



# Return to Play Guidelines

\*Updated July 31, 2020

Dear Parents,

As we get back to the soccer fields, we would like to provide the following information to ensure a safe return to play for our players, families, coaches, and staff.

We have taken direction from the [Governor's Strike Force to Open Texas - Youth Sports Operators Standard Health Protocols](#), [South Texas Youth Soccer Association](#) and the [UIL COVID-19 Risk Mitigation Guidelines](#). Based on these resources, we have put the following guidelines in place, which have been approved by the Mayor of Boerne, Tim Handren, and the City of Boerne's COVID-19 Taskforce.

Please take a moment to familiarize yourself and your player with what to expect prior to practices and games. While this is going to be a new way of proceeding for us all, please be patient and understand we are doing the very best we can to protect your child and your family at Boerne Soccer Club.

The health and safety of all players, families and staff is our absolute priority, while providing the opportunity for young players to have fun and stay active outdoors playing soccer with their friends and coaches.

Thank you!

Boerne Soccer Club

## **Before Attending**

- Please take your players' temperature before arriving at Boerne City Park. Players with a temperature above 99.5 should stay at home.
- If your child is not feeling well and displaying any COVID-19 symptoms regardless of temperature, please keep them home.
- Players should bring their own soccer ball, drinks, sharing personal items should be avoided.
- Players should use the restroom before coming to practice, to limit use while at the fields as much as possible.
- Please apply sunscreen and/or insect repellent before arriving at BCP and send plenty of water for your child to stay hydrated.

## **Arriving at Boerne City Park (Drop off)**

- When driving into the parking lot, please follow the traditional traffic flow and look for the player drop off sign at the park entrance.
- Players will only be allowed to enter through this gate and will be asked to sanitize their hands at our sanitation station with the assistance of a club staff member, before heading to their designated practice field.
- We will provide hand sanitizer and also a hands-free thermometer on request.
- Players should use face coverings/masks (per state guidelines) upon arrival and as they walk to their practice field or when a distance between people of 6 feet cannot be maintained off of the field.

## **During Practices/Games**

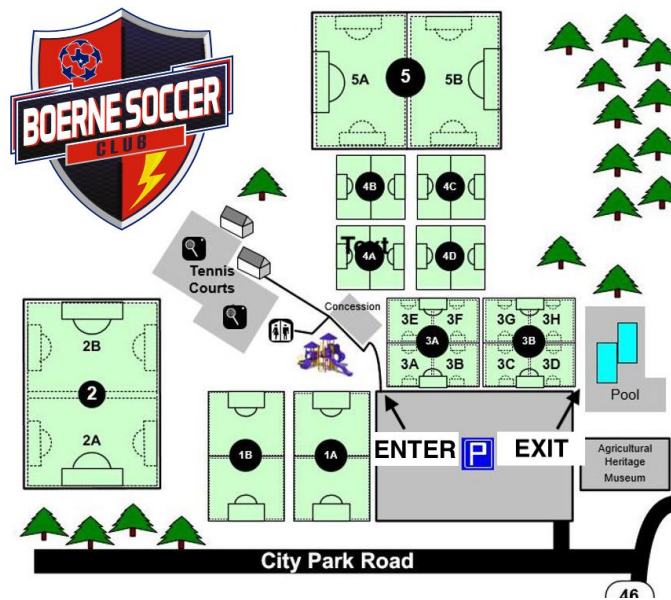
- We suggest that parents remain in their cars during practices. If that is not possible, only one parent per player is allowed near the field of play and they must abide by social distancing and face covering guidelines. Per UIL guidelines, we ask that only parents attend games in an effort to reduce the number of spectators. Spectators at games must abide by social distancing and face covering guidelines.
- Players are allowed to practice/play games without a face covering/mask.
- Players should not handle equipment such as cones or goals. Players should refrain from touching soccer balls (other than their own), with their hands, as much as possible.
- Coaches will observe social distancing with players at all times
- Coaches will sanitize all club soccer balls and equipment between sessions. Pinnies will be washed daily and will not be used more than once/with one group.
- Pre-game/practice, during and post-game/practice gestures of sportsmanship/celebrations should be conducted between teammates/opposition in ways planned to help reduce the risk of spread of COVID-19.

## **Exiting Boerne City Park**

- Players on Fields 3, 4 & 5 will leave Boerne City Park through the designated exit gate under the direction of staff/volunteers to avoid large gatherings at the park entrance and the mixing of groups. Players on Field 2 may leave through the main entrance while observing social distancing (Please see diagram below).
- A hand sanitizing station will be manned near the exit, allowing players to sanitize their hands prior to getting into their vehicle.
- There will be a 15-minute buffer period between training sessions to limit exposure while players are exiting and entering the practice facility and reduce traffic. We ask that players are picked up

promptly as the sessions end to allow for the next groups to enter and be dropped off.

- There will be an increased time period between games to ensure reduced traffic and limit crowds on game-day.
- Players must maintain social distancing and follow face covering guidelines while awaiting pick up.



