



## 2020-21 MHSA SOCCER REQUIREMENTS / CONSIDERATIONS FOR COVID-19



The requirements / considerations outlined in this document are meant to decrease potential exposure to respiratory droplets by encouraging social distancing, limiting participation in administrative tasks essential to personnel and allowing for appropriate protective equipment.

### GENERAL REQUIREMENTS / CONSIDERATIONS

1. Workouts/practices should be conducted in “pods” / “bubbles” of participants with same players working out together to limit overall exposure.
2. Before, during and after the contest, players, coaches, and administration should wash and sanitize their hands as often as possible.
3. No out of state competition or teams traveling from out of state for competition, unless it is in a dual format and approved by the MHSA Executive Director.
4. Always maintain social distancing of 6 feet while on the field/court of play when possible.
5. Everyone must have their own beverage container that is not shared. Safe handling practices should be adhered during hydration, which includes refilling, retrieval and identification of water source.
6. Time-outs (if applicable) may be extended to a maximum of two minutes in length for safe hydration practices. Social distancing requirements must always be followed.
7. Cloth facial coverings are allowed for players, coaches and officials. Facial coverings must be a single solid color and unadorned. Face coverings must be worn per the Governor’s directive.
8. Gloves are permissible for all players, coaches and officials.
9. The ball should be cleaned and sanitized throughout the contest / event as recommended by the ball manufacturer.
10. Administrators must limit the number of non-essential personnel who are on the field/ player surface area throughout the contest.
11. Attendance at MHSA events is dependent on host site and local health department guidelines and restrictions.
12. A family’s role in maintaining safety guidelines for themselves and others is very important. Make sure your child and immediate household members are free from illness before participating in practice and competition (if there is doubt stay home). Provide personal items for your child and clearly label them.

### **Return to Competition**

## **1. Soccer Procedural Requirements**

- ***Pregame Conference (5-2-2d)***
  - Limit attendees to head referee or center referee, the head coach from each team, and a single captain from each team.
  - Move the location of the pregame conference to center of the field. All individuals maintain a social distance of 6 feet.
  - Suspend handshakes prior to and following the Pregame Conference.
- ***Ball Holders (6-1)***
  - Require social distancing of 6 feet.
- ***Team Benches (1-5-1)***
  - Require bench personnel to observe social distancing of 6 feet. Team/Coaching area will be extended 10 yards to ensure social distancing.
- ***Substitution Procedures (3-4)***
  - Maintain social distancing of 6 feet between the substitute, officials and/or teammate(s) by substitutions to occur closer to the center line.

## **2. Pre and Post Match Ceremony**

- Suspend the pregame world cup introduction line and send players to their field positions with bench personnel lined up on the touch line (3-6 feet apart) for introductions.
- Suspend post game protocol of shaking hands.

## **3. Soccer Game Rules**

- ***Rule 4-1 EQUIPMENT AND ACCESSORIES***
  - Cloth face coverings are permissible. Facial coverings must be a single solid color and unadorned. Face coverings must be worn per the Governor's directive.
  - Gloves are permissible.
- ***Rule 4-2 LEGAL UNIFORM***
  - Long sleeves are permissible. (4-1-1)
  - Long pants are permissible. (4-1-1)
  - Under garments are permissible but must be of a similar length for the individual and a solid like color for team. (4-1-1d)
- ***Rule 5-3 OFFICIALS UNIFORM AND EQUIPMENT***
  - By state association adoption, long-sleeved shirt/jackets are permissible. (5-1-3)
  - Electronic whistles are permissible (supplies are limited).
    - Choose a whistle whose tone will carry outside.
    - Fox 40 Mini -
    - Fox 40 Unisex Electronic - 3 tone
    - Ergo-Guard - (3 tone) - orange
    - Windsor - (3 tone) grey
    - Check the market for other choices
  - Cloth face coverings are permissible. Facial coverings must be a single solid color and unadorned. Face coverings must be worn per the Governor's directive.

- Gloves are permissible.

WHEREVER  
YOU PLAY,  

---

MHS  
IS ON YOUR TEAM.