



March 1, 2021

To: Member Associations
Presidents, CEOs/Executive Directors, Directors of Coaching, Head Registrars,
Classic Liaisons, Challenge Liaisons, Recreation Liaisons, Risk Management Coordinator

RE: Covid Update

Governor Cooper continued the mask mandate in his Wednesday update, Executive Order 195, which expires March 26, 2021. No changes were made to the requirement for face coverings nor the exception list.

Thank you for your continued support in improving compliance with all our pre- and post-game guidelines. Stay vigilant a while longer. The dramatic improvement in NC case counts and other pandemic metrics hopefully continues.

A few reminders to share:

- Please urge coaches to identify only true mask exceptions to keep our season safe and fair, and to minimize canceled matches.
- A referee may stop or end a match if they are concerned about safety from the number of exceptions.
- Referees have been encouraged to allow players to step out of the action momentarily to "catch their breath", at a safe social distance, by briefly pulling down their masks.
- Encourage players/parents to bring extra masks. Players are adapting to wet and warm weather by having additional clean masks during training or matches.
- As always, parents have the ultimate say in allowing their kids to play.

The Governor's Executive Order 195 and the NCDHHS update to their Interim Guidance can be found on our [ncsoccer.org](https://www.ncsoccer.org) website in the COVID section:

<https://www.ncsoccer.org/member-services/covid-19-information/>

Be safe,

NCYSA Executive Board