to these protocols may result in the loss of village and school fields or worse, someone getting sick.

## Participant Responsibilities

### Coaches:

- Follow all return to play protocols.
- Take attendance at each session using our Virtual In/Out Check in.
- Ensure all athletes have their individual equipment (ball, shin guards, water, sanitizer, etc.).
- Coach is the only person touching training equipment (e.g. kids are not allowed to pick up cones).
- Ensure any shared equipment is disinfected following each session.
- **ALL COACHES MUST WEAR A MASK AT ALL TIMES.**

### Parents:

- Check your child's temperature before any training session/game.
- Complete the PFC COVID Survey (see section on "PFC COVID Survey" below).
- Ensure child's clothing is washed and equipment is disinfected after each session or game.
- Supply your child with individual sanitizer for all trainings and plenty of water.
- **YOUR CHILD MUST ARRIVE AND DEPART WEARING A MASK** (see section on "Masks" below).
- Only two spectators per child will be allowed on the sidelines for practices and games.
- Parents attending must maintain not less than 6ft of separation and wear a mask. If you are not wearing a mask, you will be asked to leave.
- Please do not bring any snacks for the program.
- Refusal or continued violations may result in expulsion from the program without refund.

### Players:

- Arrive with all equipment, mask, hand sanitizer, shinguards, ball, and water.\*\*
- Adhere to all return to play protocols.
- Wash hands thoroughly before and after training.
- Wash clothes and sanitize personal training equipment after every use.
- Do not share water or food.
- Water bottles should not have a "mister" function.
- Minimize sharing of equipment.
- Respect and practice social distancing.
- Minimize touching the ball with hands outside of normal soccer play.
- Place equipment, bags, etc. 6ft apart.
- No contact such as high 5's, handshakes, knuckles or group celebration.

\*\*Note that we will be limiting shared equipment. Depending on the age and maturity of the particular age groups, coaches may either hold all soccer balls and distribute at each session or give each child their own ball which they will be expected to bring with them to each session.

## Session Requirements

### Before Attendance:

- Parents must check their child for symptoms prior to attending.
- You should not attend any session if your child's or any household member's temperature was 100.4 or higher within 24hrs of a session. Temperature referenced is the temperature unadjusted by fever reducing medicine.
- If you or your child is feeling sick or may be sick, STAY HOME.
- Any coach, player, parent/guardian or driver attending a practice or game must attest that, to the best of their knowledge, the player:
  - is not exhibiting widely established symptoms of COVID19 (please note – this is not an exhaustive list): Fever, Fatigue, Dry cough, Phlegm, Loss of Appetite, Shortness of Breath, Nausea, Sore Throat, Body Aches or Swelling, Unusual Headache, Loss of Smell or Taste, Stuffy Nose;
  - has not tested positive for COVID-19 within the last 10 days (and is not displaying any symptoms) and has had a negative PCR test.
  - has not been in close contact<sup>1</sup> with someone who has tested positive or someone who is exhibiting the widely established symptoms of the virus (even if they have not been tested) within the last 10 days.
- Any attendee that displays any of these symptoms will politely be asked to leave.
- A player who is displaying any of these symptoms will be safely isolated until a responsible adult can remove the minor.

### Arrival:

- Please arrive at your designated time. Do not exit your vehicle until your session time.
- Only players (and up to two spectators for any child) and registered volunteers are allowed at the field. Spectators must maintain social distancing protocols and maintain an appropriate distance from the sideline.
- A legal guardian must be present either on the sideline or nearby in a car for all participants in U5, U6, U7, and U8.
- If you are not a registered volunteer, do not enter the field for any reason.
- You will see a check-in space at each field for each session. Each child must check-in before entering the field.
  - For BRS – please enter from Academy
  - For Roselle – please enter from Spring Street.
  - For Soldiers & Sailors – please enter from Clark St.
  - For Farrows – Please enter near the Henkels lot.
  - For Parkway – Please enter from Hooper Street.
- Everyone must wear masks which cover the nose and mouth during check-in.

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<sup>1</sup> Close contact is defined as within six (6) feet for a period of ten (10) or more minutes within a twenty-four (24) period.

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- Everyone must be 6 ft apart during check-in. It is the parent's responsibility to maintain this spacing.
- Everyone participating should submit a current PFC COVID Survey (please note that newly submitted survey should be provided for each session).

Departure:

- Please be on time to pick up your child. We have multiple programs running and can not have kids lingering on the fields. While we understand the kids will want to stay and play on the playgrounds, please leave immediately after the program.
- **OVERCROWDING OF THE FIELDS MAY RESULT IN OUR LOSE OF THE FIELDS.**
- Departure locations will be as follows:
  - For BRS – please exit from Academy.
  - For Roselle – please exit from Roselle Ave.
  - For Soldiers & Sailors – please exit from Manville.
  - For Farrows – Please exit near the Henkels lot.
  - For Parkway – Please exit from Hooper Street.

