



Indiana Soccer Imperatives for Training and Games



One of Indiana Soccer's goals is to assist member clubs in their effort to provide a safe environment for the players and their families to enjoy our game. The residents of the state of Indiana have done a tremendous job of following the directives of our state and local government and our state and local health departments to allow us to move through the stages of return to what will be considered normal. All have been emphasizing **that we are not done and not out of the woods**. The Indiana Soccer family is committed to demonstrating excellence in the mitigation fight against Covid-19. Below is a list of imperative minimums expected until such time as the social distancing requirements are lifted by local and state governments.

Coaches:

- Coaches are required to wear masks (bandanas/gaiters are acceptable) walking to training and through the greeting/initial instruction part of the session and anytime they would come within 6' of another person (includes other coaches).
- Coaches should have a designated side-line space for their personal & team equipment that complies with social distancing best practices. **NO BENCH, COACHES MUST BRING THEIR OWN CHAIR, NO TO BE SHARED.**
- During training, *the coach may remove their mask* when they are greater than 6' from others, however, they should have the mask readily available when 6' or closer contact is inevitable. Coaches should always have a pair of gloves on their person just in case the coach needs to attend to an injured player. When attending an injured athlete, the coach must wear their mask and gloves.
- When the training session resumes, the coach may remove their mask and gloves as long as the coach maintains a minimum of 6' separation from others.
- When addressing the team, the coach must insist the players stand/sit a minimum of 6' apart. If the coach is a minimum of 6' from any other person, the coach does not need to be wearing their mask when addressing the players. The CDC says this type of gathering should not exceed 10 minutes.
- Coaches should be the only individuals handling team equipment (cones, training sticks, portable goals, etc...).
- Coaches are required to wear a mask during all pre-game introductions (opposing coaches, referees...).
- During games, coaches are required to wear a mask on the sideline. They may remove the mask to give direction to players on or off the field as long as they are a minimum of 6' from any individual.
- There should be no physical contact between players, coaches or referees pre- or post-game.
- When leaving the training/game or moving to another field, etc., coaches are required to wear their mask.

Players:

- Players are required to wear masks (bandanas are acceptable) when going to the field.
- Players should have a clearly marked side-line space, designated for them to place their personal equipment in compliance with the 6' minimum social distancing protocol. **NO TEAM BENCHES.**
- Players should remove their masks when training/warm-ups and when the games begin.
- Players are not to share drink containers, even from their own family.
- During games, reserves in the team bench area should be a minimum of 6' apart. If they are a minimum of 6' apart, they do not have to wear their mask. If they are closer, they are required to wear their mask.
- Players are to keep socially distanced apart when gathering to listen to a coach.
- During the pre-game captains meeting, the captains (only one per team) are required to wear masks.
- There should be no physical contact between players, coaches or referees pre- or post-game.
- When leaving the training/game, players are required to wear their mask.
- Players for training: arrive at the field 5 minutes before training is to begin.
- Players for games: arrive at the field 25 minutes before game is to begin.

Referees:

- Referees are required to wear a mask (bandanas are acceptable) when going to or from the field.
- On the sideline, when there is more than one referee working the game, social distance yourself from the other referees (minimum of 6' apart). The club should have designated a space that complies with social distancing protocols for as many as three referees. **NO BENCH FOR REFEREES.**
- Wear a mask during:
 - Field inspection
 - Introducing yourself to the coaches (stay a minimum of 6' apart)
 - Team check-in (stay a minimum of 6' apart)
 - Captains' meeting (stay a minimum of 6' apart)
- There will be only one captain per team. Captains are to wear their masks during the captains' meeting.
- Referees and assistant referees **ARE NOT REQUIRED** to wear a mask during the game.
- Keep a mask in your pocket in case you need to be within 6' of a player. Maintaining 6' social distancing when practical.
- During the half-time break, if the referees can maintain social distancing (minimum of 6'), they are not required to wear their mask.
- There should be no physical contact between players, coaches or referees pre- or post-game.
- When leaving the game or moving to another field, referees are required to wear their mask.

Spectators:

- Ask all individuals who are 65 and above or who have an underlying at-risk health condition to stay home.
- Spectators are required to wear masks (bandanas are acceptable) when making their way to the designated side-line space for spectator seating. The club will have clearly marked areas that comply with social distancing protocols for spectator seating.
- Only family members living in the same home should be sitting closer than required by the social distancing protocol when attending games.
- Any type of bleacher/bench should be closed off for use unless they can be cleaned after each use.
- Spectators are not required to wear their masks when sitting in their designated viewing area as long as they are sitting a minimum of 6' from another household.
- When a spectator moves from their designated seating area, they are required to wear their mask.
- If spectators are interacting with other spectators (other families) at the field/complex, they are required to wear their mask and maintain the minimum social distance, 6' apart.
- Spectators for training and games: arrive at the field 5 minutes before the training or game is to begin.

Concessions:

- There should be signage saying **No Mask – No Service** at all concession stands.
- Have social distancing marks on the ground for those waiting in line.
- Servers are required to wear a mask and gloves.
- Only serve pre-packaged food/drinks. Servers should not be in contact with any food or drink.
- Contact your local health department for guidelines if you are cooking or serving fountain drinks.

Tents/Umbrellas

- If a tent is to be used in the team "bench" area (benches are not allowed), a minimum of 2 need to be utilized to allow for social distancing for the players not in the game. Crowding under the tent is not permitted.
- Players may use umbrellas.