

Throughout the duration of the Cups season, MYSA will follow the guidance published by the Minnesota Department of Health which outlines requirements and prevention strategies necessary to reduce the spread of COVID-19 during sports activities.

[COVID-19 Organized Sports Practice and Games Guidance for Youth and Adults](#)

Coaches, administrators, players and parents should have an understanding of this guidance and how it might affect or alter their Cups experience. The guidance is here to mitigate transmission of the virus while allowing youth players to reap the benefits of participating in a competitive soccer event.

Face Coverings

As of May 6th, face coverings are no longer required for participants actively (or inactively) participating in outdoor competition or practice. This includes players, coaches and referees. Physical distancing is still recommended for participants who are in close proximity to others, on the bench, coming to and from games, etc.

This loosening of the face covering requirement comes with a strong recommendation from MDH to conduct weekly testing. If weekly testing cannot be achieved, MDH recommends that players continue to wear face coverings at all times (including while actively practicing or playing).

For more information, please read Face Coverings in Organized Sports During COVID-19:
<https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/sportsmask.pdf>

Testing

Effective Monday, April 26, 2021, Minnesota is offering organized sports teams additional testing support and options to order and provide weekly COVID-19 testing to all participants. The Minnesota Department of Health encourages all participants (including athletes, coaches, referees, volunteers, etc.) on a team to participate in weekly testing.

<https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/sportstest.pdf>

Exposure and Quarantine Requirements

In the unfortunate possibility that a participant has had exposure to COVID-19, steps must be taken to determine what quarantine period is necessary for that participant. MYSA will follow the guidelines outlined by MDH: <https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/contact.pdf>

It is important to keep rosters of who was at practices and games so that contact tracing can be done quickly. Participants who are determined to have been exposed are ineligible to participate in State and Presidents Cup until the appropriate period of quarantine has been completed.

Participants are encouraged to remain safe and vigilant against exposure to minimize their risk of exposure throughout the course of the competition.

Spectators

MYSA strongly encourages only one or two spectators per participant to limit the total number of people at the event. Spectators and participants should leave the premises as soon as possible after their game and are strongly discouraged from remaining at the facility to watch other games.

Spectators are required to wear face coverings in outdoor venues with 500 or more spectators in attendance. Spectators should remain 6 feet from other spectators if not in their household.

Spectators should also remain at least 12 feet from the field to keep an appropriate distance between themselves and any participant. Spectator seating shall not be placed within 12 feet of the field to allow room for players and referees to maintain physical distance.

Rescheduling because of Exposure and Quarantine Requirements

MYSA is cognizant of the possibility that games may have to be rescheduled due to COVID-19 exposures and the requirement to quarantine. Please understand that there is no guarantee that a game will be rescheduled because of a COVID-19 exposure or quarantine requirement, but MYSA will do our best to have each game played. Our goal is to allow every team to compete for their spot at the regional events, but we must balance this desire against player safety and logistical considerations.

All group play games for State and Presidents Cups must be completed by Thursday May 20th to allow for the semi-final and final games to start on time. All Presidents Cup semi-finals and finals must be completed by June 6th to allow for the winner to be determined and sent to regionals. All State Cup semi-finals and finals must be completed by June 13 for the same reason. Teams may be eliminated from the competitions if their quarantine requirements would postpone games later than those dates. MYSA has final discretion to decide whether games will be rescheduled.