

AYSO Region 17 Reopening Protocol

The following describes the AYSO Region 17 Reopening Protocol for youth recreational soccer. The protocol is designed to adhere and be compliant with the latest LA County Department of Public Health (LACDPH) Reopening Protocol for Youth Recreational Sports Leagues dated [April 14th, 2021](#).

AYSO Region 17 youth soccer activities will occur outdoors on Redondo Beach Unified School Districts (RBUSD) fields located at: Adams Middle School, Washington Elementary, and Lincoln Elementary. Permitted soccer activities include but are not limited to practices, skills-building, training, conditioning, and competitions between 2 teams (as described below).

The LACDPH Reopening Protocol identifies 3 major areas that must be addressed:

- A) Measures to Ensure Participant, Coach, and Staff Safety
- B) Maintenance Protocols
- C) Monitoring Protocols

These 3 major areas are covered below in the AYSO Region 17 Reopening Protocol. Staff is defined as Region 17 board members or other assigned personnel who are present to ensure compliance to these protocols.

Copies of this protocol will be distributed to staff, coaches, players, and families. This protocol will be updated as the LA County Department of Public Health guidance changes or for other necessary updates and clarifications. A current copy of the protocol will be maintained on the Region 17 website (www.ayso17.org).

Anyone not complying with these protocols will be asked to leave the fields and removed from any remaining soccer activities without a refund.

A. MEASURES TO ENSURE PARTICIPANT, COACH, AND STAFF SAFETY

- 1) As much as possible, a **physical distance** of six (6) feet should be maintained between players, coaches, and staff at all times; and a distance of eight (8) feet during times of heavy physical exertion. Practice locations on the fields will be defined such that each team (or cohort of players) can maintain adequate physical distancing. Coaches will have primary responsibility to ensure that adequate physical distancing is maintained.
- 2) Spectator attendance at practices and games is permitted provided that all spectators are able to maintain at least a six (6) foot physical distance from other household groups. Spectators must wear a mask at all times (as indicated below). During games, spectators and substitute players must sit at least 3 yards behind the Assistant Referee (AR) touchline (allows 1 yard for AR to maneuver, plus 2 yards more) or on the other half of the field (where AR is not present).
- 3) During practices and conditioning activities, all players are required to wear an appropriate **face mask** that covers the nose, mouth, and is form fitting under the chin. The face mask must be worn at all times (except when taking a drink of water) even during times of heavy physical exertion as tolerated to protect the safety of all players.

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During games, players actively participating on the field are encouraged to wear a face mask whenever possible (not required). Face masks must be worn when players are not actively participating during games (e.g. during warm-ups, on the sidelines, at half-time, and after the game). Masks with one-way valves, gaiter style face masks, and bandana face masks may not be used.

Only players who have been instructed not to wear a face covering by their medical provider due to a medical condition, mental health condition, or disability that prevents wearing a face covering are exempt from wearing one. A written legible note from a medical doctor (on medical provider stationery) is required in advance to the Region 17 board so that adequate spacing and precautions can be planned for and accommodated (otherwise player will not be able to participate).

- 4) All coaches, referees, staff, and spectators are required to wear an appropriate **face mask** that covers the nose, mouth, and is form fitting under the chin. The face mask must be worn at all times with the exception of referees as follows during games.
 - The Assistant Referees are required to wear a mask except during times of heavy physical exertion. The Center Referee is encouraged but not required to wear a face mask as they are frequently running on the field to keep pace with the game.

The one face mask exception for everyone is that your mask can be briefly be lowered or removed to take a drink of water. Masks with one-way valves, gaiter style face masks, and bandana face masks may not be used. This applies to all adults and to children 2 years of age and older.

Only individuals who have been instructed not to wear a face mask by their medical provider due to a medical condition must wear a face shield with a drape on the bottom edge that is form fitting under the chin to be in compliance with State directives.

