

Clinton Youth Soccer (CYS) returning to play for Spring 2021 Soccer. COVID Guidelines

Clinton Youth Soccer is committed to protecting the health of all people in and outside of our community. In an effort to assist our players, coaches and parents with their efforts to return to play after the recent suspension of activities due to COVID-19, Massachusetts YouthSoccer has put together the following guidelines for our club to follow.

Given the nature of this pandemic, this framework/protocol may change at any time based on the most recent CDC and or Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) guidelines. Clinton Youth Soccer will update/revise these guidelines as needed. Soccer has been classified as a moderate sport and below are the guidelines Clinton Youth Soccer will be following to ensure that all families, coaches, players, board members and referees will be safe. These guidelines are from Mass Youth Soccer, EEA, MIAA and Clinton Board of Health

Proposed CYS Soccer Season – Spring 2021

Clinton Youth Soccer Proposed Spring Season – Saturdays – 8 weeks (High School Team plays on Sundays)

April 24
May 1
May 8
May 15
May 20
June 5
June 12
June 19

U6 and U8 will be in town and U10, U12, U14 and High School will play in town and travel. We are figuring out practice times for our travel teams. We will have one practice a week to start.

U6 – 9:00am-10:00am
U8 - 10:30am - 11:30am / 12:00pm - 1:00pm
U10 Girls - 9:00am
U10Boys - 10:30AM
U12Girls - 12:00pm
U12 Boys - 1:30pm
U14 Girls - 3:00pm

U14 Boys - 4:50PM

High School Girls - SUNDAYS - 1:00pm/2:50pm/4:40pm

UNIFORMS for U6/U8 WILL BE HANDED OUT WEEK 1 AT THE FIELDS - Travel uniforms will be picked up the week of April 18th

Your coaches will be reaching out to you and introducing themselves

All Travel Schedules (once posted) can be found on www.nvysl.org - first tab at top of site.

Parents/Players/Coaches/Volunteers

Please read the following and familiarize yourself

Return to Play

https://www.mayouthsoccer.org/assets/61/6/soccer_activities_protocols_april_6_2021.pdf

Wet Signature Release Form - Mass Youth Soccer has created a Release Form that all parents/guardians/coaches will need to sign - If you refuse to sign the release you and your player (s) will not be allowed on the fields. Parents/Guardians are expected to sign the Release on behalf of each player/child under the age of 18.

If you signed a waiver in the Fall 2020 Season as an Adult/Player you are covered for the Spring.

Player Waiver

https://www.mayouthsoccer.org/assets/61/6/return_to_soccer_activity_review_and_compliance_waiver_player.pdf

Adult Waiver

https://www.mayouthsoccer.org/assets/61/6/return_to_soccer_activity_review_and_compliance_waiver_adult_member_030221.pdf

Coaches/Volunteers

If you are interested in coaching/volunteering - contact

clintonyouthsoccer01510@gmail.com and then please read the following links and complete the Adult Registration

Adult Registration - [Adult Registration Process - Adult Registration](#)

Coaches Toolkit <https://www.mayouthsoccer.org/coach-resources-covid-/Physical>

Distancing Coaching Plans - <https://www.mayouthsoccer.org/coach-resources-covid-/>

COVID SAFETY OFFICER - Clinton Youth Soccer has assigned a COVID-19 Safety Officer (Laura Taylor) who will communicate policies organization wide, to coaching staff, administrators, parents, and players. Regular updates and reminders should be provided. Laura can be reached at 781-929-7178/taylorfamily01510@outlook.com

Travel Covid Safety Officer - we need one parent/assistant coach per travel team to be the COVID Officer when our travel teams are away. This person ensures that players/parents/participants from Clinton are following the COVID safety protocols. You will need to register as an Adult on Mass Youth Soccer -

Before Entering the fields checklist

1. **RELEASE FORM** - Wet Signature signed release form for Week 1
2. **ARRIVAL** - Please arrive no more than 10 minutes before your start time - we want to ensure that all players are checked in before their scheduled start time.
3. **MASKS - NO GAITERS for PLAYERS** - All players, spectators (except those under age of 2), coaches, referees, board members, etc. will wear a mask to and from the field. Players are the only ones that can remove their masks once they are on the pitch for mask breaks when they are 6' or more away from others. Everyone will need to wear a mask(except those under 2) - spectators/players from the time you leave your car until your return to your car. If you or your player has a medical exemption please let Clinton Youth Soccer know.

IF YOU REFUSE TO WEAR A MASK AND DO NOT HAVE A MEDICAL REASON YOU WILL BE ASKED TO LEAVE THE FIELD AND THE CLINTON BOARD OF HEALTH WILL BE NOTIFIED. YOU ARE PUTTING OUR CLUB/MEMBERS AT RISK

WE AT CLINTON YOUTH SOCCER ARE ADHERING TO THE GUIDELINES PRESENTED TO US BY MASS YOUTH SOCCER/MIAA/EEA - ALL SOCCER PROGRAMS IN THE NASHOBA LEAGUE AND ACROSS THE STATE ARE ADHERING TO THESE PROTOCOLS.

