



## COVID-19 GUIDELINES FOR SPRING 2021 LEAGUE

### GENERAL Statement:

The purpose of these COVID-19 (also referred to as Coronavirus) guidelines is to give our players the best possible chance of being able to compete safely during the pandemic. These guidelines represent what we can do together to minimize the risk of exposure. These guidelines are based on the NY State Department of Health guidelines for sports as of April 15. These guidelines are subject to change based on updated State and Federal guidance. If the area where the activity is being conducted has any restrictions that are more stringent than these guidelines, it is the home team's responsibility to ensure that all persons who may attend that activity are given sufficient notice to comply with those restrictions.

<https://www.governor.ny.gov/sites/default/files/atoms/files/SportsAndRecreationSummaryGuidance.pdf>

### REQUIREMENTS for Players, Parents, Coaches, Team Staff and Referees:

Each player on the team roster must complete a [COVID-19 Waiver form](#) and the team must keep all of the signed waiver forms on file and provide them to the League Administrator upon request. The team must sign a [Team Compliance form](#) and provide it to the League Administrator, stating that they have all of the COVID-19 Waiver forms on file for each player on the team roster.

Any player, parent, coach, team staff, or referee cannot participate in activities if they are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms or if they have been exposed to the coronavirus and have been directed by health officials to self-isolate or self-quarantine.

The following information must be reported to the league administrator if any player, parent, coach, team staff or referee either tests positive for the coronavirus or has been exposed to the coronavirus within 24 hours of being notified:

- What is the suspected date of exposure and the level of exposure (primary, secondary)?
- What league/team 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 test results. Test 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 teams they are involved with.
- Please note that the league must be informed of this information even if the person or their household did not attend any matches but did have interaction with other players, coaches or team staff.

Referees must wear a mask during check in of players and team staff.

During the match, coaches and team staff must wear acceptable face covering at all times. Players and referees must wear an acceptable face covering while not actively participating but may remove the acceptable face covering when they are actively participating or waiting to substitute into the match if they are unable to tolerate the face covering during physical activity.

Players, coaches, and team staff must avoid group celebrations that require touching others, such as high 5's, hugs, fist-bumps, handshakes or handshake lines.

Referees must keep track of who is participating in the match, for tracking purposes.

- Mark on the rosters which players, coaches & team staff were actually at the match.
- If a coach or team staff is not noted on the roster, add their name to it.
- Keep the rosters for at least 2 weeks following the match in case the league needs it

The team must keep a copy of the team roster at least 2 weeks after the match is over, indicating which players and team staff have participated in the match. This is for tracking purposes, in case an exposure is identified to have occurred during the match.

## **MATCH Schedules:**

If a match must be cancelled due to COVID-19 exposure, the match may be rescheduled without incurring cancellation and rescheduling fees or fines.

If a team has players that must be excluded from a match because they have tested positive for COVID-19 or are forced to quarantine due to COVID-19 exposure, the team may request the game to be rescheduled if both of the following criteria are met:

- The number of excluded players is 3 or more, and
- The number of excluded players is such that the remaining roster has 15 or fewer players remaining. (For 12U matches, the roster criteria is 13 or fewer players.)

The League Administrator will ask a match to be rescheduled if a majority of players on one or both teams has been exposed to COVID-19 within the past 10 days, even if they do not test positive or show symptoms.

## **BEST PRACTICES and GUIDELINES:**

The below best practices and guidelines are suggestions for team staff, parents, players, spectators and referees to ensure a safe environment for all participants.

### **Team Staff Guidelines:**

Ensure that each player, coach, and team staff has passed a COVID-19 self-assessment, such as a review of symptoms, exposure, and individual temperature check, before reporting to the match.

Ensure all athletes have their individual equipment (water bottles, bag, face masks).

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.

Use a field layout that isolates teams, referees, and spectators, conforming to the following guidelines (see diagram on page 5):

- Home team and visiting team technical areas are marked and are at least 12 feet from the touchline, and 9 feet from the referee area
- Home team and visiting team spectator areas are marked and are at least 12 feet away from the touchline, with tick marks indicating 6 foot intervals
- Referee area is marked and is 12 feet wide and at least 12 feet from the touch line

Ask spectators to use social distancing of 6 feet between family groups, and wear a mask when within 6 feet.

Ask spectators from your team to honor the above guidelines.

Recognize that yelling can spread coronavirus aerosol much farther than the recommended social distance of 6 feet, and should be avoided to the greatest extent possible.

### **Player Guidelines:**

Take a COVID-19 self-assessment, such as a review of symptoms, exposure, and individual temperature check, prior to participating in activities associated with a match.

Wash hands thoroughly before and after the match and sanitize them at halftime.

Bring and use hand sanitizer with you to every match.

Wear an acceptable face covering at any time when you are not actively participating. When you are actively participating wear an acceptable face covering, unless you are unable to tolerate the face covering while playing, in which case don't wear one.

Bring extras in case the mask gets wet and becomes unbreathable. If you are having difficulties breathing remove the mask immediately and return it to your equipment bag. You are NOT required to wear a mask while playing.

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.

