



Fort Mill
SOUTH CAROLINA

Hello Parents and Guardians,

First and foremost, we hope that you and your loved ones are safe and healthy. We have received questions from the community about how COVID-19 may impact this year's athletic season. We know this outbreak has been stressful to many and recognize that exercising and participating in activities like sports can be a healthy way to cope with stress and connect with our community. After careful thought and planning, we are excited to let you know that we plan to resume youth sports while following CDC considerations and best practices from other sports sanctioning bodies to protect players, families, and our community. We must all do our part to help reduce chance for spread of COVID-19. We ask that you and your child please read and understand the actions listed below and be prepared to fully participate and comply for us to have a Fall sports season.

All Sports

- Some leagues will have a limit on participants and team sizes will be reduced
- Everyone should conduct daily symptom evaluations. If you have any of these symptoms you should not attend or you should leave: Fever, Cough or Shortness of Breath, fatigue, body aches, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea, vomiting, and/or diarrhea.
- Spectators should social distance while on sidelines
- Parents should keep hand sanitizer on them, and players should periodically sanitize hands during practices and games.
- Participants/parents should avoid carpooling if possible except with their immediately family members.
- Coaches and players should space at least 6 feet apart on the field during warmups and drills.
- Players will strictly be required to stay in their designated team area for games. Players should social distance on sidelines.
- No handshakes, high fives or fist bumps before, during, or after games or practices. Players should refrain from any unnecessary physical contact with teammates, opposing players, coaches, umpires, and fans.
- Coaches will be highly encouraged to wear mask when in team huddles or in close continued proximity of players
- Coaches should limit post game meetings and use digital means of communication for team info.
- Teams must leave the field immediately after their game concludes.
- No post game snacks
- Spectators should proceed to vehicles immediately following the conclusion of the game as well.

Soccer

- Players on sidelines should social distance on their team benches. No players or coaches should cross the midfield line into the opposing team's bench area.
- Team benches may be on opposite sides of fields at parks where logistically permissible. Spectators will stay behind spectator line if so.
- Mouthpieces (if used) should ALWAYS be kept in mouth when on the field of play.
- All goalkeepers are highly encouraged to wear their own set of gloves. Gloves should not be shared amongst the team.
- Play can be restarted with a "kick-in" after a sideline out of bounds. The ball may not be played over 10 yards on a kick-in.
- Players must always keep proper social distance from referees. Only a team captain or head coach can approach the referee to ask questions and gain clarification.

Baseball/Softball

- Players will need to bring their own equipment e.g., gloves, batting helmets, bats. Sharing of equipment is highly discouraged among teammates and opponents
- Games will play to a time limit, once the time ends the game is over. Score will revert to last complete inning for leagues with standings. Other modified rules will be announced to speed up game play.
- Coach Pitch baseball may have a coach against the backstop to collect balls pitched (we advise this coach to wear a baseball glove and minimize touch with the baseball)
- For teams during their turn on offense/batting players will sit with their guardian until they are 2 spots away in the order from batting or teams will have an extended dugout area immediately outside the fence to social distance. Coaches' children will stay in the dugout if no other guardian is present.

Flag Football

- Team sidelines will be on opposite sides of fields.
- Spectators will stay behind spectator line and should practice social distancing.
- Teams will only play with their own designated game ball
- Mouthpieces should ALWAYS be kept in mouth when on the field of play.
- After pulling the flag ending the play, the defensive player must place the flag on the ground. The offensive player will be required to pick up his/her own flag.

Anyone who is sick or has been in contact with someone who has COVID-19— including players, family members, coaches, staff and spectators — should not attend practices or games. Be on the lookout for symptoms of COVID-19, which include fever, cough, or shortness of breath. Call your doctor if you think you or a family member is sick.

We must get used to a new normal with a few extra steps in order to stay as safe as possible and to be able to have a Fall Sports season. We once again ask that everyone take these guidelines seriously and educate participants and spectators on them. Now let's play ball!