4. **SPECTATOR LIMITS** - During this current COVID-19 Pandemic state of emergency as proclaimed by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Mass Youth Soccer requires all member organizations to limit the number of spectators at all sanctioned soccer activities to Two (2) adults (parents/guardians or chaperones) and siblings per each participating

player. These spectators must enter, sit and leave as a “family unit”. stay with you.

FROM MASS YOUTH SOCCER: During this current COVID-19 Pandemic state of emergency as proclaimed by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Mass Youth Soccer requires all member organizations to limit the number of spectators at all sanctioned soccer activities to One (1) per player. Spectators are defined as a Parent, Legal Guardian or Chaperone. Spectators must follow all Mass Youth Soccer Return to Soccer Activities Guidelines. If a player’s parent/legal guardian is present as a coach for their team, another spectator is permitted to be present for this player.

5. **NO CARPOOLING** - unless only option - then you are responsible for additional player
6. **NO DROP OFFS** - you are expected to stay - whether in your car or on the field
7. **WELLNESS** - if you or your player or anyone in your family have a fever of 100.4 or over or any COVID related symptoms please do not come to the field. Any child with a fever above 100.4 should be advised to seek the guidance of their health care professional and not return to play even if they are tested negative for the virus until the HCP. Your player will be asked a series of questions to determine if they are healthy.
8. **EQUIPMENT** - Please bring for your player/yourself - own chair, own ball (CYS will provide if needed), two masks (CYS will be providing one mask), sanitizer, water and equipment. There will be no sharing of equipment.
9. **UNIFORMS** - U6 and U8 players will get uniforms on opening day and travel teams will have a pick up day the week of April 18th
10. **GOALIES/KEEPERS** - please bring your own goalie shirt/gloves. These can not be shared.
11. **WEATHER** - if it is raining on game day/conditioning day - per Mass Youth Soccer games will be cancelled. It is impossible to breathe in a wet mask. You will be notified via email and on FACEBOOK. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/CYSoccer>
12. **PORT A POTTIES** - Port a potties – at this time we are working with our company – United Site Services. There will be one on site at the fields. CYS Field Coordinator will sanitize/clean between each use.
13. **NO UNAUTHORIZED FIELD USE** - No Unscheduled Activities – All practices, scrimmages, and games must be pre scheduled with Clinton Youth Soccer. Pick-up games or unscheduled practices by members of Clinton Youth Soccer are not allowed.

Entering the Fields

1. **SIGNAGE** - Clinton Youth Soccer will have signage on the field providing direction as to the COVID-19 Guidelines
2. **ATTENDANCE/CHECK IN** - Look for the marked check in areas and proceed to this area first - All rostered players and registered adults will have their attendance taken weekly
3. **WELLNESS CHECK** - Players will be checked in - asked how they are feeling and sent to a designated waiting area before proceeding to the appropriate field
4. **SANITIZING** - there will be sanitizing stations - all must sanitize their hands before entering the fields and leaving the fields.
5. **SANITIZING STATIONS** - CYS will provide hand sanitizing stations in the parking area, fields and at CYS Equipment shed.
6. **DESIGNATED AREAS** - your player once checked in will be directed to his/her designated field and Equipment area. Players will be separated 6' apart. All players are to bring their own equipment, mask, water, sanitizer and chair (NO FOOD - per Clinton Board of Health). Each week players will be assigned a letter of the alphabet, they will go to their assigned "LETTERED CONE" and that is their designated area for the entire time.
7. **SPECTATORS** - will sit 6' apart and 8' away from the field. CYS will designate these areas.
8. **CAPACITY LIMIT** - Our capacity limit is 50 people in attendance outside the field playing area. For our travel teams spectators will sit across from the Clinton Team and will remain socially distant.
9. **CREDENTIALS** - As a coach/volunteer please arrive on Opening Day 15 minutes earlier than your assigned time to pick up your credentials. Credentials need to be worn at all times.

PLAYERS/COACHES - WHILE ON THE FIELD

1. **SOCIALLY DISTANT PRACTICES PLANS** - Coaches will be using socially distant

practice plans provided by Mass Youth Soccer. Our fields will be set up to ensure proper distancing.

