



# 2020 COVID-19 READINESS PLAN

A GUIDE FOR PLAY AT HART PARK

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# GENERAL STATEMENT



The following guidelines represent efforts to proactively invest in the safety of our community when attending matches at Hart Park during the 2020 season.

Forward Madison FC will continue to adhere to the guidance efforts provided by the Wauwatosa Public Health Department to continue developing these policies and guidelines in an effort to ensure the safety of our staff, players, fans, and guests.

At this time, for the safety of all players and fans, player-fan interactions will not be permitted as accustomed to in the past, this includes but is not limited to: signing autographs and interacting on the pitch post-game.

Forward Madison FC and its members reserve the right to alter the following guidelines and policies as more information continues to become available.

On behalf of our staff, thank you for your continued support during this tough time. We look forward to bringing Forward Madison FC to Wauwatosa, WI.

# ENTERING THE STADIUM



1. Carry-ins are limited to one bottle of water per person
2. Any personal items must be brought in a clear bag for contactless bag check
3. Please bring cashless payment methods  
**NOTE: Cash will be accepted for tips**
4. Hand sanitizer will be available upon entry to the stadium
5. **Fans are required to wear face coverings at all times**, including when seated in assigned seats, face masks may only be removed to consume food and beverage in assigned seats
6. Food and beverages may only be consumed in assigned seats
7. Capacity in common areas will be monitored by staff



# FACILITY CLEANLINESS



1. Please follow the instructions of all posted signage for maintaining social distancing
2. There will be one hand sanitizer station for every 150 fans, located at entrances and in common areas near concessions and restrooms
3. All event, concession, and operational staff will be required to wear face coverings at all times
4. Main contact areas, including railings within each section, concession stand areas, and common touchpoints will be wiped down with disinfectant spray every 30 minutes
5. All trash can covers will be removed during games to limit contact
6. All doors that are able to will be propped open
7. Only event participants, players, and staff will have access to certain designated facilities
8. All restrooms will be properly sanitized prior to and throughout each match every 30 minutes

# EMPLOYEE SAFETY



1. Employees must complete a Public Health Employee Reporting Agreement form
2. Employees must answer Employee Health Declaration regarding Coronavirus contact potential
3. All employees should notify their supervisor and stay home if they are sick
4. Confirm receipt and understanding of Public Health Guidance for Non- Healthcare Workers
5. Confirm receipt and understanding of CDC What to do if you are sick Guidelines
6. Employees that have been exposed and are self-quarantining for 14 days must complete the full 14-day quarantine from the date of last exposure, and be symptom-free before returning to work
7. If an employee has been diagnosed with COVID-19 and is not being tested again, the following criteria must be met before they can leave their home and return to work:
  - 10 days after a positive test OR at least 3 days of being symptom/fever free, whichever is later.

# PLAYER PROTOCOLS



On March 12, the 2020 USL League One season was suspended in light of the COVID-19 crisis and the World Health Organization's classification of the disease as a pandemic. League One was not alone in this decision, joining every other major American sports league – including the USL Championship – in ceasing play while society grappled with how to manage the virus. Shortly thereafter, it began work on putting together a series of policies and protocols that would ultimately govern any potential return to play and help ensure the health and wellness of all involved remained its single most important priority.

## THE PROCESS

Since the temporary suspension of both seasons, the USL has worked diligently to determine if, when and how League One can resume play safely. The league's Board of Governors created its own "Hiatus Task Force" to dive deeply into these matters. Members of the Hiatus Task Forces were nominated by the teams and then selected based in part on their relationship with other leagues grappling with the same issues. Through that process, the USL was able to understand many of the best practices instilled by Major League Soccer, the National Basketball Association, Major League Baseball and the National Women's Soccer League. To this end, the USL also actively participated in the United States Soccer Federation's COVID-19 task force, through which it worked closely with MLS and the NWSL to share best practices specific to soccer. The USL also worked hand-in-hand with the USL Players Association, a process that ensured that the voices of the players were heard and one that allowed for valuable review and input throughout the process.

Most importantly though, the USL consulted early and often with a broad array of medical experts about the nature of the virus, when a return to play would be deemed safe and what protocols should be in place to mitigate risk. These experts include Dr. Jon McCullers, Sr. Executive Associate Dean of Clinical Affairs and Chief Operating Officer at the College of Medicine at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center; Dr. Howard Chrisman, the President of Northwestern Medical Group at the Northwestern Feinberg School of Medicine; and Dr. George Chiampas, the Chief Medical Officer of the United States Soccer Federation.

