



Return to Play Policy

Information current as of March 10th, 2021

The information in this document is NOT intended or implied to be a substitute for professional medical advice, diagnosis, or treatment. If a player, family member or coach is feeling ill, please seek the advice of a medical professional immediately and do not attend any activities. Please read our policy thoroughly.

Pre-Spring Update

In preparation of the Spring 2021 soccer season, Eastern Pennsylvania Youth Soccer wanted to give a brief update on the latest COVID-19 information as it relates to youth soccer. Please review our [COVID-19 Response](#) document and the updates below.

- **All coaches, spectators, referees, players should wear masks at all times.** The only time when players or referees do not have to wear masks during participation is if they meet an exception in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's Order Requiring Universal Face Coverings. Section 3 of the Order provides an exception that allows an individual to remove their mask if wearing a face covering would either cause a medical condition, or exacerbate an existing one, including respiratory issues that impede breathing, a mental health condition or a disability. Proof of meeting the exception is not required. For fully vaccinated individual's, masks should be worn in public places which includes soccer activities.
- **Reduction of quarantine duration for a "close contact"** - For an individual who is considered a "close contact" with a COVID Positive case, quarantine should ideally be for 14 days from the last time they had contact with you; however, **for individuals who do not develop symptoms, quarantine can end after Day 10 without testing or after Day 7 if a specimen collected on or after Day 5 tests negative on a diagnostic test (i.e., PCR, antigen).** Symptoms should be monitored for a full 14 days.
- **Elimination out-of-state travel restrictions.** The state is no longer requiring that people who are traveling to Pennsylvania from another state, as well as Pennsylvania residents who are returning home from out of state, to test negative for the virus within 72 hours prior to arrival or quarantine.
- **Revised maximum occupancy limits for indoor events to allow for 15% of maximum occupancy, and 20% of maximum occupancy for outdoor events, regardless of venue size.** Core public health measures such as face covering (mask-wearing), social distancing, and hand hygiene still must be enforced. The 15% of maximum occupancy is permitted only if attendees and workers are able to comply with the 6-foot physical distancing requirement.

Harleysville FC's COVID-19 Policy

If a player develops COVID-19, he or she will immediately alert his or her coach. If a coach or staff member develops COVID-19, he or she will immediately alert the clubs Director of Coaching. The coach and group who may have been exposed will stop activity and remain out of activity for a 14-day period. We will also notify parents and families that there has been a COVID-19 response at a training/camp session, while maintaining participant confidentiality regarding health status.

If your child is part of a high-risk group (i.e. has pre-existing medical conditions including chronic lung disease, moderate to severe asthma, serious heart conditions, immunodeficiency, diabetes, chronic kidney disease, or liver disease), please consult with your family physician before attending a Harleysville FC training/camp session.

COVID Point of Contact

For all Harleysville FC COVID related policy questions and concerns, please contact the club Executive Director, Marc Meoli marc.meoli@gmail.com and use the subject "COVID-19 Question".

Parent Responsibilities under the Return to Play Policy

HFC parents will:

- Sign the Return to Play Policy Acknowledgement Form and the EPYSA Communicable Disease Release of Liability and Assumption of Risk Agreement (at the bottom of this document). Participation will not be allowed without these signed forms.
- Monitor how their player is feeling and keep a player home if he or she is sick.
- Take child's temperature before leaving home to attend activities with others. Please follow CDC recommendations for appropriate temperature guidelines.
- Immediately communicate to the coach if a player tests positive for COVID-19.
- Discuss player responsibilities outlined in this guide with players.
- Make sure players use the bathroom prior to arriving to the facility.
- Consider not carpooling or extremely limited carpooling.
- Parents will adhere to the Player Drop Off and Pick Up Procedures outlined below and remain in the car for the entire session.
- Ensure player has water and a bag prior to leaving the house and getting out of the car. Equipment will not be shared or lent to other players.
- Ensure child's clothing is washed after every session.
- Ensure all equipment (cleats, ball, shin guards etc.) are sanitized before and after every session.
- Be sure your child has necessary sanitizing products with them at every session.

Player Responsibilities under the Return to Play Policy

HFC players will:

- Have an adult sign the Return to Play Policy Acknowledgement Form. Participation will not be allowed without a signed form.
- Prior to arrival, before leaving home, players are to have their parents take their temperatures.
- Must be honest about how they are feeling, and if they are feeling sick, must stay home.
- Must immediately alert coach if player tests positive for COVID-19.
- Will not greet friends with high 5's, hugs, handshakes etc. There will be no group celebrations with human-to-human contact, including high-5s, hugs, handshakes, fist-bumps, etc.
- Listen to all directions given by coaches and staff.
- Bring and use YOUR OWN WATER and BAG to all activities. The club will equipment for each training session, and they will be sanitized after each session. You will not be permitted to share your bag or water with other players.
- Adhere to the Player Drop Off and Pick Up Procedures outlined below.
- Wash hands thoroughly before and after training.
- Bring and use hand sanitizer after every session.
- Wash and sanitize all equipment before and after every session.
- Wear a mask at all times upon arrival, during training and while departing from the facility.

