



Indiana Soccer Imperatives for Training and Games



One of Indiana Soccer's goals is to assist member clubs in their effort to provide a safe environment for the players and their families to enjoy our game. The residents of the state of Indiana have done a tremendous job of following the directives of our state and local government and our state and local health departments to allow us to move through the stages of return to what will be considered normal. All have been emphasizing **that we are not done and not out of the woods**. The Indiana Soccer family is committed to demonstrating excellence in the mitigation fight against Covid-19. Below is a list of imperative minimums expected until such time as the social distancing requirements are lifted by local and state governments. **By CDC recommendations, face coverings should be made of 2 layers of cloth and be worn above the nose, below the chin and tightly on the sides. The CDC has also updated its social distancing guidelines that all individuals not from the same household should be a minimum of 6 feet from another person and any group meeting, while maintaining the 6-foot minimum distance between individuals, should not exceed a cumulative time of 15 minutes within a 24-hour period, whether the individuals are wearing a face covering or not.**

Coaches:

- Coaches are required to face covering when walking to training and through the greeting/initial instruction part of the session and anytime they would come within 6 feet of another person (includes other coaches).
- Coaches should have a designated side-line space for their personal & team equipment that complies with social distancing best practices. **NO BENCH, COACHES MUST BRING THEIR OWN CHAIR, NO TO BE SHARED.**
- During training, *the coach may remove their face covering* when they are greater than 6 feet from others, however, they should have the face covering readily available when 6 feet or closer contact is inevitable. Coaches should always wear a pair of gloves and a face covering when attending to an injured player.
- When the training session resumes, the coach may remove their face covering and gloves if the coach maintains a minimum of 6 feet separation from others.
- When addressing the team, the coach must insist the players stand/sit a minimum of 6' apart. If the coach is a minimum of 6 feet from any other person, the coach does not need to be wearing their face covering when addressing the players.
- Coaches should be the only individuals handling team equipment (cones, training sticks, portable goals, training bibs, etc...).
- Coaches are required to wear a face covering during all pre-game introductions.
- During games, coaches are required to wear a face covering on the sideline. They may remove the face covering to give direction to players on the field if they are a minimum of 6 feet from any individual.
- There should be no physical contact between players, coaches or referees pre- or post-game.
- When leaving the training/game or moving to another field, etc., coaches are required to wear their face covering.

Players:

- Players are required to wear face covering when going to the field.
- Players should have a clearly marked side-line space, designated for them to place their personal equipment in compliance with the 6-foot minimum social distancing protocol. **NO TEAM BENCHES.**
- Players may remove their face covering when training/warm-ups and when the games begin.
- Players are not to share drink containers, even from their own family.
- During games, reserves in the team bench area must be a minimum of 6' apart. They are encouraged to wear their face covering.
- Players are to keep socially distanced apart when gathering to listen to a coach.
- During the pre-game captains meeting, the captains (only one per team) are required to wear face covering.
- There should be no physical contact between players, coaches or referees pre- or post-game.
- When leaving the training/game, players are required to wear their face covering.

- Players for training: arrive at the field 5 minutes before training is to begin.
- Players for games: arrive at the field 25 minutes before game is to begin.

Referees:

- Referees are required to wear a face covering when going to or from the field.
- On the sideline, when there is more than one referee working the game, social distance yourself from the other referees (minimum of 6 feet apart). The club should have designated a space that complies with social distancing protocols for as many as three referees. **NO BENCH FOR REFEREES**, they may bring their own chair.
- Wear a face covering during:
 - Field inspection
 - Introducing yourself to the coaches (stay a minimum of 6 feet apart)
 - Team check-in (have players stay a minimum of 6 feet apart)
 - Captains' meeting (stay a minimum of 6 feet apart)
- There will be only one captain per team. Captains are to wear their face covering during the captains' meeting.
- Referees and assistant referees **ARE NOT REQUIRED** to wear a face covering during the game.
- Keep a face covering in your pocket in case you need to be within 6' of a player. Maintaining 6' social distancing when practical.
- During the half-time break, if the referees can maintain social distancing (minimum of 6 feet), they are not required to wear their face covering.
- There should be no physical contact between players, coaches or referees pre- or post-game.
- When leaving the game or moving to another field, referees are required to wear their face covering.

Spectators:

- Ask all individuals who are 65 and above or who have an underlying at-risk health condition to stay home.
- Spectators are required to wear face covering when making their way to the designated side-line space for spectator seating. The club will have clearly marked areas that comply with social distancing protocols for spectator seating.
- Only family members living in the same home should be sitting closer than required by the social distancing protocol when attending games.
- Any type of bleacher/bench should be closed off for use unless they can be cleaned after each use.
- Spectators are not required to wear their face covering when sitting in their designated viewing area as long as they are sitting a minimum of 6 feet from another household.
- When a spectator moves from their designated seating area, they are required to wear their face covering.
- If spectators are interacting with other spectators (other families) at the field/complex, they are required to wear their face covering and maintain the minimum social distance, 6 feet apart.
- Spectators for training and games: arrive at the field 5 minutes before the training or game is to begin.

Concessions:

- There should be signage saying **No Face Covering – No Service** at all concession stands.
- Have social distancing marks (6 feet apart) on the ground for those waiting in line.
- Servers are required to wear a face covering and gloves.
- Only serve pre-packaged food/drinks. Servers should not be in contact with any food or drink.
- Contact your local health department for guidelines if you are cooking or serving fountain drinks.

Tents/Umbrellas

- Tents are not to be used in the team bench area.
- Players may individually use an umbrella. They are not to share their umbrella.