

## Game Day Protocols \*revised April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2021

Ten months and a full statewide Colorado fall soccer season of more than 30,000 youth have allowed the Colorado soccer community and the greater worldwide network of youth advocates, soccer professionals and enthusiasts to research, develop and implement safe outdoor youth soccer programming. In fact, consistent participation in organized outdoor youth soccer has statistically proven to be safer for youth from the transmission of COVID-19 than forced isolation and/or unregulated activities.

Between June 2020 and November 2020, Colorado Soccer Association (CSA) hosted 36,302 players, 7,714 games and 1,982 teams in outdoor youth soccer. With mandatory restrictions from CSA meeting or exceeding all local, county, statewide, or national restrictions, including mandatory contact tracing for every known case of COVID-19. With appropriate protocols and measures in place from local Colorado non-profit soccer clubs, not a single instance of COVID-19 transmission was reported in relation to outdoor youth soccer in Colorado under the guidance of CSA.

Everyone needs to be diligent regardless of belief to support our ability to continue to play. Play is vital for the mental health of our kids and let's make sure Real Colorado is the model club for intelligent decisions and adherence to guidelines.

## **GENERAL EXPECTATIONS FOR GAME DAYs:**

- Players will be required to bring their **own mask**, water, snacks and personal equipment to all games and to sanitize them after each game.
- Player families will be instructed it is mandatory to take child's temperature prior to leaving for games. Any player with a temperature higher than 100.3 degrees Fahrenheit should not be brought to game.
  - TeamSnap has a new function to comply with this before every game.
- No one is allowed to attend games if NOT feeling well, has a fever higher than 100.3, or is currently under a quarantine. If exhibiting any symptoms of Covid-19, including mild to severe respiratory illness with fever, cough and difficulty breathing, or other symptoms identified by the CDC, players should not be permitted to attend the game.
  - Athletes, coaches or staff who screen positive must stay at home and should contact their healthcare provider for medical advice and guidance on returning to work/sport as well as review the Real Colorado RTP after COVID-19 document.
  - Coaches and staff should ask participants as they arrive if they feel ill in any way and if they had their temperature taken prior to arrival.
- Wash hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer before coming to games and when arriving at home.





- No player may receive medical attention, except in emergency situations, from our Children's Hospital Colorado TC's without a mask.
- Make best attempts to maintain social distancing when arriving and leaving games.
- All coaches and staff will be encouraged to maintain social distancing throughout the games from players, referees and other staff.
- Players and coaches should bring their own sanitizer to games and will be expected to utilize it throughout. Players cannot share sanitizer.
- Players and coaches must avoid "high fives", handshakes and minimize touching
- Players, Staff and Coaches should all avoid touching their face.
- All athletes, coaches and staff should follow public health guidelines for reducing risk of infection.
- If you have attended a game and have a positive screen related to COVID-19 symptoms, please contact the club COVID-19 safety officer, Jared Spires, for tracing and prompt communication to those potentially exposed parties.
- Attendance record of all players, staff and coaches attending must be recorded for games.
- All equipment that is utilized in games, will be sanitized after every games.
- Soccer balls should be disinfected immediately after a game.
- Coaches should be sure to ask the opposing coach if their contact information is accurate and available on the appropriate league platform. This helps in tracing and communication.

## **REAL COLORADO FIELDS ONLY**

In Douglas County we have a more relaxed variance than many of the communities we will travel too. Please respect the guidelines and expectations of each club, community and county.

- Game arrival no team or player should arrive at the field more than 40 minutes prior to game time.
  - If you arrive early, wait in the car until 30 minutes prior unless the field you are playing on did not have a game prior and teams are not on the benches.
- Spectators
  - Should stay in family groups and maintain 6 feet of space from other family units,
  - Stay approximately 10 feet from the sideline when possible to permit social distancing for players throwing the ball in and referees running the lines.
  - Do not touch balls that role out of bounds with hands even to help a player out.
- Game Departure all players and coaches must exit the field within 10 minutes of the end of the game
- No congregating in the parking lot.

As is with the state of this current pandemic and COVID-19 constant evolving situation, we will adhere to local/state/national CDC guidelines and all things above can be subject to change or addendum at a later date. This document reflects recommended practices and serves as a general informational resource for Real Colorado members and should not be considered as medical or expert advice. Recommendations are designed to promote hygienic practices to better protect participants in any activity. Families may implement or rely on





the information at their own risk. Real Colorado emphasizes that it is incumbent of all club staff and members to consult the most up-to-date recommendations of federal, state, and local public health officials on a regular basis.

Consult your own qualified health providers or other advisors about any specific issues or circumstances you might have.

