



# Central Penn Youth Soccer League

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**April 8, 2021**

**To all clubs, teams, coaches, referees, parents:**

Regarding CPYSL Spring play

As we ready our League for the youth members to play this sport we enjoy, we must be mindful of several considerations to stay safe for ourselves and the other participants. It was hoped that as spring moved into our world with it would bring a relaxing of the COVID virus and the stipulations we have had to live with these too many long months. Instead, as we ready to start our spring season, we are observing a fourth wave of the virus that is infecting a high number of children in the ages 10 thru 16 which the CDC is attributing to recreational activities, heavily focused on youth sports and school related functions. With this new wave of COVID, we need to work even harder to assure that the virus' time in our lives will end in the not-too-distant future. This means we must continue to alter the way we participate and spectate to keep all involved as safe as possible. These concerns at the top of the list, we ask our participants to continue to follow the CDC guidelines and to adhere to a few additional guidelines CPYSL is instituting for the Spring 2021 season.

1. All participants, coaches, spectators, and referees shall wear facemasks.
  - a. Players having difficulty with the wearing of facemasks should be substituted early and as often as possible to assure their health and safety.
2. Clubs shall have a designated safety person to monitor the health of each team's participants (See EPYSA guidelines on this policy), Said person shall keep the club updated on any concerns and start any mitigation procedures should any concern appear. Safety person does not have to notify league unless there is a need to cancel games should the infection be active; team shall be put in quarantine for ten days vigilant for any additional outbreaks. Duties may include the following:
  - a. Checking temperatures
  - b. Monitoring any contact with individuals who have been infected by the virus and determine risk factors.
3. To minimize contact, coaches are to have the game card, game fees, & EPYSA team roster (two copies, one for referee, one for opponent) immediately available for the head referee.
  - a. For Spring 2021 play, there will be no player passes issued by the league, referees will check players using EPYSA team roster with player images to assure participants are registered.
  - b. Club pass players shall be hand-written on game card & game roster prior to match.

4. Coaches are responsible for their home field; coaches should assure that corner flags and goals (safely anchored) are in place and ready at the allotted kick-off time.
  - a. Technical area, teams should maintain a six (6) foot distance between players while on sideline.
  - b. Technical area should keep all participants a minimum of six (6) feet from touchline, all spectators should also be six (6) feet from the touchline.
  - c. No sharing of drinks, each player should have an individual snack, hand sanitizers.
5. Game balls (3 minimum) should be of proper size with correct pressure prior to the start of the match, referees shall check for compliance.
6. Spectators: The League is asking all to minimize attendance at matches for the Spring season. We request that there be minimal spectators per game with the recommendation to live stream the game to those not in attendance (or have a Zoom watch party after the game for players & fans to enjoy) Again this spring, it is about having our youth being able to play the sport they enjoy with minimal risk of viral contact.
  - a. Social distancing should be adhered to by spectators as outlined by the CDC.
  - b. Spectators MUST wear a mask or face covering, for those not able to comply, we ask that they stay a respectful distance away from the field and have zero contact with game participants & other spectators.
  - c. Each club will monitor their own parents for compliance, referees will note in match report of any team not in compliance, league will monitor reports and relate to club of concerns.
  - d. CPYSL still recommends teams and spectators are on opposite sides of the fields, for this season it is mandatory to follow this rule.
7. Game considerations:
  - a. For times when ball is out of play, players shall be encouraged to retrieve the ball as best as possible without handling when practical, dribbling up to the line if possible.
  - b. Ball runners should also be encouraged to minimize contact with the ball when retrieving by dribbling back to field as possible & practical.
  - c. Goalkeepers should have their own jersey or pinnie, sharing of equipment shall be avoided.
  - d. Coaches should designate one person per team to assume club linesman role (as needed) for the season, please supply the individual with disposable gloves for each match.
8. Quarantine:
  - a. Teams discovering a participant has tested positive shall immediately put the entire team in quarantine with no soccer related activity during the quarantine period.
  - b. Team must postpone their next match through the CPYSL game portal and other games within the 10 -day quarantine period will be made TBA's.
  - c. Opposing teams and referees will also be notified of the game cancelation.
  - d. There are no fines or fees when canceling a match due to being COVID-19 related.
9. Risk Management:

- a. The right to play sports always comes with risk. There are no assurances that a player will not roll an ankle, tear and ACL or break a bone. These are the risks we understand as they are common.
- b. COVID-19 is getting to be more understood with each passing day, with every case, however, there still presents us with many unknown risks. As the vaccines related to irradiating the virus grows in usage it is hoped that the relaxing of our guidelines can take place, until that time we must continue to do our best to not only watch out for our own health but do everything possible to protect the health of others by working together. As none of us wants to wear a mask or continue social distance, it is a small price to pay for a truly short time so that our children can enjoy this sport we love until those new normal go to the wayside.

Let us stay as safe as possible for ourselves while making sure we keep the game safe for all others.

Respectfully,

*James A Connors III*

James Connors  
President CPYSL

