



Deerfield AYSO

Return to Play: COVID-19 Protocols

Updated: August 6, 2020

Deerfield AYSO is dedicated to protecting the health and safety of our soccer community. The purpose of this document is to provide athletes, parents, and coaches with information to return to soccer in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic.

These protocols are based on the [Illinois Department of Public Health Youth Sports Guidelines](#), US Soccer and US Youth Soccer guidelines. AYSO and its partners will be following the requirements set forth by these guidelines.

The information in this document is not intended or implied to be a substitute for professional medical advice, diagnosis, or treatment. The knowledge and circumstances around COVID-19 are changing constantly, and as such, Deerfield AYSO makes no representation and assumes no responsibility for the completeness of this information.

Although the young and healthy may be subject to less severe cases of COVID-19, every case of this disease is potentially life-altering or deadly, particularly in those with risk factors that may occur within our community.

Healthy Participants Only!!!

Any players, coaches, spectators who are sick will not be allowed at practices or games.

Everyone must abide by social distancing regulations

Thank you as always for your continued support and participation.

- Deerfield AYSO Board of Directors

Deerfield AYSO Return to Play Protocol

Training criteria for athletes, coaches and staff

- Social distancing should be maintained before and after practice and when allowable during training.
- Training sessions should take place outside.
- Participants must not exhibit any signs or symptoms of COVID-19 in the past 14 days and have no known exposure to someone that has been ill within 14 days.
- Hand sanitizer will be present during training and used as needed.
- Participants should use their own equipment when possible and properly sanitize the equipment after every training session.
- There will not be any snacks or sharing of food.
- The coach is the only person to handle equipment (cones, etc).
- Clothing should not be shared. This includes pinnies, goalie gloves or shirts.
- Participants should use their own water bottle, towel and any other personal hygiene products.
- After a “throw-in” drill, or a drill where multiple players may be touching the same ball, the ball should be sanitized, and each player should wash their hands or use hand sanitizer.
- Coaches must wear masks when within 6 feet of any participant.
- Masks are permitted but not required to be worn by players during training.
- Spectators must be spaced out at least 6-feet apart.

Additional Training criteria for Playground Program

- Only one parent/guardian should stay and participate with the player.
- Masks are required for all parents/guardians during the sessions. Masks are not required by the players

Coach Responsibilities

- Ensure the health and safety of the participants.
- Coaches must wear masks when within 6 feet of any participant.
- Masks are permitted but not required to be worn by the players during training.
- Ensure all athletes have their own individual equipment (ball, water, goalie gloves, etc).
- Ensure the coach is the only person to handle equipment (cones, etc). Do not enlist parental or attendee assistance.
- Training should be conducted outdoors and compliant with social distancing per state and local health guidelines.
- Coaches should maintain at least 6 feet social distance requirements from players.
- Do not use shared pinnies – plan ahead for players to wear specific colors.
- If a player arrives at a training session or game and is ill with COVID-19, has tested positive for COVID-19, or has recently come in contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19, then the coach should ask the player to leave the field, and if significant exposure has occurred report the incident to the Deerfield AYSO Safety Director /CVPA (Drew Serlin) at cvpa@deerfieldayso.org

Parent Responsibilities

- Ensure your child is healthy and check your child's temperature before activities with others.
- Consider not carpooling or limited carpooling.
- Adhere to 6 ft. social distance requirement.
- Ensure your child's clothing is washed after every training.
- Notify the coach immediately if your child becomes ill.
- Do not assist your coach with equipment before or after training.
- Be sure your child has necessary sanitizing products with them at every training.
- If a family member becomes ill with COVID-19, tests positive for COVID-19, or comes in contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19:
 - Immediately contact the Deerfield AYSO Safety Director/CVPA (Drew Serlin) at cvpa@deerfieldayso.org
 - Do not bring your child to training or games until your family self-isolates for at least 14 days or has a negative COVID-19 test. Please report this status to the Deerfield AYSO Safety Director/CVPA (Drew Serlin) at cvpa@deerfieldayso.org

Players Responsibilities

- Practice social distancing of at least 6 ft from other players and coaches whenever possible - including on the touchlines when you are sitting out of training or games.
- Wash hands thoroughly before and after training.
- Bring and use hand sanitizer with you at every training.
- Masks are permitted but not required to be worn by the players during training.
- Masks should be worn at all other times in accordance with local ordinances, including when approaching and leaving the field.
- Do not touch or share anyone else's equipment, water, food or bags.
- Place bags and equipment at least 6 feet apart.
- Wash and sanitize all equipment before and after every training or game.
- No group celebrations, including high-5s, hugs, handshakes, fist-bumps, etc.

In the event a player, coach, or volunteer tests positive for COVID-19, the incident must be immediately reported to Deerfield AYSO (Drew Serlin) at the following email address: cvpa@deerfieldayso.org

In order to return to play, the player, coach, or volunteer must:

- Self-isolate for at least 10 days and not show any signs or symptoms of COVID-19 for at least 72 hours without fever-reducing medication *or* have a negative COVID-19 test.

AND

- Submit to AYSO a signed written clearance from a medical doctor showing that the person has been cleared to participate to Deerfield AYSO Safety Director/CVPA (Drew Serlin) at cvpa@deerfieldayso.org

Additional Resource Links:

AYSO Guidance, Return to Play: <https://www.aysovolunteers.org/returning-to-play/>

State of Illinois, Phase 4 Youth Sports Guidelines: <https://dceocovid19resources.com/restore-illinois/restore-illinois-phase-4/youth-and-recreational-sports-guidelines/>

National Federation of High Schools Guidance, Return to Play: https://www.nfhs.org/media/3812287/2020-nfhs-guidance-for-opening-up-high-school-athletics-and-activities-nfhs-smac-may-15_2020-final.pdf

CDC consideration for youth sports: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/youth-sports.html>