



## COVID 19 GUIDELINES FOR RDYSL 2021 SEASON

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### GENERAL:

The purpose of these guidelines is to give our players the best possible chance of being able to compete safely during these trying times. We realize that no matter what we do, the act of playing soccer involves a certain level of risk, even in the best of times.

**Anyone who is uncomfortable with these risks should not be participating.** For the rest of us, this is what we can do together to minimize the risk of playing this season. If everyone involved takes this guidance seriously, we hope to complete a successful season.

As a league we believe that playing soccer benefits our children, many of whom have had few or no organized activities to participate in recently. Please help us keep this opportunity alive for our kids! Please note that these recommendations are in addition to any restrictions that are in place in your individual club, town or regional governing authority.

### PRE-GAME READINESS:

1. Home team must communicate to the visiting team, at least 24 hours prior to the match, specific site rules that must be followed.
2. All teams are expected to bring all player and adult risk management passes as well as two copies of the RDYSL game-day roster to each match. One manager or coach from each team will handle the passes during check-in. The team will retain control of the passes once check-in is complete. The referee will not handle passes for any reason before, during or after a match.
3. All spectators must wear a mask upon arrival at the field. Managers (or a designated adult) must keep track of what spectators are in attendance and be able to produce a list if asked.
4. All players not on the field must wear a mask. Players on the field can wear a mask if they choose to do so.
5. All coaches must wear a mask at all times once they arrive at the field.
6. The coach/manager is required to make sure all red cards, accumulated yellow cards and coach ejections/red cards are handled appropriately at the next match(es).
7. No handshakes or fist bumps will be permitted at the conclusion of the match
8. Players and spectators should gather their belongings and leave the field immediately at the conclusion of the match.

## **CLUB RESPONSIBILITIES:**

- Be certain that all members of your club have seen and read these guidelines and agree to abide by them.
- You must exclude members from participating in activities that have symptoms as published by the CDC
- You must exclude members from participating in activities that have been exposed to the coronavirus and have been directed to by health officials to self-isolate / self-quarantine
- You must report certain information to the league email [reportvirus@rdysl.com](mailto:reportvirus@rdysl.com) if any member of your club either tests positive for the coronavirus or has been exposed to the coronavirus within 24 hours of being notified. In accordance with national and state standards, the information required by the league is:
  - What date is it suspected that they were exposed?
  - What soccer related activities did this person or a member of their household attend after that date?
  - If they were tested for coronavirus was the result positive or negative? Do not delay the report to the league administrator while you are awaiting results. Results can be included in a separate report.
  - Please do not disclose the name or role of the individual. That information is privileged and is not needed for the league to take the required actions. We do need to know which team(s) they are involved with.
  - Please note that the league must be informed of this information even if the member or his/her household did not attend any matches but did interact with other members of the team.
- Balls must be disinfected before each match and at halftime. We strongly recommend that there not be any seating provided for spectators (i.e. bleachers) but if they are there and accessible, they also must be disinfected between matches
- Please tell your members to not congregate in public spaces such as the parking area unless remaining in their automobile.

## **COACH AND MANAGER RESPONSIBILITIES:**

- Assist the club in executing their responsibilities including reporting COVID exposure to the league administrator and sanitation efforts if you are the home team coach.
- You must exclude yourself from participating in activities if you have symptoms.
- You must exclude yourself from participating in activities if you or a member of your household has been exposed to the coronavirus and have been directed to by health officials to self-isolate / self-quarantine. Please notify your club president and [reportvirus@rdysl.com](mailto:reportvirus@rdysl.com) immediately should this happen.
- Sanitizing the game ball before the match and at halftime (Home team coach)
- Inquire how the athletes are feeling, send them home should you believe they act or look ill.

- Ensure all athletes have their individual equipment (water bottles, bag, face mask)
- Assure that the players place their bags with their personal equipment 6 feet away from all other bags and behind the bench if there is one.
- During the match the coach must always wear a face mask covering mouth and nose or a face shield and assure that all substitutes and other technical area personnel do as well. When making a substitution instruct your players to go to their bag, remove their face mask and report to the halfway line.
- Have fun, stay positive – players and parents are looking to you to stay calm, supportive and caring during this time. Try to avoid yelling instructions toward the field. We recommend quietly teaching your players what you want them to do when they are not actively participating.
- Have a manager or parent keep a count of the number of spectators from your team at the game and assure that there are no more than 2 spectators per child participating.
- A team representative is responsible for keeping spectator attendance; this information resides with the team/club until 30 days past the end of the season or needed for tracing. If a town field requires attendance information for use of the field, the home team will notify the visiting team of this requirement. We suggest you use a 3<sup>rd</sup> Game Day roster to keep attendance.
- No group celebrations, high 5's, hugs, fist bumps, handshakes or handshake lines before, during or after the match.
- Do not allow group snacks or shared water tanks/containers at any game.
- If spectators need to sit on the half of the field that the ARs are patrolling, they should be a minimum of 10 feet from the sideline to have clearance from the touchline and the six feet from the spectators.
- It is the team's responsibility to ensure that all spectators are wearing their masks covering mouth and nose or a face shield, at all times. If the referee needs to address this issue, he/she will do this with the coach. We suggest you have a parent specifically responsible for spectators and their masks.