3. **MASKS - NO GAITERS for PLAYERS** - Masks will be worn by all on the field, at all times. When you are 6' away from another player on the field you can remove your mask (by the ear loops) for a mask break.
4. **EQUIPMENT** - During skills/conditioning/scrimmages - all cones will be picked up from CYS Shed and distributed by the CYS Field Coordinator. Coaches will return cones at the end of the session to the same location and CYS will sanitize.
5. **MASK WEARING** - All spectators, coaches, board members, referees, and children over 2 years of age will have a mask on at all times. There will be two warnings issued from the CYS COVID Officer and then Clinton Police will be called as this is a Commonwealth of Massachusetts Guideline.
6. **ADULT REGISTRATION** - Only those board members/coaches/covid administrators that have completed the Adult Registration for Mass Youth Soccer will be allowed on the field.
8. **GAME DAY/PRACTICES** - players will be sitting 6' apart in (chairs they bring) when not on the field with masks on unless they are taking a drink/mask break.
9. **SPECTATORS** - Spectators must wear facial coverings and maintain six feet of social distance at all times. Clinton Youth Soccer will mark off 6'-8' increments for spectators.

DURING THE GAME /CHANGES/MODIFICATIONS

1. **SANITIZING** - Throughout the Game, during breaks for water encourage proper hygiene, washing hands frequently with soap and water or hand sanitizer, for at least 20 seconds at a time. Use alcohol based hand sanitizer (at least 60% alcohol). Cover coughs and sneezes with tissues or sleeves, do not use your hands.
2. **NO TOUCHING** - Do not touch your face (eyes, nose, mouth with unwashed hands). Do not touch another player.
4. **SPECTATORS/BALL** - if the ball comes towards you - please use your feet to stop it. DO NOT TOUCH THE BALL WITH YOUR HANDS.
9. **NO SHAKING OF HANDS/HIGH FIVING/ELBOWS** - at the end of the game the standard shaking of hands is suspended. The teams can walk by each other at a 6' distance and virtually high five.
12. **NO CONTACT** -Intentional body contact with a member of the opposing team member's body is to be considered a violation of Law 12, Playing in a Dangerous Manner, and will result in an Indirect Free Kick restart or other applicable foul or misconduct based on the referee's decision. Intentional body contact will include "shoulder to shoulder" contact, backing into a player, and pulling an opponent's shirt, shorts or mask.
13. **ALLOWABLE CONTACT** - A player is allowed to make intermittent and/or unintentional

contact with opposing team members if the player is attempting to make foot to ball contact (legal tackle) and the contact occurs as a result of the tackle.

CONCLUSION OF PRACTICE/CONDITIONING

1. **PLAYERS** - will be dismissed immediately one by one to gather belongings/trash and walk to their spectator/guardian.
2. **SPECTATORS** - will dispose of any trash they created
3. **SOCIAL DISTANCING** - Players/Spectators must keep masks on and practice social distancing until they get to their vehicle.
4. **SANITIZING** - Players/Spectators will sanitize when leaving the field
5. **COACHES** - will collect all equipment and bring to CYS Equipment Shed.
6. **CLEANING** - Players/Parents will be responsible for sanitizing their equipment between practices.
7. **CLINTON BOARD OF HEALTH** - Clinton Youth Soccer has developed a relationship with Clinton Board of Health to foster communication. Clinton Youth Soccer will submit a weekly report of activities to Clinton Board of Health and CBOH will be our first call player/coach/parent/referee/board member contracts COVID – 19.
8. **NO CONGREGATING IN PARKING LOT** - Players/Parents will not be allowed to congregate in the parking area before or after a training session. Once a game/practice concludes all parents/players will leave the fields and parking areas. No loitering.

REFEREES - Please be supportive and patient as our outstanding referees implement all the new modifications to the game. Remember to keep perspective on the purpose of Clinton Youth Soccer Player Development, Joy of the game, the value of being a great teammate, and conducting ourselves with character in playing, coaching, or spectating. The referees in our league are our teammates too!

PROTOCOLS FOR COVID CONTACT

1. **COVID DIAGNOSIS** - If you or your player are diagnosed with COVID-19 The Clinton Board of Health will be notified via the MAVEN System. In the interim, please contact the COVID Officer immediately - Laura Taylor - 781-929-7178. She will confirm with the Clinton Board of Health and they begin procedures to notify all affected. CYS will submit our attendance weekly for tracing purposes if necessary. The individual who contracted COVID will remain anonymous.
2. **COVID CONTACT** - if there is a COVID contact, all teams and individuals who had

contact with the infected individual will be suspended from play for 14 days. For example, if the Blue team plays the Red team on Monday and a player or coach from the Blue team tests COVID positive two days later, both the Blue team and the Red team will be suspended from play for 14 days to allow a quarantine period. Other teams who were not in contact with the Blue team or Red team will not have any suspension in activities.

3. **SEQUENCE OF EVENTS** - If a member of CYS comes in contact with Covid-19

1. Affected individual or parent/guardian contact CYS Covid Officer
2. CYS Covid officer notifies Clinton BOH
3. CYS Covid Officer/BOH will notify all close CYS contacts via notification form
4. CYS notifies Tamie Endow - MYS Covid Safety Officer
5. All activities stop for that team for 14 days

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Taylor

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