

## **NSC Outdoor Soccer Tournament COVID-19 Health and Safety Preparation Mitigation Plan**

Customers will be alerted to read our preparedness plan in regard to the National Sports Center on our website: <https://www.nscsports.org/covid19-plan>

Customers should also refer to the Return to Competitions protocols provided by the Twin Cities Soccer Leagues (TCSL) and Minnesota Youth Soccer Association (MYSA) here:

<https://www.mnyouthsoccer.org/page/show/5865820-return-to-competition-protocols>

In addition, the following protocols will be in place in regard to NSC hosted soccer tournament programming:

### **General Tournament Facility Cleaning**

- Regular housekeeping practices implemented
- All restrooms indoors and outdoors will be cleaned before, during and after each event
- All restrooms will be equipped with hand sanitizer
- All public areas will be cleaned hourly by tournament staff and volunteers

### **Tournament Scheduling and Field Layout**

- Game schedules and field layouts have been modified to:
  - Increased campus use to provide better social distancing (minimum 6 ft.), reduced crowds and extra space between fields and common areas.
  - Reduce the number of people on site in one area at any one time such that social distancing protocols (provided by the CDC and Minnesota Department of Health) are met and exceeded
  - Additional time allotted throughout the day to allow for a change over of participants
  - Provide shorter breaks between games against opponents, to reduce ‘down time’ in between games for teams

### **General Health and Safety Operational Protocols:**

#### **Pre-Event**

- The National Sports Center will provide pre-event communications to clearly communicate expectations and protocols, increase health and safety and reduce risk.
- Event staff will be trained on all state, campus and sanctioning body protocols and guidelines.
- All players, coaches, spectators, referees and volunteers are recommended to do a temperature self-check prior to arrival at the event.
- If a person has a temperature over 100.4 degrees, feels sick or has any COVID-19 symptoms they should not attend the event.

#### **During the Event**

- Signage will be posted on fields to ensure proper health and safety protocols are utilized and observed by attendees.

- Tournament staff and volunteers will be located throughout the facility to encourage guests to use proper safety protocols.
- Police and athletic trainers will be on-site (already standard practice).
- Game scores will not be posted on-site but will be posted on the event website and updated regularly.
- There will be no formal awards ceremonies. One team representative for teams who win Championship and Runner-ups should go to headquarters collect awards for team.
- Anyone who becomes sick during the event should leave the facility immediately and report it to tournament headquarters.

### Post Event

- The National Sports Center will create post event reports that can be provided to the State Health Department and our sanctioning bodies.
- A post-event survey will be sent to participating teams.

## Tournament Participant Protocols:

### Facility Well Being/Facial Coverings

- Anyone with symptoms should not enter the facility or participate
- Anyone with a temperature of more than 100, should not attend the event
- **EVERYONE AT THE EVENT IS REQUIRED TO WEAR A FACE COVERING** upon arrival to the facility from their vehicle to the fields; upon departure when traveling from the fields to their vehicle; when moving around the facility and through common areas such as headquarters, bathrooms, and when not properly social distancing
- Players are **required** to practice social distancing when not playing and to wear face coverings at all times in the team technical area during games, players may only remove face coverings when they enter the game
- Coaches are **required** to wear a face covering at all times
- Parents and spectators are **strongly recommended** to wear a face covering at all times
- Masks are **required** if entering any **indoor facility** on the campus
- Cover your mouth or nose with their sleeve or a tissue when coughing and sneezing and to avoid touching their face, in particular their mouth, nose, and eyes, with their hands
- Signage will be in place at the facility reminding teams of these guidelines

### Match Procedure Players and Coaches

- Players, coaches and supporters are recommended to remain in their vehicle until the designated time to enter the facility (to allow for teams and supporters at previous games to leave the facility and allow time for sanitation)
- No early arrival and warm up in areas over outside the playing field prior to the game.
- Equipment will be disinfected by officials, tournament staff or volunteers prior to each game being played
- Teams should check-in with the official prior to the games

- Player passes and rosters should be shown to the referee, but not physically exchanged.
- No team benches will be provided to teams, and teams should not bring their own bench to use
- Tents or tarps may be used in technical areas to shield players from the elements, it is recommended to bring enough tents so that all players may be shielded by the elements in-case of inclement weather
- Do not share water bottles, drinks, food or personal items
- Hydration stations will not be provided at the facility, players and coaches should bring their own water and/or sports drink
- Pre- or post-match handshakes are not recommended
- Coaches and players should maintain social distancing during half time, water breaks and always when off the field of play

#### **Match Procedure Parents and Spectators**

- All supporters should maintain social distancing throughout the duration of the match. (e.g. do not congregate in groups of 5+ (families only) on their side of the field (across from their team bench) and maintain a minimum of 6 ft. apart for each other)
- It is strongly recommended that players have a minimal number of spectators, and those with supporters over the age of 65 or pre-existing conditions do not attend.
- It is strongly recommended that players have minimal number of supporters on site.
- **Tarps and tents may not be used in spectator areas** or in public spaces

#### **Match Procedure Referees**

- All referees are **required** to wear face coverings in all areas of the facility unless during game play or properly social distancing as a standby official
- Equipment will be disinfected by officials, tournament staff or volunteers prior to each game being played
- Physical contact of any kind between and/or by referees will be prohibited
- Referee will check-in with the team prior to the match, confirming the teams on the game card, confirming the team has a roster and player passes. These items will not be exchanged
- Games cards will be returned to the field manager tent immediately following the game and headquarters will be notified immediately if there are any disciplinary actions that were taken

#### **NSC Soccer Tournament Staff**

- Anyone with any COVID like symptoms will not come to the facility or attend the event
- Tournament staff will be **required** to wear a face covering at all times
- Staff will be responsible for sanitizing all shared public areas throughout the day

#### **Vendors**

- Anyone with symptoms is required not come to the facility or attend the event

- If a vendor becomes sick during an event, they will notify the event immediately and shut down operation
- All food and beverage vendors will provide only pre-packaged items for sale at limited locations
- Vendors will set up locations adhering to social distancing guidelines (6 ft of spacing between all patrons)
- Vendors will be **required** to wear a face covering at all times

### **Reporting Confirmed COVID-19 Infections:**

- If a player, coach, referee or spectator that has attended a NSC Soccer Tournament or program becomes infected, please inform the National Sports Center by emailing the tournament director.
- Individuals or clubs should also should report any cases of player, coach, referee or spectator, to the Minnesota Department of Health at [health.sports.covid19@state.mn.us](mailto:health.sports.covid19@state.mn.us)