

## Coronavirus/COVID-19 Protocols & Guidelines

AYSO National's general guidelines, guidance from the CDC and from PA, and feedback from our own coaches and board members were used to create Gettysburg's COVID-19 Guidelines. These may be updated at any time to reflect new information on best practices or new guidelines from AYSO National, the CDC, or PA.

The information below is separated into two categories: I) For Gettysburg AYSO, II) For Gettysburg AYSO Volunteer Coaches. Please read through all sections to be fully informed.

Please understand some guidelines may seem more stringent than necessary as we would prefer to err on the side of caution. Although some protocols may result in temporary restrictions in play for players and feelings of disappointment, it is key that **all participants in AYSO's kid-centered, recreational program respect these guidelines for the benefit of the overall Gettysburg AYSO community.**

If you have questions or concerns about the guidelines, or need to report COVID-19 exposure, please reach out to Gettysburg AYSO's Covid Contact: Matt Crowner [gettysburg.ayso.coaches@gmail.com](mailto:gettysburg.ayso.coaches@gmail.com) or 717-759-0148 .

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### ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- CDC Guidelines - <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/youth-sports.html>
  - PA guidelines - <https://www.governor.pa.gov/covid-19/sports-guidance/>
  - AYSO guidelines - <https://www.aysovolunteers.org/returning-to-play/>
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## I. For Gettysburg AYSO Families

*Gettysburg AYSO will provide volunteer coaches and referees with guidelines and additional tools focused on minimizing the risk of viral spread including cleaning materials, training ideas, and communication protocols.*

*Please note: If a player, coach, or team is deemed an exposure risk, participation in AYSO activities may be limited until the safety requirements have been met to return to regular play.*

*Please read below for our region's guidelines for a safe and fun 2021-22 outdoor season.*

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*If a player, a player's household member, or a player's school pod member tests positive, please notify the AYSO Covid Contact as soon as possible and within 24 hours: Matt Crowner – [Gettysburg.ayso.coaches@gmail.com](mailto:Gettysburg.ayso.coaches@gmail.com) 717-759-0148*

*The AYSO Covid Contact will ensure that the appropriate steps are taken including notifying the coach and the rest of the team of the possible exposure, while respecting the family's privacy.*

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Please do your part and **do not** bring your player to soccer if:

- Your player, a member of your player's household, or a member of your player's "school pod" tests positive.<sup>1</sup>
- Your player has symptoms of illness, **even if the symptoms are minor.**
- Your player has been exposed to someone who has tested positive for the novel coronavirus.
- Your player does not meet the health criteria to attend school on a given day.

<sup>1</sup> If the player, anyone in the player's household, or a member of the player's school pod tests positive for COVID-19, the player should only return to AYSO activities after meeting the state health guidelines for home quarantine.

In each of the above situations, please inform the Covid Contact as soon as possible and within 24 hours. The Covid Contact will inform you of next steps and, when necessary, share information appropriately following our protocols for privacy and safety.

Gettysburg AYSO's Covid Contact is Matt Crowner: email – [Gettysburg.ayso.coaches@gmail.com](mailto:Gettysburg.ayso.coaches@gmail.com); phone – 717-759-0148 **\*Please check communications regularly.** Please add your player's coach and Gettysburg AYSO's email to your contact list to ensure messages do not go to the junk folder.