Coach/Staff Responsibilities under the Return to Play Policy

HFC coaches and staff will:

- Sign the Return to Play Policy Acknowledgement Form and the EPYSA Communicable Disease Release of Liability and Assumption of Risk Agreement. Participation will not be allowed without these signed forms.
- Collect all forms from participants. Coaches will not allow players to participate without signed forms.
- Ensure the health and safety of the participants.
- Inquire how players are feeling and send home anyone you believe acts or looks ill.
- Follow all state and local health protocols and guidelines.
- Take his or her own temperature before attending a session.
- Alert the Director of Coaching immediately if he or she feels ill, or tests positive for COVID-19.
- Ensure all players have their own individual equipment (water, bag etc.) and ensure that equipment is not shared.
- The coach will sanitize each players soccer ball before and after every session.
- Ensure the coach is the only person to handle equipment (e.g. cones, nets, etc.); do not enlist parental or attendee assistance.
- Ensure all sessions are conducted outdoors and compliant with social distancing per state or local health guidelines, and guidelines outlined by the club.
- Coaches will maintain social distance requirements from players based on state and local health requirements and remain in gridded areas as outlined by the club.
- Use hand sanitizer before and after training.
- Wash hands thoroughly before and after training.

General

We ask all members to follow the below general hygiene best practices to reduce the risk of spreading infection:

- Avoid touching your face.
- Frequently wash hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Cover mouth and nose (with arm or elbow, not hands) when coughing or sneezing and wash hands afterwards.
- Wear a face mask or covering when outside if you have any symptoms or upper respiratory infection.
- Frequently clean commonly used surfaces with an antiseptic cleanser.
- Avoid contact with other individuals (shaking hands, for example).
- Maintain 6 feet between you and others.
- Stay at home if you feel sick and contact your care provider.

Harleysville FC Return to Play Policy Acknowledgement Form

- I acknowledge that I have read, fully understand and agree to comply with the Harleysville FC Return to Play Policy.

- Parents – I acknowledge that my child is voluntarily returning to club activities and I will fulfill the duties outlined in the Parent Responsibilities section of the Return to Play Policy. I also acknowledge that I will immediately notify my player's coach in the event of a positive or presumed positive COVID-19 case by the player or a member of our household.

- Coaches/Staff - I acknowledge that I am voluntarily returning to club activities and I will fulfill the duties outlined in the Coach/Staff Responsibilities section of the Return to Play Policy. I also acknowledge that I will immediately notify the club Director Coaching in the event myself or a member of my household has a positive or presumed positive COVID-19 case.

Role (please select one)

- Parent
- Coach/Staff

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Parents Only

Player's Name: _____

Age Group: _____

Team Coach: _____

**EPYSA COMMUNICABLE DISEASE RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND
ASSUMPTION OF RISK AGREEMENT**

In consideration of being allowed to participate in any way in any program, event or activity sponsored or sanctioned by the Eastern Pennsylvania Youth Soccer Association, I the undersigned, acknowledge, appreciate, and agree that:

I am aware there are risks to me of exposure to directly or indirectly arising out of, contributed to, by, or resulting from an outbreak of any and all communicable disease, including but not limited to, the virus “severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2)”, which is responsible for Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) and/or any mutation or variation thereof.

I, for myself and on behalf of my heirs, assigns, personal representatives and next of kin, **HEREBY RELEASE, INDEMNIFY, AND HOLD HARMLESS THE EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA YOUTH SOCCER ASSOCIATION**, its officers, officials, agents and/or employees (RELEASEES), from any and all claims, demands, losses, and liability arising out of or related to any **ILLNESS, INJURY, DISABILITY OR DEATH** I may suffer, **WHETHER ARISING FROM THE NEGLIGENCE OF THE RELEASEES OR OTHERWISE**, to the fullest extent permitted by law.

I HAVE READ THIS RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND ASSUMPTION OF RISK AGREEMENT, FULLY UNDERSTAND ITS TERMS, UNDERSTAND THAT I HAVE GIVEN UP SUBSTANTIAL RIGHTS BY SIGNING IT, AND SIGN IT FREELY AND VOLUNTARILY WITHOUT ANY INDUCEMENT.

X _____
Participant’s Signature

Age

Date

FOR PARENTS/GUARDIANS OF PARTICIPANT OF MINOR AGE (UNDER AGE 18 AT TIME OF REGISTRATION)

This is to certify that I, as parent/guardian with legal responsibility for this participant, do consent and agree to his/her release as provided above of all the Releasees, and, for myself, my heirs, assigns, and next of kin, I release and agree to indemnify and hold harmless the Releasees from any and all liability incidents to my minor child’s involvement or participation in these programs as provided above, **EVEN IF ARISING FROM THE NEGLIGENCE OF THE RELEASEES**, to the fullest extent permitted by law.

X _____
Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Emergency Phone Number(s)