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As a result of those efforts, the USL has completed work on a series of Health and Safety Protocols, which is published in its entirety below. Although no activity can ever be completely risk-free, our experts agree that these protocols are reasonable and robust.

## SUMMARY OF PROTOCOLS

Given the nature of the COVID-19 threat, no one approach is sufficient to mitigate the spread of the virus. While for example, regular testing of asymptomatic individuals will help, this single step is not foolproof. To this end, the League One's Return-to-Play Protocols take a five-pronged approach to mitigate against the risk of COVID-19. These elements are:

1. SOCIAL DISTANCING
2. PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT AND SANITIZATION
3. SCREENING
4. TESTING
5. TRAINING AND EDUCATION

Below, more detail is provided as to how each of these elements will be applied in practice.

### 1. MAXIMIZING SOCIAL DISTANCING

In soccer, a certain degree of contact is inevitable. With that, except where impossible or highly impracticable, social distancing measures are required under the USL Return-to-Play Protocols. To give some examples of how this process will work in practice:

- When traveling to another market by bus, teams are required to use multiple buses if social distancing is not able to be maintained on a single bus.
- Players and other essential staff who may come into contact with players are required to stay at home unless attending to essential functions or team activities.
- Unless they are actively playing, social distancing is generally required during training and



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matches, i.e., players will not huddle to hear coaching instructions and should spread to a six-foot distance if on the sidelines or in the technical area.

- Social distancing is required within the locker room and weight rooms; this may require usage to be staggered.
- No player will be asked to share a hotel room with another player unless those players are already living together.

## 2. MITIGATION THROUGH PPE AND SANITIZATION

In order to help mitigate the spread of COVID-19, the USL Return to Play Protocols require that:

- Players and staff members who work with players must wear masks in any situation where they are outside of their homes and may potentially be unable to maintain social distancing, the only exception being active training or match play.
- Anyone at field level who is not playing must wear a mask.
- When traveling from market to market, masks are required throughout the journey.
- Masks are required in the locker room, weight room and training rooms, and during any team meeting.
- In circumstances in which players travel by plane, masks are required in the airport and throughout the journey. Players will also be provided with disinfectant and hand sanitizer to use throughout the trip.
- Any space in which team activities are to take place must be disinfected before and after use.
- All equipment must be single-use, where possible. If this is not possible, it is to be disinfected before and after use.
- Teams will follow increased cleaning protocols, as these are applicable in their particular jurisdiction.

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## 3. RIGOROUS SCREENING

Based on our conversations with medical experts, rigorous screening for symptoms and immediate isolation of symptomatic cases is essential to mitigating the spread of the COVID-19. To that end:

- Prior to reporting to training, treatment, or any other team activity, individuals will be surveyed as to whether they: (a) are feeling sick, (b) are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, or (c) have had close contact with anyone who has a diagnosed or suspected case of COVID-19.
- Anyone who answers affirmatively will not report and self-quarantine until the team physician can determine whether testing or an additional quarantine period is warranted.
- Upon reporting to training, treatment, or any other team activity, individuals will have their temperatures checked.
- Anyone with a temperature of 100.4 or higher will immediately return home and self-quarantine until the team physician can determine whether testing or an additional quarantine period is warranted.

## 4. COMPREHENSIVE TESTING REGIMEN

Given the risks posed by COVID-19 and based on our conversations with medical experts, the USL has determined that it is advisable to exceed state and local health department requirements and recommendations and institute a comprehensive testing regimen for all players, as well as for all other club personnel who may interact with players.

- Players, and staff members who work with players, will be given a polymerase chain reaction (PCR) diagnostic test for COVID-19 every week, in addition to one “baseline” test.
- In addition, players and staff members who work with players will be given additional PCR tests if they are symptomatic or if they have been in close contact for a prolonged period with a diagnosed or suspected case of COVID-19.
- In the event of a positive PCR test:
- The individual will be immediately isolated and receive follow-up care and treatment.

