Match Day Protocols – Fall 2020 (as of 8.14.20)

**COACHES**
- Masks required at all times
- Maintain minimum of 6 feet of physical distance from everyone; in event of player injury, may not be possible
- Ask each player before match if he/she feels sick; instruct him/her to leave if answer “yes”
- Monitor/ensure players on bench maintain 6 feet of physical distance from each other, referees
- Do not provide communal water, energy drinks/supplements, etc. and reinforce with players to bring their own

**PLAYERS**
- Masks required to and from the field
- Arrive to and leave field fully dressed (uniform, shoes, guards, etc.)
- Maintain minimum of 6 feet of physical distance from all others when on bench (players, coaches, etc.)
- Do not share waterbottles, energy drinks/supplements, pinnies, balls, etc.
- No group huddles, cheers, high fives/chest bumps, hugs, etc.

**REFEREES**
- Masks required during pregame check and when leaving the field for Referees, AR’s and optional to wear during a match
- 4th official required to wear mask during a match
- Only use own equipment (flags, etc.); if must share yours, sanitize before/after use by another
- *Role is not* to enforce the protocols; *role is* to note and report instances of non-compliance to Iowa Soccer

**PARENTS & SPECTATORS**
- All attending match should take temperature prior to and stay home if 100 degrees or higher; includes players
- Recommended to wear a mask to/from and during the match
- Must sit in designated area 10 feet from team bench & touchline
- Maintain minimum of 6 feet of physical distance from other family units at all times
- Avoid going to other team’s side of the field
Simply stated, if we want to have a fall season, even though it may look and feel different from “normal”, we all must be part of mitigation efforts.

We have heard from many members that kids need to have outlets such as sports which contribute to positive mental and physical health. If soccer activity results in a breakout of cases, we will be unable to have a fall season.

Please contribute to ensuring a fall season!

Mitigation efforts do not guarantee 100% protection. Mitigation efforts do help decrease the spread of the droplets that can carry and transmit the virus.

The more people who engage in mitigation efforts such as wearing a mask, the more that helps to decrease the amount of droplets!

COACHES: In all matches between different clubs, coaches are required to wear a mask to/from and during the match.

Exception: No mask required during game if the game is between teams from the same club, which typically occurs in 8U-below matches.

PLAYERS must wear masks to/from the game field.

SPECTATORS, recommended to wear a mask to/from the game field and during the match.

REFEREES & AR’s must wear a mask to/from the game field and during pregame if a pregame is conducted.

4th OFFICIALS (if your match has one) must wear a mask to/from the game field and during the match.

Requirements & recommendations are subject to change if/as conditions warrant.
ASSESSMENT/TREATMENT OF AN INJURED PLAYER SHOULD NOT BE DELAYED IF BEST PRACTICES CANNOT BE FOLLOWED!

When the Referee signals, send only one coach to the injured player (coach should already be masked). Coach should bring 2 clean/unused masks onto the field.

Coach provides unused mask to injured player prior to speaking to player to assess his/her status.

Coach mindful of keeping 6 feet of physical distance as possible if/until it is determined player needs assistance or needs help to get off the field.

If injured player needs help off the field that requires an additional person, coach first signals to player’s parent (if present) and provides unused mask to parent. If parent not onsite, coach should signal to a team member, providing unused mask to him/her.

As possible after exiting the field coach, injured player and anyone who assisted should clean hands with sanitizer.

ASSESSMENT/TREATMENT OF AN INJURED PLAYER SHOULD NOT BE DELAYED IF BEST PRACTICES CANNOT BE FOLLOWED!
Recommendation for the fall season is to limit the number of supporters at a game to one per player.

- We know family involvement at a youth sports activity, especially for proud grandparents, is a big deal.
- Part of overall mitigation efforts are aimed at decreasing the droplets that can carry and transmit the virus and at decreasing the number of people in the same area who can transmit or contract the virus.
- Limited supporters = fewer droplets, and likely fewer people who get (and potentially spread) the virus.
Referees & Pregame Check

- If Referees or AR’s conduct an equipment check by lining players up, players must have 6 feet between them.
- Referees and AR’s will not handle player passes for league play; Referees and AR’s will not ask for nor handle team rosters for league play.
- Tournaments have the option to require Referees/AR’s check rosters that include player photos or check player passes in order to ensure player eligibility. In that instance, sanitize hands before and after handling; masks are required for the Referee and AR’s during that pregame check.
- Referees and AR’s will not conduct a coin toss or a captain’s meeting.
- Home team will be deemed “winner” of coin toss and thereby select their first-half option.

Substitutions

- For a player in the game who is substituted for, he/she should immediately head directly to his/her team bench to leave the field of play.
- If substitutes are wearing a pinnie, player coming off the field should not take the pinnie from the substitute; he/she should put on his/her own pinnie when arrives at team bench; substitute should not have pinnie on while waiting to enter the game, should put in gear bag.

Deliberate Coughing

- **DELIBERATELY** coughing at or on an opponent or any other participant in the match is treated in the same way as spitting at or on an opponent and will result in an immediate red card.
- Spectators will be held to the same standard and Referees will have the same authority to enforce as they do with all other spectator-related issues.
The recommendation for the fall season is for facilities NOT to provide team benches. Two reasons:

- While on their team’s sideline, players are to maintain a physical distance of 6 feet from others at all times. This makes a team bench essentially unusable.
- If a bench is present, the home club or facility personnel, whether professional, part-time or volunteer, will be responsible for sanitizing the team benches between every match.

**Team Benches**

Published August 14, 2020

Requirements & recommendations are subject to change if/as conditions warrant.
• Teams will be placed on opposite sides of field, on the half of the field that the AR is on.
• Strongly recommended that team bench/technical and spectator areas are marked with/by painted areas.
• The home team will be on the AR1 side of the field.
• Parents and spectators will sit on the same side of field as their team, located on the other half of the field.
• Team technical area will be between the bottom of the center circle to the top of the penalty area (see diagram)
• See diagram for allowable areas for teams and spectators to be seated; minimum 10 feet back from the touchline
• Game transitions: next teams to play on that field should not enter technical areas until previous teams have left; same for parents and spectators
• Sanitize match balls, and if facility provides team benches, sanitize team benches
• As possible with scheduling, try to stagger or limit games being played at same time on side-by-side fields

**Fields & Facilities**

**Match Day Protocols – Fall 2020**

**Requirements & recommendations are subject to change if/as conditions warrant.**
Match Day Protocols – Fall 2020

Small-sided, side-by-side fields that go across a full-sized field

Fields & Facilities

Requirements & recommendations are subject to change if/as conditions warrant.
Fields & Facilities

Requirements & recommendations are subject to change if/as conditions warrant.