- 5) Anyone entering the RBUSD facilities must participate in a **health screening check** at the entrance. Checks will include a check-in concerning fever, chills, cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, whether the person is currently under isolation or quarantine orders. Signage will be posted at the entrance to the fields stating that visitors with these symptoms should not enter the premises.
 - a) If the person has no symptoms, is not currently under isolation or quarantine orders, and no contact to a known COVID-19 case in the last 10 days, they are cleared to enter for that day.
 - b) If the person has had contact to a known COVID-19 case in the last 10 days or is currently under quarantine orders, they will not be allowed to enter and asked to quarantine at home. They will be referred to quarantine instructions found at ph.lacounty.gov/covidquarantine.
 - c) If the person is showing any of the symptoms noted above or is currently under isolation orders, they will not be allowed to enter and asked to isolate at home. They will be referred to isolation instructions found at ph.lacounty.gov/covidisolation.
- 6) Only permitted facility (fields) may be used. **Use of other parts of the campus (such as playgrounds, basketball courts, etc.) is not permitted.**

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- 7) Teams may utilize a canopy, or other sun shelter, but only if the sides of the canopy or sun shelter are not closed.
- 8) **Inter-team competitions** (defined as scrimmages or games between 2 teams only) are permitted under the following conditions:
 - a. Inter-team competitions may be held between two teams only.
 - b. Inter-team competitions are permitted only if (a) both teams are located in the same county or (b) teams are located in immediately bordering counties and the sport is authorized in both counties.
 - c. Teams must not participate in out-of-state tournaments.
 - d. Only one competition, per team, per day maximum may be played.
- 9) Soccer activities will be structured into teams and each team will refrain from participating with more than one team per day.
- 10) Practice spaces for soccer activities will be defined for each team to maintain the required physical separation.
- 11) Players will be requested to bring their own soccer balls to practice. Coaches may bring spare soccer balls should they be needed.
- 12) Players and coaches may engage in the sharing of a soccer ball (such as passing drills or other skill building exercises) during scrimmages and games. Hand sanitizer will be made available for the participants to use before, during breaks, and after participating in any such activities.
- 13) Players and coaches will be instructed that making unnecessary physical contact with one another (such as high-fives, handshakes, fist bumps, etc.) is not allowed to minimize the risk of COVID-19 transmission. In general, physical contact is to be avoided except as necessary to participate in practice or games.
- 14) Players will be encouraged to bring a small bottle of hand sanitizer for their own personal use. Region 17 will either provide the coaches a bottle of hand sanitizer to be made available for practices and games or make bottles of hand sanitizer available at the field for the players and coaches.
- 15) Players will be encouraged to bring their own water bottles that are clearly labeled with their name to minimize the risk of accidentally sharing water.
- 16) Upon being informed that one or more players test positive for, or have symptoms consistent with COVID-19, the coach will immediately notify their division commissioner or other Region 17 board member. If there is an exposure to a COVID-19 infection within a team during soccer activities, then all members of that team will be required to immediately self-quarantine.
- 17) In the event that a case of COVID-19 infection is confirmed among the players or coaches, the Region 17 board will notify the RBUSD facilities coordinator and report this infection to the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health.

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B. MAINTENANCE PROTOCOLS

- 1) Group gatherings are prohibited at the fields.
- 2) The restroom at Washington Elementary Field and portable bathroom(s) at Adams field will be sanitized regularly. There are no Region 17 bathrooms provided at Lincoln Elementary field should players need to use the Anderson Park bathrooms during practice, players will be required to sanitize their hands before resuming activities.
- 3) No access to water fountains will be available. Players will be requested to bring their own water bottles.
- 4) Commonly used equipment (such as goals) will be required to be sanitized (along the touchable area on front goals posts) before and after use.

C. MONITORING PROTOCOLS

- 1) Information signage will be posted at the fields to remind everyone to maintain physical distancing, the need to wear a mask at all times, the importance of regular hand sanitizing, and the need to stay home if feeling ill or have COVID-19 symptoms.
- 2) The Region 17 website will provide clear information about physical distancing, use of face coverings, maintain a current copy of this protocol, and other issues.
- 3) Signage will include instructions that visitors must stay home if sick with COVID-19 symptoms or if they are currently required to self-isolate or self-quarantine.
- 4) Region 17 board members, coaches, or assigned field monitors will monitor compliance of posted restrictions and this protocol. Board members will routinely be present at the fields to monitor compliance.

For any questions or concerns regarding this protocol, please contact:

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