

Return To Play

Phased Approach

One of the primary methods of lowering the risk of exposure to COVID-19 is maintaining physical distance from others. Soccer, like all contact sports, requires players to be in close physical proximity during some aspects of training and during play.

In conjunction with steps outlined in our primary Return to Play Guidelines, we're taking a phased approach to return to play. This approach involves a gradual movement from individual activities to full team activities involving travel beyond your own community.

Pre-Phase (currently): Individual and virtual training. This phase includes individual fitness and technical work for players at home and with family members or with teammates via virtual solutions.

Phase One (1st 14 days of Green Phase): Intra-club activity...training and small-sided in-house activities. This phase includes small-group training within teams and small-sided games within teams.

Phase Two (15 days of Green Phase): Intra-club activity...small-sided games between teams within the clubs may be introduced in addition to training and Small Sided Game within teams.

Phase Three: Inter-club and Intra-club activity...training, small-sided in-house games, and small-sided inter-club games (within same county)

Phase Four: Activity opens to include full size matches and travel beyond county limits.

Movement from each phase to the next is dependent on a team/club to remain COVID-free. Should a case of COVID occur within a team/club then movement to the prior phase should be made.

Personal Safety Standards To Be Followed At All Times

1. When suffering from any illness, stay at home
2. Wash hands with soap and water; when soap and water not available use hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.
3. Avoid touching face.
4. Wear a mask when out in public, except when playing a game or training.

This document provides an overview of how the club will approach returning to play as permitted by the Commonwealth.

Introduction

Items listed below are new policies effective immediately. They will remain in place as long as required by CDC and PA Dept. of Health. All admins, coaches, and players are expected to fully comply.

Overview

The overriding expectations contained within the policy being implemented and followed to provide a safe playing environment. In general, Do not attend practice or game if not feeling well. Wear a mask. Wash hands with soap and water or use hand sanitizer. Do not touch your face. Do not share water bottles or food.

Players

This section outlines the requirements for players participating in club activities. Required personal hygiene, bring own equipment, no high fives, post-game handshakes, sharing of drinks or food etc. It is also encouraged to bring hand sanitizer or sanitizing wipes for personal use. A mask is recommended during team meetings and egress to/from parking area to playing area.

Parents

This section outlines the requirements for the parents/fans with children participating in club activities. Parents/fans are welcome at games but must observe mandated distancing guidelines. Otherwise, stay in your car, or on the gravel/paved areas. Please screen your child for covid related symptoms prior any soccer activity. Please wear a mask.

Coaches

This section outlines the requirements for coaches participating in club activities. Required personal hygiene, bring own equipment, no high fives, post-game handshakes, sharing of drinks or food etc. It is also encouraged to bring hand sanitizer or sanitizing wipes for personal use. A mask will be required during team meetings and egress to/from parking area to playing area. Coach is also responsible to insure players understand social distance requirements during breaks and team meetings. Coach will keep an attendance record and not permit any player that exhibits symptoms from being near the team.

Admins

This section outlines the requirement for club admins participating in club activities. Required personal hygiene, bring own equipment, no high fives, post-game handshakes, sharing of drinks or food etc. It is also encouraged to bring hand sanitizer or sanitizing wipes for personal use. A mask will be required during team meetings and egress to/from parking area to playing area.

Facilities

Benches cleaned prior to scheduled game time.

No more than 3 people per bench

Observe painted lines, maintain 6ft (2yd) spacing, sit in front row, to allow standing in rear

Pre-packaged snacks and drinks only at concessions

COVID Positive Response

- GCYSA will follow CDC guidance for community related exposure.

Additional Resources

At this time all contact should be directly to the PA Department of Health.

Contact numbers are: 814-765-0542 or 1-877-PA-Health (1-877-724-3258).

The number answers 24 hours, however the best time to contact them to speak with a nurse would be between 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM. You can also contact the PA Department of Health via their website at: www.health.pa.gov.