



LAKE WASHINGTON YOUTH SOCCER COVID-19 RETURN TO PLAY

Coach Responsibilities:

- **No coach that is sick or has signs or symptoms suggestive of COVID-19 should attend.**
- Always wear a face mask and maintain physical distance requirements from players (>6 feet) based on state and local health requirements.
- Use hand sanitizer before and after interacting with your team.
- Make sure your team leaves the field within 5 minutes of the event ending.
- Clustering of players should be avoided. There should be no gathering and socializing before or after the game by players. Coaches should not assemble their teams closely together for instruction; players should be spaced at least 6 feet apart for team meetings or instruction.
- **No handshakes or fist bumps during or after the game.**
- Read out player names and numbers off the gameday/roster for game check-in to the referee.
- Leave game day paperwork for referee pickup, no hand off allowed.

Player Responsibilities:

- **Mask should be worn at all times, during games, at check-in, while on the bench and during halftime.**
- **No player that is sick or has signs or symptoms suggestive of COVID-19 should attend.**
- Teams cannot enter the field area until previous teams have left the field.
- Masks should be worn by players to and from the field.
- Soccer bags should be placed at least 6 feet apart from one another.
- Use hand sanitizer before and after the game.
- Clustering of players should be avoided. There should be no gathering and socializing before or after the game by players. Coaches should not assemble their teams closely together for instruction; players should be spaced at least 6 feet apart for team meetings or instruction.
- **No handshakes or fist bumps during or after the game.**

LWYSA will follow the mask guidelines according to Washington State and King County current phase.

When To Wear a Mask (Phase 2)

	On the Field Playing	On Sidelines
Practice	Yes	Yes
Games (only games listed on game scheduled)	Yes	Yes

When To Wear a Mask (Phase 3)

	On the Field Playing	On Sidelines
Practice	Yes	Yes
Games (only games listed on game scheduled)	No	Yes



Parent/Guardian Responsibilities:

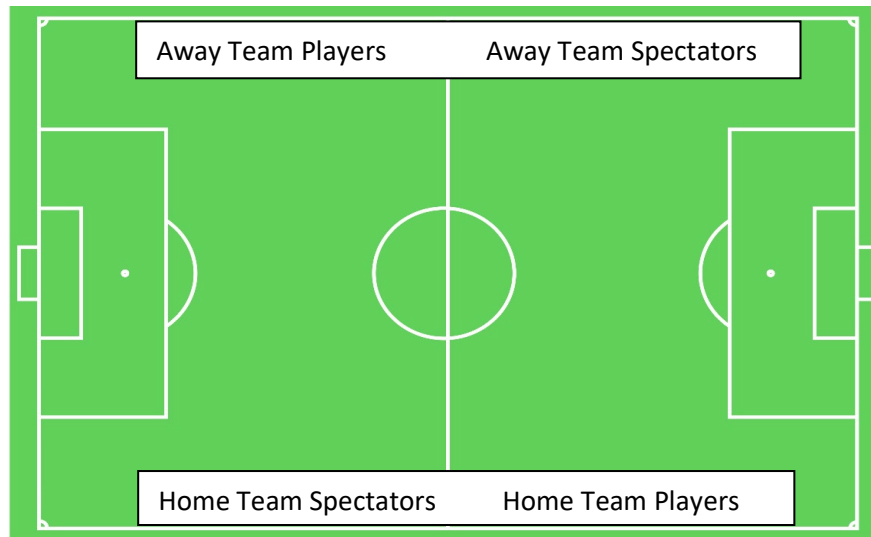
- **One adult parent/guardian/caregiver for each minor aged participant will be allowed as a spectator to meet field limit requirements.**
- **Spectators must wear masks at all times.**
- Spectators are allowed under WA Dept of Health guidelines; however, they must remain a minimum of 10 feet from the field, sidelines, referees and team areas. All spectators are to remain socially distanced to allow 6 feet between individuals.
- Drop player off no earlier than 15 minutes prior to kickoff.
- Do not loiter around field. Avoid gatherings of people.
- **No parent/guardian/caregiver or player that is sick or has signs or symptoms suggestive of COVID-19 should attend.**
- Spectators should not touch any game day equipment, including balls, cones, goals, etc.

