

PHASE 3 RETURN TO PLAY GUIDELINES & RESPONSIBILITIES



This guidance is applicable to programs authorized to operate by Executive Order 20-56. Please understand that the strategies may change if the community transmission increases to the point of where programming must be disrupted.

As each phase progresses, the protocols will adjust in adherence with the State of Minnesota Department of Health and our soccer governing bodies. In order for a player to be on the field, they and their parent must read through and follow these protocols. Any player not following these protocols may be removed from training.

GENERAL SAFETY GUIDELINES

- If you are sick, feel sick, or have been in contact with anyone who has tested positive for COVID-19, please STAY HOME. At risk individuals, youth or adult should STAY HOME
- Each player must have their own equipment, including ball, water, and hand sanitizer
- Players must not share water, training vests or any other equipment. All equipment will be sanitized or washed after each session
- Adhere to social distancing recommendations when participants are not playing (on the bench, sideline, etc.)
- Coaches should have hand sanitizer and sanitizing wipes available
- It is strongly encouraged that coaches wear face masks. Keep in mind that many coaches are in contact with multiple groups. Players wearing a mask are at parent discretion

PHASE 3 TRAINING PROTOCOL

- Contact play within the training environment and scrimmages will be allowed beginning June 24th
- Duration of training sessions will be limited to 60-75 minutes
- Groups (pods) will be limited to 25 or less, including the coaches in training environments and intermixing between pods should be kept to a minimum
- When players are not actively playing, social distancing must be maintained including on the bench and sidelines
- Players standing in lines are to be avoided when possible and must delineate appropriate distance for players to stand if used
- Each player will have a designated area for their bag and equipment outside the field of play at least 6 feet apart from other players
- Players and coaches may not gather in a huddle or small group, as is common when giving instructions
- When coordinating scrimmages, interclub matchups are recommended. Keeping the games close to home and in controlled environments when possible
- The potential reaction to a player getting injured is more complicated during the COVID-19 pandemic. The immediate safety of the player must remain the top priority, but care should be taken when addressing small injuries (e.g. handing out Band-Aids). When possible, the player's parent/guardian should assist in any care necessary

ARRIVAL PROCEDURES

- Buffer time in between sessions will be provided to reduce large groups of players crossing paths on the field and in the parking lots
- Players will remain in their cars until they are notified by their coach to enter the field via a Team Snap Alert
- Players should leave their car ready to play (wearing shoes/cleats, shin guards, etc.) to avoid having unnecessary personal belongings on the field
- Players exit cars and walk directly to the field, each player must maintain a minimum of 6 feet distance between themselves in walking to the field and the zone their coach assigns to them
- Parents may not stay and sit at the field. They are encouraged to stay in the car, social distancing must be strictly maintained
- Carpooling should be avoided if at all possible

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DEPARTURE PROCEDURES

- Players will wait in their designated zone/bag area until they know their parent has arrived
- Players will inform their coach and walk directly to their parent's car, each player must maintain a minimum of 6 feet distance between themselves in walking to their parent's car

PARENT SPECIFIC RESPONSIBILITIES

- If you are not comfortable having your child return to play, DON'T. All training sessions are voluntary
- Parents are to ensure that their player is not ill or displaying symptoms prior to each practice. (Fever, cough, sore throat, fatigue, loss of taste or smell, red or swollen toes are current symptoms of COVID-19). If a player or person within the player's home have been diagnosed with COVID-19, that player must not attend training for at least 14 days
- Parents are to drop off and pick up in designated areas at each training location
- Parents should refrain from carpools if at all possible
- Parents are to keep Team Snap availability updated a minimum of one week in advance
- Parents are asked to leave during training or remain in their car. If parents are outside of their car for a reason, they need to remain 6 feet apart from others
- Parents should wash and sanitize their player's training equipment after each training session
- Parents should report confirmed cases of COVID-19 to the Fusion Executive Director. This information will be held confidential as to the name of the player and their family. The confirmed information in general will be used for contact tracing and to notify the families in the training pod

PLAYER SPECIFIC RESPONSIBILITIES

- Players must adhere to all Return to Play protocols
- Players should wash their hands thoroughly before and after training
- Players should never share water or food
- **Players must respect/practice social distancing when not actively playing which includes placing their equipment in designated areas and avoiding non-soccer related physical contact such as high fives and fist bumps**
- Players must have their own equipment - inflated ball, pump, water, extra jerseys, and hand sanitizer
- Players should not touch soccer balls and/or equipment that is not their own with their hands

COACH SPECIFIC RESPONSIBILITIES

- **Coaches must follow Return to Play protocols and ensure all players not actively playing are maintaining social distance**
- Coaches are encouraged to wear masks during training
- Coaches must remain 6 feet apart from players at all times with exception of serious injury to a player. At that time good discretion is advised and hand sanitizer must be used before and after addressing the injured player
- Coaches must set-up and take down own equipment and sanitize all equipment after each session
- Coaches must not attend training if ill or displaying symptoms prior to each practice. (Fever, cough, sore throat, fatigue, loss of taste or smell, red or swollen toes are current symptoms of COVID-19). If the coach or person within their home have been diagnosed with COVID-19, that coach must not attend training for at least 14 days
- Coaches must respect players and families by accommodating those that may not yet be comfortable with returning