

HSC Covid-19 Policy
Updated March 19, 2021

ALL COMMUNICATION RELATED TO COVID-19, INCLUDING REPORTING A PLAYER'S EXPOSURE TO COVID-19 OR POSITIVE CASES SHOULD BE SENT DIRECTLY TO HSCHEALTH@HADDONFIELDSOCCER.ORG.

This memo summarizes the Club's philosophy and rules as it pertains specifically to Covid-19. These rules are generally consistent with HSC actions and decision-making criteria enacted during the Fall 2020 season, and will continue to be updated in line with information from public health authorities (specifically CDC recommendations and NJ Dept of Health Guidelines for Youth Sports). The leagues in which our travel teams play (SJGSL and SJSL) and US Soccer (which cards and insured our players) require compliance with these guidelines in order for players to be eligible for participation. Whenever possible, we strive to provide parents with guidelines consistent with Haddonfield Public Schools and other sports organizations in Haddonfield (to the best of our knowledge), but HSC may adopt policies that differ from these organizations based on any factors at the discretion of the HSC board. HSC reserves its right to modify the policy and/or its enforcement thereof and any decision to forego a discipline in one instance does not waive our right to enforce in any other instance.

1. As a reminder, **participation in Haddonfield Soccer is voluntary and optional**. Parents with concerns about HSC's Covid-19 policies can opt not to have their child participate without any penalty or prejudice (but will only be granted a refund before rosters are released for travel soccer and before the start of town/rec seasons).
2. Prior to play (practices, games or clinics) **players' parent/guardian will need to complete a form** that clears them for play based on the following:
 - a. Has not had one of the listed Covid symptoms unrelated to a documented diagnosis (communicated to HSC prior to completing this form) in the past 48 hours
 - b. Has had someone in their home(s) ill with any of the listed Covid symptoms or waiting for a screening result
 - c. Has had close contact with someone diagnosed with Covid-19 or has been asked to self-quarantine
 - d. Has traveled to any U.S. state or territory within the past 10 days beyond the immediate region (PA, NY, CT and DE) or outside of the U.S.
3. Coaches will do their best to design practices so that social distancing is possible, but we recognize that some contact is likely to happen during soccer. **Parents assume this risk when they allow their child to participate in town or travel soccer.**
4. **Coaches are required to wear masks** while coaching practices or games unless they are farther than 6 feet away from players, coaches, referees, etc. Exceptions may be made with advanced notice for coaches with health problems that make wearing a mask a health risk. Coaches who do not comply with mask-wearing guidelines will be given one warning; on the second warning, HSC may dismiss and replace the coach.
5. **Players are required to socially distance whenever it's possible and to wear a mask during water breaks** (unless actually drinking water) and **when they're on the sideline of practice or a game**. It is strongly recommended (although not required at this time) that players wear masks during practice and games. **ALL PLAYERS ARE PERMITTED TO WEAR A MASK DURING PRACTICE AND GAMES IF THEY CHOOSE**. This may change based on guidance from public health authorities and we will notify a parent/guardian specified in the child's player profile of any

such change as soon as practical. Players who do not comply with applicable mask-wearing guidelines will be given one warning (communicated to the child's parent/guardian); on the second warning (communicated to the child's parent/guardian), HSC may remove the child from the program for the rest of the season.

6. **Parents are expected to wear masks at pick-up/drop-off and while watching games or practices.** Exceptions may be made with advanced notice for parents with health problems that make wearing a mask a health risk. Parents who do not comply with mask-wearing guidelines will be given one warning; on the second warning, HSC may remove their child from the program for the rest of the season or prohibit the parent from attending HSC events. Parents are responsible for any other adults or children attending your player's games or practices as fans or caregivers, and are encouraged to help us enforce their compliance with HSC mask-wearing guidelines.
7. Our players, coaches, families and fans are exposed to risk when parents misrepresent or fail to report their player's Covid-19 status. **For this reason, all families must agree to report exposure and/or positive cases.** Failure to comply could result in immediate dismissal from the club without a refund. While HSC is committed to maintaining the privacy of its players and families when practicable, we reserve the right and grant such right to our coaches to send a player home from an HSC event if the Club or coach has a reasonable belief that the player has either been exposed to or tested positive for Covid-19, despite a parent's failure to disclose this fact prior to the event.
8. The **procedure for reporting to HSC** is as follows:
 - a. Parents email information to **HSCHEALTH@HADDONFIELDSOCCER.ORG**, a private inbox which will only be accessed by the Club President and Vice President. **PARENTS ARE NOT OBLIGATED TO REPORT TO THEIR CHILD'S COACH, BUT ARE REQUIRED TO REPORT TO HSC.**
 - b. Email should include the following:
 - i. Child's name
 - ii. Child's gender, birth year and league of play
 - iii. If child is asymptomatic but tested positive, the date of the positive test result
 - iv. If child is symptomatic and tested positive, the date of the onset of symptoms and the date of the positive test result
 - v. If child has been exposed to a known or suspected case of Covid-19, the date of exposure
 - vi. If the parent believes the child was exposed to a case through soccer or through another contact (no details about the contact are required)
 - vii. Contact information where we can reach the parent/guardian to determine the child's HSC status (i.e., their "sit out" timeline)
 - c. HSC will follow the procedures outlined below for communicating to the team
 - d. HSC is NOT permitted to contact schools, places of work or any other members of our community about the exposure (per NJ Dept of Health guidelines to preserve patient privacy)
9. **HSC head or assistant coaches or trainers are not permitted to provide communication to their teams regarding Covid-19 policy, unless they are simply forwarding communication from the HSC Board to their teams' coaches/parents.** Likewise, Medical Doctors or other experts on Covid-19 who may be affiliated with a team (e.g., as a coach, parent, etc.) are not permitted to advise parents or players on behalf of HSC. HSC follows guidelines as provided for youth sports (and for soccer specifically, based on its DOH risk categorization). Any recommendations made should not be considered to be endorsed by HSC.