General Requirements Information:

- Players/Coaches must continue to practice social distancing (6 feet distance) while walking to and from the fields.
- Upon arrival to the field, teams will be assigned their own designated area of space to work within.
- When practice ends, players will be asked to promptly gather their personal items and walk to their vehicle.
- No restrooms will be provided. AYSO will not be providing porta potties. Any facilities at any of the fields are not being maintained by Region 199 and Region 199 takes no responsibility should you choose to use any such facility.
- Coaches shall ensure all players and coaches avoid "high fives," handshakes, or other types of physical contact. The only type of contact allowed is that during training activities and games such as appropriate soccer-style "tackling," etc.
- Each group will have their own coach and practice designated field space.
- Practice Schedule this season will cater to COVID group requirements based on the current phase, and all fields will have all the necessary safety procedures in place at every location for practices and games.
- Larger groups will be separated into smaller teams which will be set for the season. Interactions between teams will be limited.
- In the event of a positive case or contact, Region 199 may suspend a program as necessary to comply with federal, state, and local laws, rules, regulation, and guidance.

## PFC COVID SURVEY

- All players, coaches, trainers, and referees should provide a valid PFC COVID Survey prior to participating in each event/session.
- Please respond to each of the questions truthfully and to the best of your ability on behalf of your child. Your participation is important to help us take precautionary measures to protect you and our other players.
- We will be using a web-based check-in/questionnaire for the PFC COVID Survey. Each Division will be issued a unique link to log on. Once a parent fills out the questionnaire (which must be done for each session and game), the screen will change indicating that they are either clear to play or they will see a message saying that they are not clear.
- Coaches will have access to a list of all players cleared to play for each session/game. They will not be able to see any person who is not clear in order to protect privacy. Full information on use of the program is available at:  
<https://www.ayso199.org/Default.aspx?tabid=957142>.

## MASKS

- All parents, coaches, trainers, and referees must wear a mask at all times on or around the field.
- All players must wear a mask during arrival and departure.
- Players who are not directly playing in the games or scrimmages must wear a mask and avoid contact with other players.
- WE UNDERSTAND THE SENSITIVITY AROUND THE USE OF MASKS, ESPECIALLY WHILE PARTICIPATING IN SPORTS. THIS GUIDENCE IS IN CONSTANT FLUX AND WILL BE UPDATED FROM TIME TO TIME IN ACCORANCE WITH BEST PRACTICES AND LAW. AS A CLARIFICATION, OUR CURRENT MASK POLICY IS AS FOLLOWS:
  - Players MUST wear proper face coverings to and from the field, as well as any time on the field where less than 6' of space is required, *unless* players are unable to tolerate the face covering during physical activity. This comes directly from NYS guidelines, which state:
    - *"Ensure 6 ft. distance between individuals at all times, whether indoors or outdoors, unless safety or core activity (e.g. practicing, playing) requires a shorter distance. If a shorter distance is required, individuals must wear face coverings, unless players are unable to tolerate such a covering for the physical activity (practicing, playing); provided, however, that coaches, trainers, and/or other individuals who are not directly engaged in activity are required to wear face coverings."* –
      - <https://www.governor.ny.gov/sites/governor.ny.gov/files/atoms/files/SportsAndRecreationMasterGuidance.pdf>

To be clear, we encourage the use of masks, but it is up to the parents to advise if a child cannot tolerate an appropriate face covering during periods which social distancing is not possible. Otherwise it will be expected that each child wear an acceptable face covering at all times other than “mask breaks” while appropriately distanced. While coaches will do their best to remind children to take “mask breaks”, each

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parent should ensure that their child understands their ability to cease play or participation to remove their mask while socially distant from other participants.

- NOTE THAT THE VILLAGE OF PLEASANTVILLE HAS PROMULGATED RULES REGARDING FACE COVERINGS WHILE USING VILLAGE FIELDS AS FOLLOWS:

“Everyone who uses Village playing fields must wear face coverings (over the nose and mouth) on the field and sidelines. This includes players, coaches, trainers and spectators.

Players may take temporary mask breaks off-field when socially-distanced (minimum 6 feet) under the direct supervision of coaches or recreation staff.

If a participant cannot tolerate a mask for medical reasons, they must provide the event organizer with documentation from a healthcare professional. This documentation does not need to identify the medical condition, but must verify that it prevents use of a mask.

The spirit of this policy is to ensure that masks are worn by everyone — engaged or not engaged in physical activity — who is likely to be within 6 feet of another person at any point.”

- **THESE RULES SUPERCEDE OUR GUIDELINES WHEN USING VILLAGE FIELDS.**
- All participants are responsible for providing their own masks.

## **COVID -19 TRAVEL ADVISORY**

- Effective April 1, 2021, New York’ travel advisory now only requires quarantine when returning from travel from outside the United States. Further information can be found at: <https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/covid-19-travel-advisory>