



# Alaska Youth Soccer Association

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## Return to Play (RTP) Protocols and Compliance for Sanctioned Leagues

### LEAGUE COMPLIANCE

- 1) **Guidelines-** Follow and consult the Municipality Division of Public Health to ensure you are following guidelines for the appropriate number of people in one group and the size of the group.
- 2) **Application-** Have been approved by the AYSA office to operate a Sanctioned League and paid the fee.
- 3) **Permits-** Have active current facility permits to hold league games.
- 4) **Certificates of Insurance (COI)-** Proper COI in place prior to starting any sanctioned league activity.
- 5) **Emergency Operations-** Review the existing plans for your facility locations.
- 6) **Polices-** Ensure all AYSA policies, guidelines, and COVID-19 Return to Play Protocols are being followed.

### LEAGUE PROTOCOLS

- 1) **Transition-** Ensure time of between the end of one game and the beginning of the second game. Times should be staggered to minimize large group gathering.
- 2) **Older Players-** Consider phasing in older divisions first. Recognize the challenges that come up, in order to resolve those prior to bringing in younger players.
- 3) **Game Rosters-** Establish rosters for teams will be paperless and be available to team managers electronically.
- 4) **Games-** Recommend that teams not play more than one game per day.

### FACILITY PROTOCOLS

- 1) **Spectators-** Limit spectator attendance and establish guidelines; limit risk by limiting attendance to essential staff/coaches and limited family members based on current recommendations from local and state officials
- 2) **Congregating Guidelines -** Establish designated entry and exit for facility, parking lots, fields, drop off zones, spectator sidelines, and high traffic areas.

### CLUB PROTOCOLS

- 1) **Guidelines-** Ensure teams are current on state/ city mandates, protocols including league and AYSA guidelines.
- 2) **Sanitation-** Ensure all teams have supplies including hand sanitizer and disinfectant wipes on hand for each game.
- 3) **Hydration-** Players must bring their own water. No sharing. Communal water coolers should not be utilized.
- 4) **Game Ball-** Teams will use disinfectant on the game ball between each game if the same ball is used.
- 5) **Warmups-** Use minimal equipment to limit transmission of virus. Players should not pick up field equipment, move goals, or handle other necessary training equipment.
- 6) **Technical Area-** Establish measures to create social distance between coaching staff and athletes by ensuring each team has only 4 or less technical area staff on the team bench at any time.
- 7) **Athletic Trainers-** Team/ Club Trainers: Establish a protocol for safeguard measures between trainers and athletes.
- 8) **Health Status -** Ensure participants (adults, youth, and their families) are aware that they MAY NOT attend if either they or a household member has onset of illness with symptoms compatible with suspected or lab-confirmed COVID-19.

### FIELD PROTOCOLS

- 1) **Sideline-** Establish designated and visual indicators for side-line space for teams, and referees; player and referee benches should be removed.
- 2) **Referees-** Establish social distance for teams from referees spacing in appropriate areas, including at check-in and along sidelines.
- 3) **Spitting-** No spitting is allowed by soccer players, coaches or officials, period.
- 4) **Clear Area-** Team and coaches should leave the field as soon as reasonably possible after play.

**Note: All AYSA Sanctioning always adheres to Federal, State, Local and Public Health Authority recommendations, directives guidelines, and requirements.**