



RETURN TO PLAY GUIDELINES

The Butte United Soccer Club (BUSC) will resume Phase I of our Return-to-Play guidelines following the release of the State’s interim guidance for youth sports, found here <https://files.covid19.ca.gov/pdf/guidance-youth-sports--en.pdf>. This decision is also made in alignment with the Butte County Public Health Department’s Reopening Plan, found here <https://www.buttecounty.net/publichealth/buttoreopens>. Each coach or team parent will reach out to players and parents with specific start dates and additional information.

While many are going to be excited to return to play there are others who may be apprehensive. If a player, parent, or family are not comfortable returning to play - **DON'T**. We must demonstrate respect and courtesy for everyone’s feelings during this time and ensure that we provide a safe environment as we return to play. **NO PLAYER WILL BE PENALIZED FOR NOT RETURNING TO PLAY.**

Implementing BUSC’s Return-to-Play Guidelines will require a cooperative relationship between the club, coach, parent, and player. While the **club** and **coach** must create a safe environment, the **parent** must make the decision for their child to return to play. If, as a parent you are not comfortable with your child returning to play - **DON'T**. Finally, **players** must be responsible to adhere to, and respect the social distancing requirements and contact guidelines that have been established.

The roles/responsibilities for each include:

CLUB	COACH	PARENT	PLAYER
Distribute and post “Return to Play” guidelines	Follow all “Return to Play” guidelines	If you are not comfortable with returning to play, <u>DON'T</u> . You are the only one who will make the decision on when your child returns to play	If you are not comfortable with returning to play, <u>DON'T</u>
Be sensitive and accommodating to parents that may be uncomfortable with returning to play	Ask how athletes are feeling. If they are not feeling well, send them home immediately	Check child’s temperature before coming to any practices	Adhere to all “Return to Play” guidelines
Train and educate all staff on “Return to Play” guidelines	Ensure all players have their individual equipment (ball, water, shin guards, etc.)	Ensure all equipment (cleats, ball, shin guards, water bottles etc.) are sanitized before and after every practice	Wash hands thoroughly before and after practice
Provide training areas with adequate field space for social distancing	Coach is the only person to place/pick-up/touch cones, discs, goals, or other training equipment	Ensure child’s clothing is washed after every practice	Wash and sanitize training equipment (shoes, shin guards, clothing) after every practice
Ensure that fields have appropriate waste receptacles	Ensure drills/exercises provide for adequate social distancing	Notify the club/coach immediately if your child becomes ill for any reason	Do not share water, food or equipment
	Ensure that training vests/pinnies are disinfected after each use	Supply your child with individual sanitizer	Respect and practice social distancing
	Respect players, parents and families by accommodating those that may not yet be comfortable with training	Adhere to social distancing requirements	Place equipment, bags, etc. at least 6 feet apart
		Ensure your child has plenty of water	No high 5’s, handshakes, fist bumps, hugs, or group celebrations that include physical contact with another individual
			Respect teammates who are not comfortable returning to play yet

The foundation for the four phases of BUSC's Return-to-Play Guidelines are:

PHASE I	PHASE II	PHASE III	PHASE IV
No contact	Small group training introduced; should not exceed 4 v 4	Introduction of controlled scrimmages/practice games	Full return to play
Focused on return to activity with individual training; no group drills	Physical contact to be minimized	Physical contact to be minimized	No restriction on training sessions
Groups not to exceed 20 participants per field area	Groups not to exceed 20 participants per field area	No limitation on participants per field area	No sharing of water
No sharing of water or equipment	No sharing of water	No sharing of water	Games and tournaments to be played
Participants to remain a minimum of 10 feet apart	Practice times should be set to maximize social distancing	Recommend no participation in events that would require overnight stay	Recommend social distancing practices still be maintained by leagues and events
Practice times should be set to maximize social distancing			

As the evolution through each of the four phases occurs, the following should always be adhered to:

- If you are sick or feel sick, STAY HOME
- At risk individuals, youth or adult, STAY HOME
- Assign a "station" for each player to place their equipment, and that they should return to during breaks
- Each player must have their own personal equipment, including their own ball
- No one is to share water, towels, or any equipment. This Includes, but not limited to:
 - Balls; no activities should Include picking up a ball, or having a ball make contact with any other hand except the player's own hand during Phase I
 - Shoes, Socks, or Shin Guards
 - Jersey/Uniform
 - Only coaches should place and pick up cones and other training equipment
 - Practice vests/pinnies; at minimum these must be washed after each use (**recommend issuing each player their individual practice vest/plnne**)
- No centralized hydration or refreshment stations
- Spectators should be limited and must maintain minimum social distancing, as defined by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).
- Recommend having sanitizing options available. This may Include:
 - Hand sanitizers
 - Disinfectant wipes to be used to wipe down all equipment
- Respect for each individual's choices must be the top priority. If a participant wishes to wear a face mask this should be allowed, and accommodations made If needed

Phase I will be defined by the following Restrictions and Activities:

RESTRICTIONS	ACTIVITIES PERMITTED
<p>No physical contact. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drills that involve players or coaches within 10 feet of each other • No high fives, fist bumps or group celebrations that involve physical contact 	<p>Individual training and technical activities ONLY</p>
<p>No more than 20 participants per field area. This includes players, coaches and spectators</p> <p>Every participant (player or coach) must maintain a distance of 10 feet from one another during any drill or exercise</p> <p>No use of scrimmage vests/pinnies</p> <p>Practice times should be set to maximize social distancing and limit the number of people in a single area to 20 or less</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommend a minimum of 20 minutes between end time of one session and the start time of the next • If youth need supervision while waiting to be picked up, adults should be at least 6 feet apart 	<p style="text-align: center;">ACTIVITIES NOT PERMITTED</p> <p>Any drill or exercise that would/could involve participants getting closer than 10 feet apart, or any physical contact</p> <p>Activities that would create engagement by two or more players</p> <p>Activities that may create opportunity for an individual to come in contact with another's equipment. This would include headers, throw-ins, etc.</p> <p>No games or tournaments</p>

Butte United Soccer Club remains steadfast in our commitment to the safety of our players, coaches, referees, families, and communities. It is imperative that everyone understand their role and demonstrate a commitment adhering to BUSC's Return-to-Play Guidelines which have been created based on federal, state, and local directives and guidance with the intent of providing a safe environment to get back on the field. If there is hesitation in returning to play – **PLEASE DON'T; just because you can does not mean you must.**