10. When HSC is informed by the child's parents that they are positive or have been exposed, HSC will determine the following*:
 - a. The timeline for player's "sit out" period (during which they cannot participate in team activities, including practices, games or get-togethers of any sort):
 - i. Starting from the day in which symptoms have started for a symptomatic positive case, for 10 days and at least 24 hours with no fever without fever-reducing medication
 - ii. Starting from the day of a positive test result for asymptomatic cases, for 10 days and at least 24 hours with no fever without fever-reducing medication (note: HSC does not adjust this timeline for a child's "known" exposure date; in other words, if a parent believes they know the exposure date that does not change the look back timeline for positive cases)
 - iii. Starting day of a presumed positive (i.e., not test but believe to be positive), for 10 days and at least 24 hours with no fever without fever-reducing medication
 - iv. Starting day of exposure to a positive case, for 10 days, provided the child remains asymptomatic
 - v. NOTE: at this time, producing a negative test does not reduce or change the "sit out" period for positive cases or for exposure
 - b. The timeline for a team's "sit out" period (in which they cannot participate in team activities, including practices, games or get-togethers of any sort):
 - i. While the rule for close contact is 15 cumulative minutes within 6 feet without a mask, HSC assumes that for the purposes of soccer only, players have been "exposed to a positive case" if a player on the team has tested positive and was with the team during the look-back period
 1. Exposure to a player or coach that tested positive 2 days prior to test results for an asymptomatic positive case, for 10 days from the exposure
 2. Exposure to a player or coach that tested positive 2 days prior to symptoms for a symptomatic positive case, for 10 days from the exposure
 3. Day of exposure to a known positive, for 10 days from the exposure
 - ii. If a team has to "sit out" because of potential or actual exposure, HSC does not issue a refund (even on a pro rata basis) for the time lost due to being sidelined.
 - c. Possible exposure of opposing teams and referees
11. If a parent informs HSC that their child is quarantining because they have been exposed, the following action will be taken:
 - a. If the child's exposure timeline means the team was exposed to the child during the look-back period, HSC will proceed as outlined above.
 - b. If the child is quarantining but the team has not been exposed, HSC will ask the parent's permission to let the team know that "a player or coach on the team is quarantining but that the team was not exposed to this player during the player's 'look-back' window." This is a courtesy to parents on the team and is not required. Parents who report to HSC are not required to communicate to teammates or coaches themselves and can/should rely on HSC to communicate to the team on behalf of HSC.
12. For travel soccer, our leagues expect all clubs to report when a player has tested positive. If this occurs, and HSC is informed, we will notify parents of players potentially affected by this information as soon as possible, and will make a determination, based on the information provided, if a team is required to "sit out" for a 10 day period.

13. **HSC guidance CANNOT extend to parents' or coaches' decisions beyond soccer participation (i.e., school, work, etc.).** For HSC's purposes, we assume a child has been exposed and cannot provide more detailed information that might allow a parent the ability to determine whether they can return to school or work without violating rules that apply to those spaces. HSC cannot provide medical guidance and asks coaches and parents to refrain from speaking as a representative of the team when it comes to commenting on medical information.

Key terms:

- **Look-back period:** 2 days prior to a positive test result (not test administration but test result received) or 2 days prior to the onset of symptoms
- **“Sit out” period:** the time a player or team is required to sit out of soccer (which is distinct from any quarantine that happens outside of soccer)
- **Known positive:** someone who does not receive a positive test but presumes (because of the nature of the contact or because of symptoms) that the person is positive for Covid-19 (i.e., not receiving a negative test does not mean someone is presumed negative)
- **Close contact:** defined as 15 cumulative minutes within 6 feet without masks on; for HSC purposes, attending a practice or playing a game with a teammate constitutes close contact for soccer regardless of the best intentions of players and coaches
- **Quarantine:** the period in which a person is advised or required to stay home or to stay away from school, work, etc. HSC does not advise on quarantine, only on “sit out” from soccer.

*These timelines are subject to change based on guidance from the applicable public health authorities as it is amended from time to time. HSC will continue to update its policy accordingly.