## **GUIDELINES FOR GETTYSBURG AYSO ACTIVITIES**

- Each family is asked to check their athlete's temperature at home, and refrain from participation if he or she has a fever ( $\geq 100.4$  degrees F). BY ATTENDING PRACTICE, YOU ARE CONFIRMING THAT YOU HAVE TAKEN THIS STEP PRIOR TO ATTENDING ANY AYSO FUNCTION.
- Please inform us immediately by calling the Gettysburg AYSO Covid Contact @717-~~253-9013~~759-0148 should your child or anyone in your family test positive for COVID-19 so we can inform any and all staff/families on your child's team.
- If possible, parents are asked to remain in their cars during training sessions and games after checking their player in with the coach. Should parents decide to observe sessions from the sidelines or to socialize with other parents, they are REQUIRED to wear face masks should they leave the parking lot or enter the field of play area. This requirement will be in place until further notice.
- Remind your player to wash their hands well before and after practices and games.
- Wash your player's uniform after each game.
- Team/group snacks are not permitted. Families may bring individual snacks, but these should only be eaten at a distance from other
- Masks required to be worn properly by all players, coaches, volunteers, and spectators.
- Coaches will log players that attend practice and games to help with contact tracing.
- No handshakes, high-fives or hugs.
- Players to bring their own equipment (ball, hand sanitizer, water bottle, towels, etc.) such that no equipment is shared between players.
- No sharing of water, towels, and personal equipment.
- Pinnies will not be shared by different people during practices unless cleaned and disinfected in between uses.
- Players and Coaches will use their own equipment and properly sanitize all equipment after every training session. Players and Coaches will not share or touch another participants equipment.
- Cones, goals, flags and other equipment to be handled by coaches only.
- Social distancing (6' minimum) will be enforced during explanations, breaks and on sidelines.
- We will provide adequate field space for social distancing on the sidelines for players not playing.
- All soccer activities will be staggered/spaced out to minimize interactions with other athletes.

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*There will be **zero tolerance** for shaming of players, families, or volunteers who experience illness or exposure and follow these guidelines. Although players may be disappointed or*

*upset if an activity needs to be postponed, please remember: This is a pandemic, we are in this together, and we will work together to ensure safe and fun soccer.*

***Coaches AND Parents will set the tone.***

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**I. For Gettysburg AYSO Volunteer Coaches**

*AYSO relies on and values the dedicated volunteers who keep soccer running. These guidelines are in place in order to minimize the risk of viral spread among players and volunteers, as well as the community at large.*

*Please note: If a player, coach, or team is deemed an exposure risk, participation in AYSO activities may be limited until the safety requirements have been met to return to regular play.*

*Gettysburg AYSO will provide each coach with a “prevention pack” including disinfectant wipes, facial tissues, gloves, and masks for use at practices and games. In addition, Gettysburg AYSO will share training ideas and communication support for coaches.*

*Please read below for our region’s guidelines for a safe and fun 2020-21 outdoor season.*

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*If you receive notice that a player, a player’s household member, or a player’s school pod member tests positive, please notify the Covid Contact as soon as possible and within 24 hours: Matt Crouner [Gettysburg.ayso.coaches@gmail.com](mailto:Gettysburg.ayso.coaches@gmail.com) 717-759-0148*

*The Covid Contact will ensure that the appropriate steps are taken including notifying the coach and the rest of the team of the possible exposure, while respecting the family’s privacy.*

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Please do your part and **do not** participate in AYSO activities if:

- You (the coach) or a member of your household tests positive.<sup>1</sup>
- You have symptoms of illness, **even if the symptoms are minor.**
- You have been exposed to someone who has tested positive for the novel coronavirus.

<sup>1</sup>If the coach or anyone in the coach’s household tests positive for COVID-19, the coach

should only return to AYSO activities after meeting the state health guidelines for home quarantine.

In each of the above situations, please inform the Covid Contact as soon as possible and within 24 hours. The Safety Director will inform you of next steps and, when necessary, share information appropriately following our protocols for privacy and safety.

Gettysburg AYSO's Covid Contact is Matt Crowner: email – [Gettysburg.ayso.coaches@gmail.com](mailto:Gettysburg.ayso.coaches@gmail.com); phone – 717-759-0148 Coaches, please:

**\*Please check communications regularly.** Please add Gettysburg AYSO's email to your contact list to ensure messages do not go to the junk folder.

- Maintain an attendance log for practices and games.
- Use resources from AYSO National for ideas on how to maximize skill development and fun, while minimizing exposure risks.
- Do not hesitate to remind anyone over the age of 2 years to wear a mask covering nose and mouth and follow physical distancing guidelines while watching practices and games. Players may remove their masks to participate in active play including drills, workouts, games, and matches.
- Do not hesitate to have a player sit out of practice if they are exhibiting symptoms of illness, even minor ones.

#### ***SAFETY REMINDERS for AYSO ACTIVITIES***

- It is required that coaches use a face covering for the duration of the practice.
- Players should use and bring their own ball to practices for drills and activities.
- Players should not share equipment or water bottles.
- Please bring a well-marked "COACH" ball to practice for scrimmages or other shared-ball activities. Please clean this ball with a disinfectant wipe before and after practice.
- Please bring a clean, correctly-sized ball to the field for game days.
- Remind players to wash their hands well before and after practices and games.