

Spring 2021 Crossover League

Chantilly
GFR
Herndon
MYS
PSA
Sterling

Return to Play Protocols

League Rules

As of April 6, 2021

Return to Play Protocols for Games

Pre-Game - Coaches and Players

1. Prior to attending any training session, each player should check his or her temperature at home and refrain from participation if he/she has a fever of >100.4 degrees. (it will be taken at the field as well)
2. Prior to participation, coaches will obtain verbal communication from the player that:
 - a. The player has not had any/no contact with a sick individual or anyone with a confirmed case of COVID-19.

- b. The player has not had a documented case of COVID-19 in the last 14 days.
- c. The player is not currently demonstrating or suffering from any ill symptoms.
 - i. If the player answers YES to any of the above questions or has a temperature that player is to leave the field immediately, and may not participate.

On-Field Protocols - Players

- All players must wait to enter the field until his or her coach arrives and performs the pre-game screen (listed above) - this may include a temperature check.
- All players must enter and leave the field of play at an appropriate distance from other family groups.
- All players must wear a mask to and from the parking area to the field and when on the sideline waiting to be subbed into a game. Masks may only be removed when on the field of play.
- Players must maintain a distance of 6 feet from each other and the coaches along the sideline
- No sharing of equipment, balls, water bottles, sunscreen, etc
- Players should bring his or her own hand sanitizer, and use it before entering and after exiting the game
- No physical contact, eg hand shakes, high fives, fist bumps.
- No spitting

On-Field Protocols - Coaches

- Coaches must wear a mask at all times .
- Coaches should use hand sanitizer regularly, and encourage players to do the same.
- Teams should each remain on opposite sidelines, with the exception of fields where there is no fence then teams are to remain on the same sideline opposite spectators. Teams will each be given half the field to line up their players and to maintain social distance.
- Coaches should assist players with cones to indicate 6-foot spacing along the sideline.
- No sharing of pinnies, equipment, balls, water bottles, sunscreen, etc.
- Only the coach handles any warm-up equipment. Bring clean pinnies, and a “dirty bag”, into which used ones are placed after any individual player is finished with it. The coach should then proceed to wash all pinnies before next use, and repeat the above process.
- No hand shakes or other physical contact at the end of the game.
- Limit post-game ‘chat’ and leave the area promptly, instructing players to put on masks and maintain distance.

On-Field Protocols - Parents/Families/Spectators

- All spectators (families, parents, etc) must wear a mask at ALL TIMES - to and from the parking area to the field area and while watching the game. Spectators are limited to 2 per player.
- Spectators are to maintain the required distance from other family groups
- Spectators must observe the restrictions about where families may sit or stand as specified for each field - signage will be posted for each field.
 - When there is a fence - spectators are to remain outside the fence - each team can then take a sideline.
 - When there is no fence spectators should sit/stand on the opposite sideline from the team. Teams will each be given half the field to line up their players and to maintain social distance.

Protocols - Referees

- Assigned match officials are required to wear facial masks at all times going to/from the field, during pre-game discussion, and at halftime.
 - **Center referees:** it is the individual official's discretion as to whether to wear a facial mask during the run of play.
 - **Assistant referees (ARs):** a face mask is required to be worn at all times
- Officials shall NOT share equipment (jerseys, flags, whistles). Any club linesman can supply their own flag or simply raise a hand to indicate out-of-play.
- Officials shall conduct pre-game discussions and halftime discussions using social distancing.
- Officials shall not conduct player pass checks or shake hands with other officials, players, or coaches.
- Officials will not conduct a coin toss - the Home Team (listed 1st) will kick-off the first half, and the Away Team (listed 2nd) will kick-off the second half.
- During play - the ball:
 - When the ball leaves the field, the officials will let it be retrieved by a player, coach or spectator
 - At the end of each half, the team taking the kick is to bring the ball to the field
 - At the award of a goal, the team scored on is to bring the ball to the center mark
 - At the award of a direct kick, indirect kick or a penalty kick the official where indicate where the kick is to be taken

- In the event of a drop ball the officials will indicate with their feet where the drop ball is to occur, and then will blow their whistle to restart the game - players will compete for the ball on the ground vs in the air (normal laws of the game will apply)
- Officials shall NOT enforce any facility or club Return to Play Guidelines and shall limit themselves to enforcing the Laws of the Game.
- Officials should recognize that COVID is not a laughing matter and communicate to players and team personnel that it should be considered off limits for jokes, both because many people have lost family and friends to the pandemic and because trying to determine intent of such contents is difficult even under the best of circumstances.
- Officials should proactively discourage players from group celebrations and high-fives, treat spitting as a send-off offense, and should dismiss spectators for irresponsible behavior as needed.
- Any player who approaches a referee to complain about a call or no-call from within 6 feet should expect a caution for Failure to Yield Required Distance.

Post game

- Coaches, players and spectators must social distance and leave the field and surrounding area **promptly**.
- Face coverings **MUST** be worn while exiting the field.
- Any coach, player or referee who participates in a game and receives a positive COVID-19 test within 14 days **AFTER** the game date, should communicate to the clubs involved immediately so all in attendance can be notified.

Failure to Follow Established Protocols

In the event that the above protocols are not followed to any extent, and that the center referee/official feels that his or her safety, the safety of the ARs, the safety of the players, coaches or spectators are at any point being infringed upon then the following consequences will occur:

1. The offender(s) has/have two minutes from initial warning (via the Head Coach) to remedy said behavior,
2. If the behavior is not remedied, the game will be suspended until such behavior is remediated,
3. If the behavior continues further, the game will be terminated immediately and not made up.

Crossover League Rules

- The U11-12 games will be 9v9, and the U13+ games will be 11 v 11
- Normal playing time for all games and age groups:
 - U11 & U12: 2 x 30-minute halves (60 minute game)
 - U13 & U14: 2 x 35- minute halves (70 minute game)
 - U16 & U19: 2 x 40-minute halves (80 minute game)
 - 5 minute half for all games
- No roster checking will occur, but all coaches should have a copy of his or her roster for reference. No card checking or exchanging rosters
- Home coach will contact visiting coach by Wednesday of the game week, to confirm field layout, jersey color.
- No jersey numbers will be required. Pinnies or Club colour t-shirts will suffice if necessary
- Teams may have guest players (registered with their Club for the season) if they have too many absences; players can play UP one age group (U13 and older), but not down
- The 'Mercy Rule' is in effect across all age groups: 4-goal differential, remove 1 player, 5-goal remove a 2nd, until the minimum number is reached (7 for 11v11 and 6 for 9v9)
- Every game is expected to have a 3-man referee crew - may be adjusted should game officials be unavailable
- Scores and standings will not be kept
- Normal [FIFA laws of the game](#) apply in absence of any modification listed above