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- If appropriate (at the discretion of the team physician), the individual may be tested again to ensure the initial test was not a false positive.
- All areas in which the individual has been will be closed for 24 hours for cleaning and disinfection.
- The individual's club, in consultation with the state or local health department, will conduct a contact tracing investigation.
- Anyone identified in the contact tracing investigation will immediately quarantine and be tested one or more times on a schedule to be determined by the team physician.

## 5. TRAINING AND EDUCATION

The USL is highly aware that these protocols are only valuable to the extent that all participants in our ecosystem fully understand and abide by them. To this end, all players and staff who may interact with players will receive comprehensive training on the protocols. In addition, each team will designate one or more Health Officers who will be responsible for providing follow-on education within their team and implementing the protocols.

## CONCLUSION

In the unlikely event that teams cannot comply with any of the requirements (e.g., because of venue infrastructure), they are required to contact the league as soon as possible to devise an alternative, medically acceptable plan, which is subject to League Office approval.

While unlikely, it is also possible that, in some cases, these Protocols will be less strict than the guidance, recommendations or requirements of applicable state and local health authorities. In such cases, teams and players must comply first and foremost with their local and state health authority guidance. To be clear, these protocols are intended to supplement, not replace, health authority guidance.

These Protocols remain subject to change and, as the situation evolves and we learn more about the novel coronavirus, we may update these Protocols as appropriate.

Full listing of protocols can be found here: [https://www.usleagueone.com/news\\_article/show/1110708](https://www.usleagueone.com/news_article/show/1110708)

# FOOD AND BEVERAGE



1. At this time, **no cash transactions** will be accepted
2. Guests will self-use credit card adapters that reach at least 3 feet at certain food terminals
3. If a customer is unable to swipe their own credit card a trained employee will assist them
4. Napkins, silverware, and condiments will be provided with each order and will be individually wrapped or packaged - **no self-serving areas will be available**
5. All lines will be socially distanced in any common areas including at concessions
6. A menu will be available to order concessions online from a smartphone, and customers will receive a notification to pick up their order at a concession stand when ready



