

Coach's Meeting
April 15th
COVID Safety Protocols



Current Phase as of March 22, 2021: Phase IV Step 1

In accordance with COVID-19 order no.65 issued by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and effective March 1, 2021 by the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA), soccer remains classified as a Moderate risk sport. Moderate risk is defined as a sport or activities that involve intermittent close proximity or limited incidental physical contact between participants. Sports in this category are permitted to participate in Level 1, 2, and 3 training activities.

- **Level 1** activities are defined as individual or socially distanced group activities (no-contact workouts, aerobic conditioning, individual skill work and drills.)
- **Level 2** activities allow for Competitive Practices (Intra-team/group games, contact drills and scrimmages)
- **Level 3** - Competitions (Inter-team games, meets, matches, races, etc.)

Updated Policies and Protocols

- The previous limit of 25 participants per playing surface has been removed. Mass Youth Soccer is relying on our member organizations to properly manage the number of participants per playing surface with the health and safety of all.
- Spectators are limited to 2 adults (Parents/Guardians or chaperones) and siblings of a participating player
- Massachusetts Youth Soccer is requiring all players to wear a face covering in accordance with the EEA Safety standards for Youth and Adult Amateur Sports activities, Phase IV Step 1 effective March 1, 2021

For the purpose of this guidance a facial covering means a face mask that completely covers the nose and mouth.

Only face coverings that secure with loops around a player's ears are acceptable.

Participants can take mask breaks when they are out of proximity of other players (at least 6') using caution to avoid touching the front or inside of the face covering by using the ear loops to remove and replace.

Participants must wear facial covering while on the bench at all times and in any huddles.

Coaches, staff referees, umpires, and other officials are required to wear facial coverings and maintain a social distance of 6 feet from players, coaches, spectators and other persons at all times.

Coaching Resources:

MA youth has developed a variety of resources to help you plan your practice sessions. Please click on the links below to check out these resources in more detail.

Detailed Protocols for planning a practice session

https://www.mayouthsoccer.org/assets/61/6/return_to_soccer_activities_-_coaches_toolkit_march_21.pdf

Video on Update Covid Protocols:

<https://youtu.be/HFnGXShN1l4>

Sample Sessions Plans for practices

<https://www.mayouthsoccer.org/physical-distancing-session-plans/>

Important Points to Consider:

- Always take attendance at practices and games (used for contact tracing if necessary)
Recommended Apps for attendance tracking: Team Snap, Team App, Game Changer
- Make sure coaches and players are wearing appropriate face coverings
- Make sure players have a designated area for their individual bags
- Each player should bring their own ball and water bottle to each practice
- Ensure that all players, coaches, and parents are practicing proper physical and social distancing requirements
- Clean and sanitize equipment at the end of each practice session
- Report any positive cases on your team to the COVID Safety Officer

