

BESA 2020 RETURN TO PLAY

BESA is adopting the following Recommended Best Practices in an effort to provide a safe environment for our coaches, athletes, and their families. These are designed to help Teams, Coaches, Players and Spectators with procedures for operating both practices and games post COVID-19. They do not replace or supersede any protocols or restrictions outlined by our state or local authorities.

Recommended Best Practices for Soccer Field:

- 1) All Coaches, players, referees and spectators are encouraged to continue Social Distancing on and off the field whenever practical.
- 2) All players should bring their own drink, snack etc. and these items should be very distinctly marked with the players full name.
- 3) Teams should not use pinnies whenever possible. Instead of pinnies, teams should agree on an alternate color shirt that everyone has, and players should bring their own extra shirts (of any type!) in the event another team has the same color. BESA will do as much as possible to try to plan for/avoid jersey conflicts
- 4) All player benches will be removed. Teams should keep players spread out; expanding players down the sideline when room permits and only if player safety will not be compromised. Players/players parent should bring their own seat/chair if desired.
- 5) Parents are encouraged to supply their players with antibacterial wipes and/or hand sanitizer.
- 6) Players may wear PPE items if they choose, as long as the items do not compromise the safety of any and all participants in the game.
- 7) No team/player handshakes, high fives, and no group gatherings such as team huddles or end of game tunnels between teams/players on the field.
- 8) No post-game snacks/drinks are to be distributed to the teams.
- 9) Ensure players clothing is washed immediately after games

Recommended Best Practices for Spectators:

- 1) Parents and fans are required to ensure physical distancing is maintained. (Family units may sit together.)
- 2) There will be NO grouping of the team for typical post-game meetings, tunnels etc.
- 3) **ALL parents and family are welcome to remain and watch the games**, as long as social distancing can be maintained. Bleachers have been blocked off so please bring your own chair if desired.
- 4) If you need to bring a sibling with you, please feel free to do so; just make sure they stay with you, under your control and ensure they practice the same physical distancing as recommended that we all follow.
- 5) Coaches, parents and players are required to self-diagnose and follow guidelines found in the Governor's Checklist for Youth Sports Families, which can be found at:

<https://open.texas.gov/uploads/files/organization/opentexas/OpenTexas-Checklist-Youth-Sports-Families.pdf>