Player Injury Procedures:

- In case of an emergency, call 911.
- Coaches must wear a mask if tending to an injured player.
- Other players should not approach the injured player to avoid a crowd and keep distance.
- For minor injuries, coach approaches player and asks from a distance if they are able to walk off the field unassisted.
- If a head injury has occurred and is emergent, call 911. If a non-emergent head injury and player can walk off the field, allow them to do so. Follow all concussion protocols.
- If an injury takes place that prevents a player from walking off the field under their own power, coach can assist the player off the field. Parent should then be called and allowed to tend to the player.

Field Setup:

- Teams will take opposite sides of the field in order to prevent any additional contact. Home team will dictate which side of the field teams take. Club will create diagram of field set up with regard to location of spectators and team, as field and location vary, each field setup needs to follow social distancing guidelines.
- No closed tents. If benches are used on the sideline, players should be separated by at least two empty seats. Alternatively, individual chairs can be used for substitutes, but each team is responsible for providing their own. Players should wear masks at all times.
- **Spectators are allowed under WA Dept of Health guidelines; however, they must remain a minimum of 10 feet from the field and remain socially distanced to allow 6 feet between individuals. All spectators must wear a mask.**
- Clubs/teams must follow the rules of the field they are playing on.
- There should be adequate distance between adjoining fields to allow social distancing on the sidelines.



Case of Infection:

When an athlete is diagnosed with COVID-19:

- Have the player stay home.
- If the infected player was in contact with their team within 48 hours of diagnosis, have the team quarantine – contact each of the parents/guardians that “someone” on the team has tested positive for the virus (do not reveal name of infected individual). It is recommended each of these players should also be tested for COVID-19.
- If the infected player played in a game with their team within 48 hours of diagnosis, LWYSA COVID Contact must notify the opposing team immediately and– have opposing team quarantine (COVID test recommended). **Contact Meghan Dosch at meghand@lwysa.org**
- Infected player cannot return to practice or games until they have written medical clearance from their physician.
- Disinfectant all equipment.

When a coach has come in contact with or is infected with COVID-19:

- Get tested and stay home.
- Contact your club immediately.
- Inform the team – if you have maintained social distance from all your players your players do not necessarily need to get tested but may choose to.
- Disinfect all equipment.

Referee Responsibilities:

Pre-Game:

- Personal Stations for referees
 - Referee equipment should not be shared, but if shared, it should be sanitized before and after the match.



- Masks must be worn at all times, during pre-game/game/half-time and after the match.
- Referees should carry hand sanitizer and disinfectant wipes for their own personal use.
- Referees should use an electronic whistle.
- Game balls –
 - The referee should inspect all game balls, but without handling them. For better efficiency, it is recommended there be more than one game ball.
- Player Check-In:
 - Jewelry
 - Uniform/Jewelry checks – should be visual check only maintaining proper physical distance between referee and players.
- Coin Toss:
 - No coin toss.
 - While maintaining 6-ft space, the Home team picks direction to attack. Away team gets kick-off.
- No player walkouts or handshakes prior to the game.

During the Game:

- Try to maintain recommended distancing during the match.
- Drop Ball – no referee handling, ensure all except one player maintain a 4.5 yd. distance from the ball and restart with a whistle.
- Penalty kicks – do not handle the ball. Place the ball on the mark, the player can then adjust.
- Medical Situations –
 - Remain 6 ft. away from the injured player while determining if medical attention is needed.
 - If so, the team trainer or a coach from the player's team should attend to the injured player.

After the Game:

- No handshakes, fist bumps, or high fives after the game. This can be replaced with a wave.
- For contact tracing purposes, if a referee is to test positive for COVID after a match, they need to notify the assignor immediately. The assignor will be responsible for notifying the appropriate club official.

League Communication Plan:

- League will publish all relevant materials around this League Protocol on the LWYSA website.
- If changes to the state guidelines occur during the season, LWYSA will update the guidelines.
- LWYSA Covid Contact Person: Meghan Dosch at meghand@lwysa.org.