## COVID-19 Diagnosis/Exposure Response Protocols

Boerne Soccer Club will implement the following response protocols to address incidents of COVID-19 confirmed diagnosis or exposure of a player or coach.

**Symptomatic:** A player/coach/staff member exhibiting symptoms associated with COVID-19 will be sent home immediately or denied participation at the soccer field. Symptoms include;

- Fever (temp over 100.0)

- Cough
- Shortness of breath
- Chills
- Muscle ache
- Extreme fatigue
- Recent loss of taste or smell
- Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea
- Headache

**Confirmed Diagnosis:** A player/coach or a member of their household has a confirmed diagnosis of COVID-19 from a certified testing location or by a treating physician.

### **Player/Coach Confirmed Diagnosis**

- Report of a player/coach having a confirmed diagnosis should be made to club administrator/COVID-19 Compliance Officer, Jeff Ferguson, [admin@boernesoccer.org](mailto:admin@boernesoccer.org)
- 14-day isolation (at home)
- Exposure notifications will be made to players identified to have been exposed through contact tracing assessment
- Return to play will require the player or coach to not have had symptoms for 72 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication and symptom-free prior to their return with a release from their treating physician

### **Member of Household Confirmed Diagnosis**

- Report of a player/coaches' member of a household having a confirmed diagnosis should be made to club administrator/COVID-19 Compliance Officer, Jeff Ferguson, [admin@boernesoccer.org](mailto:admin@boernesoccer.org)
- 14-day quarantine (at home)

- Return to play will require the student or employee to not have had symptoms for 72 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication and symptom-free prior to their return or with a release from their treating physician

### **Primary exposure**

- A primary exposure would include proximity (within 6 ft.) to a person with a confirmed diagnosis of COVID-19 for a period of more than 15 min. without a face mask.
- Report of a player/coach having a primary exposure should be made to club administrator, Jeff Ferguson/COVID-19 Compliance Officer, [admin@boernesoccer.org](mailto:admin@boernesoccer.org)
- Exposure notifications will be made to players identified to have been exposed through contact tracing assessment
- 3-day quarantine (at home)
- Return to play will require the player or coach to not have had symptoms for 72 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication and symptom-free prior to their return or with a release from their treating physician

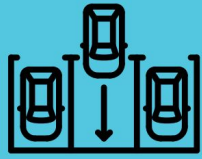
### **Secondary exposure**

- A secondary exposure would include a person in the player/coaches' household was in proximity (within 6 ft) of a person with a confirmed diagnosis of COVID-19 for a period of more than 15 min. without a face mask.
- Player/Coach may return to play
- Monitor for symptoms

## Additional Considerations

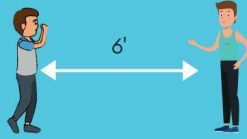
- All guidelines will be adjusted as the State, Local and South Texas Youth Soccer guidelines are updated. We also reserve the right to adjust the schedule or guidelines as needed for the safety of all players, families and members of staff.
- Games will be scheduled across Friday, Saturday and Sunday in order to reduce the amount of simultaneous games, to reduce the amount of traffic, and to limit crowd sizes in and around Boerne City Park on game-days.
- For our Competitive program (Select and Academy), we have made the decision as a club to not participate in tournaments in August 2020. This decision will be reviewed in September.
- If you would like to meet with a coach or BSC staff member, please schedule before arrival.
- Social distancing and frequent hand sanitizing should be followed at all times for anyone not participating on the soccer field.
- Everyone should use face coverings as much as possible when entering, exiting and moving through the park until they return to their vehicle.
- If your child becomes unwell following a training session, please notify our Administrative Director/COVID-19 Compliance Officer, Jeff Ferguson, at [admin@boernesoccer.org](mailto:admin@boernesoccer.org) immediately.
- We suggest that all personal items brought to the field are washed/sanitized after each session at home.
- As a further safety measure, there will be no concession stands or food trucks during practice and/or games for the fall season.

## SAFETY PROTOCOLS



Have parents remain in cars during training sessions

OR



Maintain CDC recommendations of 6' for Social Distancing outside training areas and a maximum of 10 individuals in a group



Ease training into 15 min. intervals as players re-adapt



Reduce number of players handling training equipment

## HYGIENE PRACTICES



Coaches wear face coverings as much as possible

Players use face coverings as much as possible



Provide designated hand sanitizer stations

Avoid sharing drink containers, training equipment (balls, bibs, gloves) and hygiene products



Promote hand washing for 20 seconds with soap and water



Thank you for taking the time to read our Boerne Soccer Club Return to Play Guidelines. Due to the nature of COVID-19, this is a working document that will be updated as and when necessary in accordance with the guidance of local and state authorities.

If you have any questions, please contact our Administrative Director, and designated COVID-19 Compliance Officer, Jeff Ferguson, at [admin@boernesoccer.org](mailto:admin@boernesoccer.org).

Thank you!

