

Massachusetts Youth Soccer Association <mborislow@mayouthsoccer.org>

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Coronavirus (COVID-19) advisory

To david_hipolito@comcast.net



To: All Mass Youth Soccer Member Organizations

From: Michael Borislow, Executive Director

Date: March 6 2020

RE: Coronavirus (COVID-19) advisory

In concern for the well-being and safety of our players, coaches, referees and their families, our office has been monitoring the Coronavirus situation in addition to any other existing health cautions (i.e. season flu).

We are working with US Soccer as well as our health partners to gather additional information as it pertains to the safety of playing the game within our borders as well as traveling abroad as some members will do in the ensuing weeks. The Center for Disease Control, World Health Organization, the US State Department, FIFA, Massachusetts Department of Public Health and other health and security organizations are being consulted.

At this time, all competitions and programs operated by our office will continue as scheduled. This includes international travel with the exception of countries that have been declared a level 3 or 4 advisory due to the virus. Should there be any change to our position, we will update all parties involved.

To reinforce health safety and best practices for illness prevention, please read the list below:

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth prior to proper washing or disinfecting.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.
- Follow the CDC's recommendations for using a facemask.
- CDC does not recommend that people who are well wear a facemask to protect themselves from respiratory diseases, including Coronavirus.
- CDC recommended facemasks should be used by people who show symptoms to help prevent the spread of the disease.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom; before eating; and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
- If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol. Always wash hands with soap and water if hands are visibly dirty.

We also recommend, out of an abundance of caution, that teams forgo high fives and handshakes between themselves, opposing teams and officials during and after competitions.

Please see the following additional resources and communications which may provide further answers to your questions.

[CDC - Frequently Asked Questions](#)

[CDC - Coronavirus Overview](#)

[CDC - Travel Recommendations \(China\)](#)

[CDC - Travelers Health](#)

WHO - [Advice for Coronavirus](#)

[U.S. Department of State - Country Specific Travel Information](#)

USOPC - [Coronavirus Update](#)

Thank you all so very much for your time, commitment and continuing efforts to help keep our children safe!

Sincerely,

Mass Youth Soccer

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