



Indiana Soccer Imperatives for Training and Games



Updated February 25, 2021

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. We all need to re-focus our efforts and follow the directives of our state and local government and our state and local health departments to allow us to move through these challenging times. 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 requirement is 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. These protocols apply to indoor and outdoor play.

Coaches:

- Coaches are required to wear face covering when walking from their car until they return to their car.
- 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 active in the training session and 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 addressing the team, the coach must insist the players stand/sit a minimum of 6 feet apart. The players and coach are required to wear a face covering.
- Coaches should be the only individuals handling team equipment (cones, training sticks, portable goals, training bibs, etc...).
- During games, coaches are required to wear a face covering at all times. They may pull them down when facing the field and giving instruction. 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 at all times when they are not warming up or playing in the game. This includes during any team talks and during the game when they are not playing.
- 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 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 feet apart. They are required to wear their face covering.
- Players are to keep socially distanced apart when gathering to listen to the coach.
- During the pre-game captains meeting, the captains (only one per team) are required to wear face covering.
- During the pre-game check-in with the referee(s), all players, coaches and referees 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 at all times except when they are refereeing the game.
- 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) and wear a face covering. **NO BENCH FOR REFEREES**, they may bring their own chair.
- Wear a face covering at all times:
 - 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 and wearing their face covering)
 - 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 feet of a player. Maintaining 6' social distancing when practical.
- During the half-time break, the referees must maintain social distancing (minimum of 6 feet) and they are 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:

- Recommend all individuals who are 65 and above or who have an underlying at-risk health condition to stay home.
- Spectators are required to wear a face covering at all times.
- The club will have clearly marked areas that comply with social distancing protocols for spectator seating.
- We recommend the 10 feet spectator line should be dashed, each line and each space between the dashes be 6 feet long. Have each family sit behind a line.
- 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.
- If spectators are interacting with other spectators (other families) at the field/complex, they are required to maintain the minimum social distance, 6 feet apart, always wearing their face covering.
- 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.