

# American Youth Soccer Organization



## MATCH DAY PROTOCOLS

## **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 water bottles, 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
- 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 Tustin AYSO

## PARENTS & SPECTATORS

- All attending match should take temperature prior to and stay home if 100 degrees or higher; includes players
- If you are able, 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



## Contribute to ensuring a safe season!

Simply stated, if we want to have a safe 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 teams, coaches are required to wear a mask to/from and during the match.

**PLAYERS** must wear masks to/from the game field.

**SPECTATORS**, if able, are asked 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.

## **INJURED PLAYER BEST PRACTICES**

- 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 2clean/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!

## **TEAM SUPPORTERS**

- Recommendation for the season is to limit the number of supporters at a game to two 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.



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## **FIELDS & FACILITIES**

- Teams will be placed on opposite sides of field, on the half of the field that the AR is not 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.
- 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