## **Parent Guidelines**

As a parent of a player in our league, you can help our league succeed this season.

Ensure your child is healthy, has no COVID-19 symptoms, and does not have an elevated temperature before sending them to a match.

Avoid carpooling with other players when possible. Avoid having more than one player other than your children in your vehicle traveling to games.

Ensure your child's clothing is washed after every training session or game.

Ensure all of the player's personal equipment is sanitized before and after every training or game.

Be sure your child always has sanitizer with them, their own equipment and a bag for their equipment at every match.

Do not bring group snacks to any game.

## **Spectator Guidelines:**

Practice social distancing, maintaining 6 feet from other family groups, and wear a mask when within 6 feet of others.

## **Referee Guidelines:**

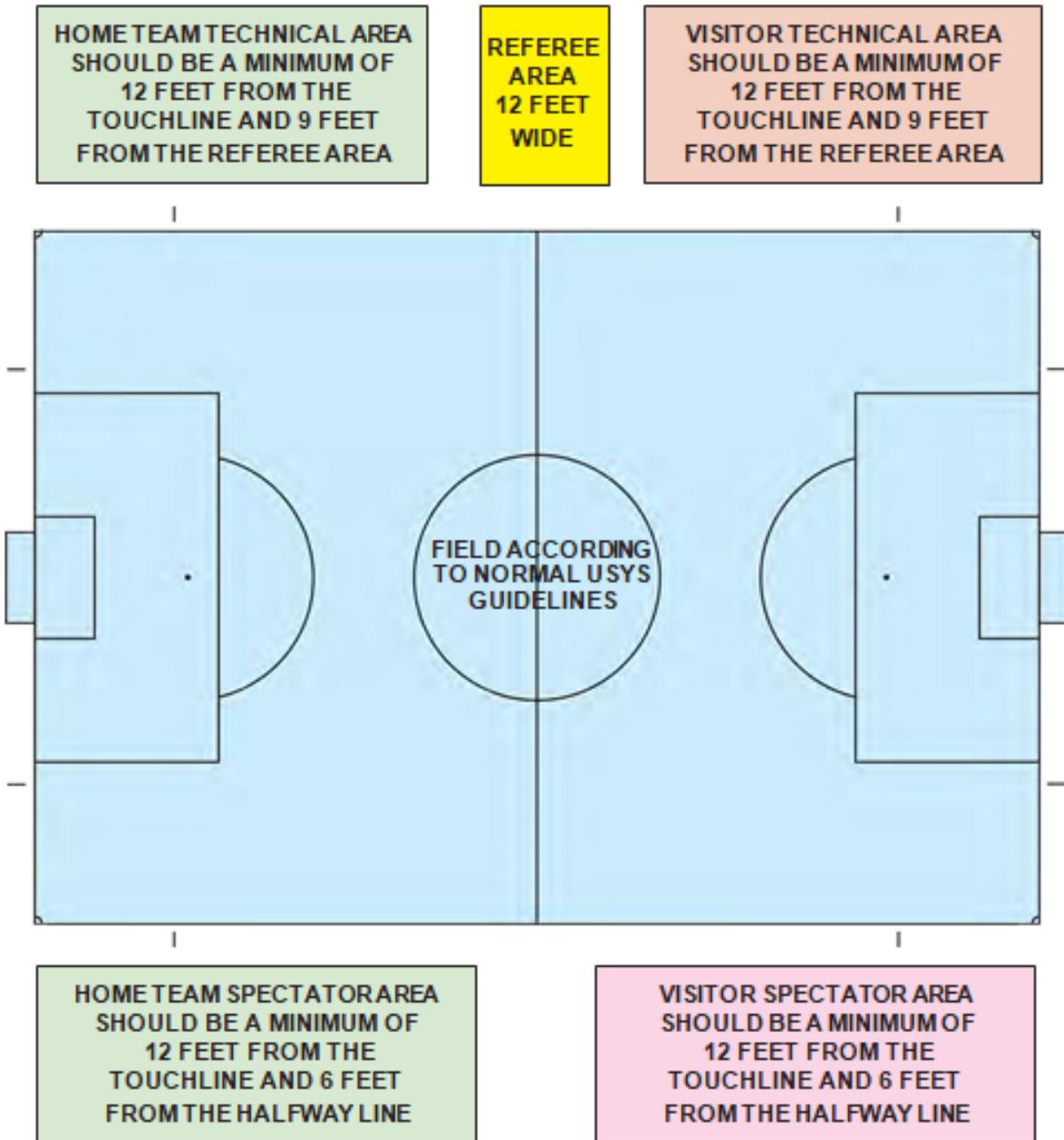
Practice social distancing and avoid yelling as much as possible.

Report any concerns about any match to your assignor and the league coordinator.

This document is separated into league requirements and guidelines. If coaches, players, parents or spectators are violating the league requirements, tell the coach of the team. If they are not rectified, include the details in your match report.

**Field Layout Guidelines:**

Use marked areas to isolate teams, referees, and spectators.



**CHAMPIONS CONFERENCE League Administrator:**

The League Administrator, Pam Whitcomb, can be contacted at:

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- Phone: 607-962-9923, ext. 3