



## The 2021 Alliance Cup COVID Safety Guidelines & Protocols

The below listed measures will be in place for the operation of the Alliance Cup in order to ensure a safe return to play for teams, spectators, and staff. Please make sure you are familiar with these guidelines and understand the need for strict adherence to them.

\*\*\* All listed procedures are subject to change based on changes to PA Department of Health and EPYSA standards for event operations or youth sports \*\*\*

### 1. Spectator Guidelines:

- a. Anyone exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 is prohibited from attending.
- b. Players are only permitted to have 2 spectators attend the games with them.
- c. Spectators will be required to stay on the side of the field across from the team bench area.
- d. Spectator sidelines, whenever possible, will be marked with social distancing spaces of 6 feet. There will be spaces that are marked for seating and spaces that are marked to stay out of. (See diagram at the end of this document)
- e. Spectators are always required to wear face masks / coverings once exiting their vehicles, in accordance with current PA Dept. of Health Guidelines in the Universal Order for Masking.
- f. Everyone is encouraged to bring their own personal sanitizer and PPE.

### 2. Players and Coaches:

- a. Anyone exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 is prohibited from attending.
- b. Players are to adhere to social distancing rules when not playing in the game.
- c. Players are to wear face masks pursuant to PA Department of Health, and EPYSA, guidelines.
  - i. Section 3 of the Universal Order for Masking allows for exemptions to this rule for players.
  - ii. Please see the official tournament rules document for clarification.
- d. Coaches are to wear face masks / coverings at all times.
- e. The sharing of water bottles, food, etc. is prohibited.
- f. Players and coaches should sanitize hands after leaving the field.
- g. Players and coaches are encouraged to bring their own personal sanitizer and PPE.

### **3. Event Staff:**

- a. Anyone exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 is to stay at home.
- b. All staff members will be required to have their temperature taken by our athletic training staff prior to being able to start work.
- c. All event staff will submit a COVID waiver in order to work in the event.
- d. All event staff will wear face masks / coverings.

### **4. Referees:**

- a. Will wear face masks / coverings when not on the field officiating.
- b. Will wear masks while officiating unless exempt under Section 3 of the Univ. Order for Masking.
- c. Referees are required to fill out and sign the COVID Waiver Form.

### **5. Tournament Game Adjusted Practices:**

- a. Teams are not to enter the field of play area at all until the previous games' teams have completely departed and are well clear of the field. There will be adequate warm-up space for teams, away from their game field, to prepare without being near the game that is in progress.
- b. Games have been to allow teams an on-field warm-up time. There is no need to crowd the teams playing on a field before you. Be patient and wait for the field to clear.
- c. There will be no post game handshakes or fist bumps. Teams are to stay apart.
- d. No spitting will be allowed on field, sidelines, etc.
- e. Coaches will retain player passes, they will not be checked by officials prior to the match but must be available upon request.
- f. Team benches will not be provided by the tournament. Teams should bring their own should they want one.
- g. There will be no award ceremonies or medal presentations for the tournament winners and finalists. All medals will be handed to a head coach for distribution at a different time and place, away from the event. Depending on the situation, the medals may be mailed to the head coaches of the winning, and finalist, teams.
- h. No "team tents" are allowed. "Team Tents" refers to a tent, or group of tents, that parents put up together to have a social gathering. At no place, at any facility, should there be a "team tent". Teams are permitted to have a tent over their individual bench for the players during the match.
- i. All coaches, players, and team managers are required to fill out and sign the online Waiver Form. This must be done as part of the team on-line check-in process prior to the event. Any individual coach, player, or team manager that has not submitted this form in the on-line check-in process will not be allowed to participate.
- j. There are no "captains" in a pre-game meeting and no "coin flip". Teams will take the side of the field they're bench area is on. The "Away" team will kick-off the match with the ball and the "Home" team will start the second half of play with the ball.

### **6. Enhanced Safety Provisions:**

- a. There will be increased sanitizing of rest rooms, porta johns, common areas, etc. This will take place throughout the event.
- b. Wash basin sinks with soap, and hand sanitizing stations, will be provided.
- c. Where possible, venues will have parking areas divided into zones based on field locales. Players and spectators are to use the parking zone assigned to their fields.

## 7. Mask Policies for Athletes:

Masks are required in accordance with PA Department of Health Guidelines and EPYSA rules.

- The PA Department of Health mask exemption (in Section 3 of the Order for Masking) addresses that an athlete may remove their mask during play **IF** the mask causes a medical condition, including a respiratory condition that impedes breathing.
- If the sport, equipment, or exertion level does not allow for face covering to be worn safely then the athlete should not wear a face covering.
- Proof of a condition or disability is not required.

PA Classics AC is committed to supporting our tournament participants through the incorporation of the safety guidelines and protocols listed above. By taking these precautions we believe we can reach our goal of providing a safe tournament experience for everyone during a return to play. Achieving that goal is only possible with your complete compliance of the guidelines and protocols.

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Spectator Social Distancing: Diagram for Section 1.d.

