

TO: Youth Club Presidents
DT: March 18, 2021
RE: Return To Play

Thank you for continuing to help keep our sport safe as we continue to battle Covid-19. Last fall, our clubs did a great job in following the protocols to keep everyone safe and preventing youth soccer from being a super spreader.

As the spring approaches, there are some changes based on recommendations and/or mandates from the CDC or the PA Department of Health. You'll find updated documents on the Covid-19 Info page of our web site.

These changes include:

Masks - PA has mandated the use of masks when outside, including during athletic competition. Per PA Department of Health directive, athletes and referees must wear them at all times. For this purpose, face coverings will be considered to be part of the required equipment checked by the referee prior to the match. Like any piece of equipment, face coverings that are determined by the referee to pose a danger during play (ie-face shields) may not be used.

PA Universal Masking Requirement: <https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/Documents/Diseases%20and%20Conditions/Updated%20Order%20of%20the%20Secretary%20Requiring%20Universal%20Face%20Coverings.pdf>

Medical exceptions may be requested with a doctor's recommendation.

Capacity Limitations - PA has adjusted the size permitted to attend events. Outdoor events are permitted 20% of capacity. Indoor events are permitted 15% capacity. If you're unsure of the capacity of the facility you're using, please consult your local municipality.

PA Capacity Limits:
<https://www.governor.pa.gov/newsroom/gov-wolf-revises-mitigation-order-on-gatherings-and-lifts-out-of-state-travel-restrictions/>

Effective April 4 the limits will expand to 50% capacity for outdoor events and 25% capacity for indoor events.

Governor's website: <https://www.governor.pa.gov/newsroom/gov-wolf-effective-april-4-more-options-for-restaurants-and-other-businesses-mass-gathering-maximums-increase/>

Please note: Masking and social distancing will still be required.

Quarantine Requirements - The CDC has set new quarantine standards.

- Individuals who have tested positive for Covid-19, if symptom free for 72 hours, may end quarantine after 10 days.
- Individuals who have been exposed to someone testing positive for Covid-19 must quarantine for 14 days.

CDC Quarantine Instruction:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/quarantine.html>

Travel Quarantine - PA's travel quarantine has been lifted. This permits teams to travel to out-of-state games, tournaments, regional league, and national league play without having to quarantine or test upon return home

Travel Quarantine Guidance:

<https://www.governor.pa.gov/newsroom/gov-wolf-revises-mitigation-order-on-gatherings-and-lifts-out-of-state-travel-restrictions/>

The information in our Return to Play documents are meant to align with all laws, mandates, and directives from the government agencies afforded the authority to do so.

We will make every effort to adjust our documents as changes occur and alert you to those changes. When a discrepancy occurs please follow the information provided by the state or federal government agency.

As we did last fall, we urge you to identify a contact with either the State Department of Health or, those living in a county with a health department, your county health department. They will be able to give the most current instruction on quarantining, contact tracing, masking, etc.

Attached with this memo, you'll find an Masking FAQ to answer questions related to the requirement.

Lastly, we will be holding a Town Hall on Wednesday, March 24 at 7:00 PM via Webex that will include a review of the current Return to Play. Please find the Webex info below.

Good luck this spring!

Town Hall - Return To Play

<https://pawest-soccer.webex.com/pawest-soccer/j.php?MTID=m247a0b5a905cbae3a3de85d8c71a2a1c>

Meeting number: 132 894 8939

Password: 7Bp7HrJ2pWV

Join by video system

Dial 1328948939@pawest-soccer.webex.com

You can also dial 173.243.2.68 and enter your meeting number.

Join by phone

+1-415-655-0001 US Toll

Access code: 132 894 8939