07/10/2020



**COVID-19 ACTION PLAN**

In order to return to an active youth sports program with health and safety being the foremost objective, Bearcats Youth Football has fully adopted the rules/guidelines set forward by the State of Connecticut’s “Reopen Connecticut” program. It is Bearcats Youth Football’s intent to follow protocols set forth in the “Sports and fitness facilities (e.g. gyms, fitness centers, pools, etc.)” section of the “Reopen Connecticut” program which is outlined on pages 14 through 19. A link to the Document specified above can be found in the appendix of this document.

In addition to The State of Connecticut, Bearcats Youth Football will follow guidance set forth from our parent organization USA Football, adopting appropriate protocols from their “Return to Youth Football 2020” Guidelines also linked in the appendix of this document.

Any and all Bearcats sanctioned activities must be approved by the Bearcats Board prior to such activities commencing. This will apply to any/all activities conducted as part of Bearcats Youth Football. Coaches or others associated with Bearcats Youth Football who are organizing activities must submit their plans to the Board for review to ensure compliance to the adopted rules/guidelines described in this COVID-19 Action Plan. Plans must include expected player counts not be exceeded, maximum coach-to-player ratios, nature of activity (training/practice/scrimmage) and specific measures to be taken to promote small-group activity, social distancing, and hygiene.

The Bearcats Board will observe all organized activity to ensure there isn’t any variation from the pre-approved plans. Issues encountered with players, coaches, officials, or spectators where such issues relate to compliance with the rules/guidelines of this Action Plan, and other notable events related to should be reported to the Bearcats Board who will work with the Coaches or organizers of the activity to remediate/address the issue(s).

**Links to COVID protocols:**

[Link to CAIC Guidelines](https://www.casciac.org/pdfs/CIACResocializationofAthleticsGuidanceUpdated6-29-2020.pdf)

[Link to CT School Reopening Guidelines](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/COVID-19/CTReopeningSchools.pdf)

[USA Football - Return to Youth Football 2020](https://guides.usafootball.com/5593/35440/index.html)

**Bearcats COVID Protocol**

**For Players and Guardians:**

**Please check you & your players' temperature before attending practice/games. Please stay at home if you have any symptoms!**

**The CDC considers a person to have a fever when he or she has measured temperature of 100.4°F (38°C).**

* **After the player has been dropped off with their face covering on, they are to walk directly to the field, maintaining a safe “social distance” from others.**
* **While putting on their equipment, players must remain 6 feet apart.**
* **Only ONE parent/guardian is allowed to watch. Parents are required to drop their child off at the parking lot, and remain in your vehicle until ALL players are on the field.**
* **Parents and Guardians, must keep a 6’ distance from each other at all times and masks must be worn at all times for the protection of our players.**
* **Each player must bring their own water bottle and equipment. There will be no sharing of equipment or water. Everything should be clearly labeled and stay in the players bag unless being used.**
* **Players are required to wear a mask or Gaiter when they are NOT playing (from parking lot to field). No mask is necessary during gameplay. Players may take their mask off when putting their equipment on.**
* **There will be no team huddles, fist bumps, high fives etc.**
* **Players must leave the field right after the practice/game. There will be no “hanging out” after practice / games end.**
* **Those who are 65+ with pre-existing medical conditions are strongly advised not to attend Bearcats’ events or remain in their vehicle.**