#### *PAPERWORK:*

- Each coach/team representative will assist the refs with check in; team representative will stand close to ref with passes and be the only person touching the passes as the players checks in. The manager will KEEP the passes for the entire game Two RDYSL Game Day Rosters will be given to the ref (the ref will give the team rosters to each team). They will be in paper form.
- Any red cards/Ejections will NOT have the coach/players card be taken from the team by the ref. The ref is only responsible to write this information in the RDYSL game report.
- Show your Risk Management pass to the referee but please do not give it to them. Allow the referee enough time to note your name on the RDYSL Game Day Roster if it is not already there.
- Keep track of all game participants at each match. If you have extra copies of the RDYSL Game Day Roster this will be simple. It will also assist us should we need to contact people if COVID exposure is suspected at a given match. This

also gives the league backup information should it be necessary (each coach and the referee on the match.)

## **PARENT RESPONSIBILITIES**

- As a parent of a player in our league, you are the most important person that will help our league succeed this season!
- You must exclude your child from participating in activities if they have symptoms.
- You must exclude your child from participating in activities if they or a member of your household has been exposed to the coronavirus and have been directed to by health officials to self-isolate / self-quarantine. If that happens, please notify either your club president or coach immediately.
- Avoid carpooling with other players when possible. Avoid having more than one player other than your child in your vehicle traveling to games.
- Ensure child's clothing is washed after every training session or game.
- Ensure all player equipment is sanitized before and after every training or game.
- Notify your coach or club president immediately if your child becomes ill for any reason.
- Be sure your child always has sanitizer with them, their own equipment, and a bag for their equipment at every training or game.
- Do not bring group snacks to any game.

## **PLAYER RESPONSIBILITIES:**

- Players have the option to wear a mask on the field during a game.
- Take your temperature daily.
- You must exclude yourself from participating in activities if you have symptoms.
- You must exclude yourself from participating in activities if you or a member of your household have been exposed to the coronavirus and have been directed to by health officials to self-isolate / self-quarantine. If this happens, please notify either your club president or coach immediately.
- Wash hands thoroughly before and after training or games. Sanitize your hands at halftime of any match.
- Bring and use, hand sanitizer with you to every training or game.
- Wear a mask covering mouth and nose at any time when you are not actively participating.
- Do not touch or share anyone else's equipment, water, snack or bag.
- Practice social distancing, place bags and equipment at least 6 feet away from everyone else's.
- No group celebrations, high 5's, hugs, fist bumps, spitting on the field, handshakes or handshake lines.

## **SPECTATOR RESPONSIBILITIES:**

- You must exclude yourself from going to games if you have symptoms.
- You must exclude yourself from going to games if you or a member of your household have been exposed to the coronavirus and have been directed to by health officials to self-isolate / self-quarantine.
- If this happens, please notify either your club president or coach immediately.
- If you are of higher risk to catch the virus, do not come to games!
- Wash hands thoroughly before and after the games.
- Bring and use, hand sanitizer with you to every training or game. If you need a chair, bring it.
- You must wear a mask covering mouth and nose during the entire time you are on site unless you are in your car. If you are not willing or able to wear a mask or shield, please remain in your car. A referee may stop the game to have the coach enforce these guidelines.
- Spectators will not be allowed to sit on the side where the Assistant Referee is located. If the field does not allow this, then the spectators need to sit 6 feet (minimum) from the touchline.
- Please note that raising your voice creates two major problems:
  - First, you will take in a large amount of air as you prepare to yell. This endangers you.
  - Secondly, there is evidence that yelling will spread any viruses you have at least 30 feet. This endangers others.
- Try to come up with other ways to support your team!
- Do not touch the ball with your hands. If you retrieve a ball, kick it back toward the field.
- No group celebrations, high 5's, fist bumps, hugs, handshakes or handshake lines.
- Spectators are required to sit at least 10 feet from the sidelines if they are on the same half of the field as the AR.

## **REFEREE/MENTOR RESPONSIBILITIES:**

- Do not accept any match if you are at a higher risk of contracting coronavirus.
- You must exclude yourself from participating in activities if you have symptoms. Contact your assignor should this happen.
- You must exclude yourself from participating in activities if you or a member of your household have been exposed to the coronavirus and have been directed to by health officials to self-isolate / self-quarantine. Contact your assignor should this happen. Assignor should contact the league President and let him know what games you may have officiated while exposed.
- Wash hands thoroughly before and after games. Sanitize your hands at halftime of any match.
- Bring and use, hand sanitizer with you to every game.

- Wear a mask covering mouth and nose at any time when you are not actively participating.
- Do not touch or share anyone else's equipment, water, snack or bag.
- Place bags and equipment at least 6 feet away from everyone else's.
- No group celebrations, high 5's, hugs, fist bumps, handshakes or handshake lines.
- When getting or receiving feedback, unless you have back to back games, do it somewhere removed from the field and the people entering and leaving the field.
- Practice social distancing and avoid yelling as much as possible.
- Report any concerns about any match to your assignor and the league coordinator. If there are spectators violating our guidelines, tell the coach of the team and have them address their sidelines.

*DURING CHECK IN:*

- Wear a mask covering mouth and nose.
- Accept only paper rosters and do not give them back to the coach.
- The coach/team representative will assist the refs with check in; team representative, wearing a mask covering mouth and nose, will stand close to ref with passes and be the only person touching the passes as the players checks in.
- Do not touch or hold the coaches risk management pass for any reason.
- Keep track on the rosters as to whom was actually at the match with a checkmark.
- Keep the rosters until the end of the season. The league may need a copy of it.
- If a coach requests to see your risk management pass, show it to them but do not allow them to touch it. If the coach requests your name, give it to them verbally, spelling it if needed. Do not write it out for them nor give them a paper with it written on it.
- Any RED cards/Ejections will NOT have the coach/players card be taken from the team by the ref. The ref is only responsible to write this information in the RDYSL game report.