# TICKETING AND SEATING



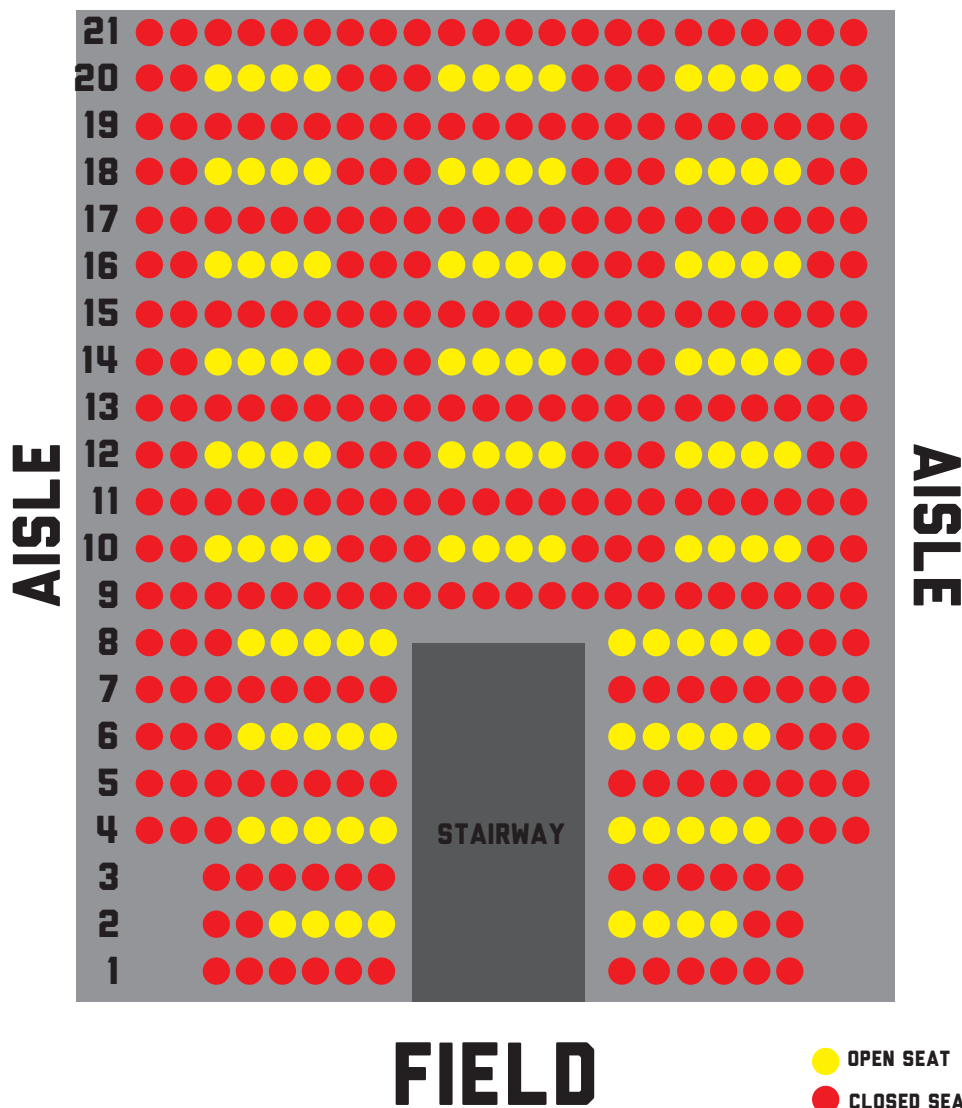
1. All tickets will be sold online at [forwardmadisonfc.com](http://forwardmadisonfc.com) or over the phone at 608-204-0855  
**Non-game day hours:** M-F | 9AM-5PM  
**Game day hours:** 9AM-End of the first half
2. If ordered online, tickets can be requested to be mailed, printed at home, or picked up at will call outside of the main entrance. If ordered via phone, tickets can be requested to be mailed or picked up at will call
3. Occupancy will be limited to adhere to social distancing measures
4. FMFC staff have designed a seating map that enforces social distancing guidelines. Seats will be grouped into pods of 2, 4, and 6 persons (see Appendix 1).
5. Please call the ticket office for special circumstances.  
**Note: Each pod must be purchased in full, no single seats will be available for purchase**  
**\*\*\* For safety concerns, it is very important that you sit in your designated seats\*\*\***
6. If your outing requires more than a pod of 4 seats, then multiple pods must be purchased  
Example: A group of 7 people may purchase two pods of 4
7. Groups larger than 8 will be separated to adhere to social distancing guidelines  
**\*\*\* For the safety of our guests, players, and staff we highly encourage that you only attend your function, event, or game with those who have been previously quarantined or are living with you\*\*\***

# APPENDIX 1



This is an example of the seating map designed by the FMFC staff. The seating in each section is socially distanced at least 6 feet in all directions. All red highlighted seats indicates not occupied and all yellow seats indicates seats assigned to fans. This example only indicates pods of 4 seats, but pods of 2 and 6 will also be available.

## SOCIALLY DISTANCED SEATING EXAMPLE SECTION



# OUR PROMISE TO YOU



We will continue to be a leader in safe sanitation practices with a certified food manager at every event. Also, all employees will be trained on appropriate cleaning and disinfection, hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette.

We will follow all of the Minimum Standard Health Protocols for operations adopted by the proper authorities including:

1. Parties will always maintain at least 6 feet distance apart from other parties, including in waiting areas, and common areas will have capacity monitored
2. Hand sanitizing stations will be available to all customers and employees, including upon entry
3. All event, concession, and operational staff will be required to wear face coverings at all times
4. We will not leave condiments, flatware, glassware, or other traditional items out in public
5. We will provide condiments only upon request, and in single use (non-reusable) portions
6. All employees must pass health screening before entering facility
7. We will clean and disinfect common areas and surfaces regularly
8. We will also clean and disinfect each area after every use

# YOUR PROMISE TO US



You agree to follow the Minimum Standard Health Protocols adopted by Forward Madison FC, and the proper authorities:

1. Follow the face covering requirement while within the venue
2. Following the social distancing and sanitary guidelines that have been put in place to protect you, our other customers, and employees
3. Follow the seating chart that has been set up for the safety of all our fans
4. Follow our guidelines on using our cashless system
5. Conduct a self-screening before entering the facility for any signs of COVID-19 including but not limited to a fever, cough, shortness of breath, or known close contact with someone who has COVID-19
6. If you have any questions about our promise to you, please ask for a manager who will be happy to assist you!

