

# RETURN TO PLAY PROTOCOLS FOR SOCCER IN ARKANSAS



August 18, 2020

## Summary of Gov. Hutchinson's Amended Directive of August 10 regarding Team Sports

### **General Requirements:**

- Maintain minimum physical distancing of six (6) feet between participants at all times, except when actively participating in the sports activity.
- Athletes, Coaches, and All Staff must be screened prior to any activity by asking the following questions and excluded if the answer is yes.
  - Have had a fever of 100.4°F or greater in the last 2 days
  - Have a cough, difficulty breathing, chills, muscle aches, sore throat, headache, recent loss of taste or smell, nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea
  - Had contact with a person known to be infected with COVID-19 within the previous 14 days
  - Had a positive COVID-19 test in last 10 days
  - Waiting on results from COVID-19 test
- Coaches, referees, and all staff must have temperature checked by digital thermometer prior to entry, and those whose temperature is greater than 100.4°F must be excluded.
- Face coverings must comply with Executive Order 20-37 and the Face Coverings Directive. This directive requires face coverings at all times, except for persons actively participating in athletic activities when a 6 foot is not achievable and when a face covering is inhibitory to the activity. Face coverings that completely cover the nose and mouth are required for everyone 10 years of age and older while not actively participating. Children between the ages of 2 and 9 years of age are strongly encouraged to wear a face covering.
  - Athletes
    - Face coverings must be worn when not actively participating and not ample space to maintain 6 feet physical distancing
  - Coaches and Staff
    - Face coverings must be worn at all times except when physically distanced at least 12 feet from players and other coaches
- Social distancing of 6 feet must be maintained in the locker room. Face coverings should be worn in the locker room except when washing or bathing
- An alcohol-based hand sanitizer or adequate handwashing facilities must be provided for use by all attendees.
- Sports equipment, restrooms, lockers, water fountains and other high touch surfaces must be sanitized frequently during each event.
- Avoid non-sports related contact, including handshakes, high-fives, huddles, fist bumps, and chest bumps
- For games, competitions, tournaments, meets, and other athletic events held in a facility, the facility hosting the event must follow the current Directive for Large Indoor or Large Outdoor Venues. Spectators are covered under these Directives. 100 attendees or fewer is allowed without a requirement to submit a plan to the Dept. of Health

### **Close Contact Team Sports (including soccer):**

- Team practice is permitted, including intra-squad scrimmages (within the same team), simulated competition, and drills that require physical or close contact between teammates. Inter-squad competitions against other teams remains prohibited. Individual practice is permitted.
  - When using weight rooms, practicing calisthenics, running, or other training where vigorous exercise occurs and close contact is not necessary, participants should maintain proper spacing from others by working out with 12 feet between each person.

Participants should provide their own equipment. Shared equipment should be disinfected frequently.