

Throughout the duration of the League season, MYSA will follow the guidance published by the Minnesota Department of Health which outlines requirements and prevention strategies necessary to reduce the spread of COVID-19 during sports activities.

### [COVID-19 Organized Sports Practice and Games Guidance for Youth and Adults](#)

Coaches, administrators, players and parents should have an understanding of this guidance and how it might affect or alter their League experience. The guidance is here to mitigate transmission of the virus while allowing youth players to reap the benefits of participating in a competitive soccer event.

#### **Face Coverings**

As of May 6th, face coverings are no longer required for participants actively (or inactively) participating in outdoor competition or practice. This includes players, coaches and referees. Physical distancing is still recommended for participants who are in close proximity to others, on the bench, coming to and from games, etc.

This loosening of the face covering requirement comes with a strong recommendation from MDH to conduct weekly testing. If weekly testing cannot be achieved, MDH recommends that players continue to wear face coverings at all times (including while actively practicing or playing).

For more information, please read Face Coverings in Organized Sports During COVID-19:

<https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/sportsmask.pdf>

#### **Testing**

Effective Monday, April 26, 2021, Minnesota is offering organized sports teams additional testing support and options to order and provide weekly COVID-19 testing to all participants. The Minnesota Department of Health encourages all participants (including athletes, coaches, referees, volunteers, etc.) on a team to participate in weekly testing.

<https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/sportstest.pdf>

#### **Exposure and Quarantine Requirements**

In the unfortunate possibility that a participant has had exposure to COVID-19, steps must be taken to determine what quarantine period is necessary for that participant. MYSA will follow the guidelines outlined by MDH: <https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/contact.pdf>

It is important to keep rosters of who was at practices and games so that contact tracing can be done quickly. Participants who are determined to have been exposed are ineligible to participate in league games until the appropriate period of quarantine has been completed.

Participants are encouraged to remain safe and vigilant against exposure to minimize their risk of exposure throughout the course of the season.

## **Spectators**

MYSA strongly encourages only one or two spectators per participant to limit the total number of people at league games. Spectators and participants should leave the premises as soon as possible after their game and are strongly discouraged from remaining at the facility to watch other games.

Spectators are required to wear face coverings in outdoor venues with 500 or more spectators in attendance. Spectators should remain 6 feet from other spectators if not in their household. Spectators should also remain at least 12 feet from the field to keep an appropriate distance between themselves and any participant. Spectator seating shall not be placed within 12 feet of the field to allow room for players and referees to maintain physical distance.

## **Rescheduling because of Exposure and Quarantine Requirements**

MYSA is cognizant of the possibility that games may have to be rescheduled due to COVID-19 exposures and the requirement to quarantine. Teams should do their best to work together to have each game played. Our goal is to have every team complete all their games, but we must balance this desire against player safety and logistical considerations.

All league games for 11U-19U teams must be completed by Friday July 2<sup>nd</sup> to allow for MYSA to seed teams into State Championship brackets (09U-10U teams can reschedule their games through July 15<sup>th</sup>). Incomplete games may result in a team being seeded lower than they could have been if a game was completed.