This document is to be used as the governance for the minimum requirements for all sports at the YMCA of Metro Atlanta as of July 2020 and until further notice of a change is provided by the YMCA.

NON-NEGOTIABLE SAFETY PROTOCOLS

Waiver: A waiver must be completed for each player, coach and volunteer before returning to play.

Temperature checks and Pre-screening: A temperature check and pre-screening questionnaire must be completed for every staff, coach, player, parent, volunteer and any other person prior to the start of practice at the YMCA (indoor or outdoor). A YMCA employee will perform the temperature check and pre-screening questionnaire for all coaches and participants. If any person has a temperature greater than 100.4 degrees, they will be asked to leave the YMCA (field or facility).

Pre-screening questions include:
• In the last 24 hours, without the aid of medication, have you had a temperature of 100.4 F or greater?
• In the last 2 weeks, have you experienced any flu-like symptoms including the following: persistent cough, respiratory distress, chills, body aches, sore throat, and/or headache?
• In the last 2 weeks, have you had loss of taste and/or smell?
• In the past 2 weeks have you been diagnosed with COVID-19?

Hand sanitizer: The YMCA will provide sanitization stations for hand sanitizing, however, we also ask all players to bring hand sanitizer for personal use as a backup.

Minimize physical touching between players and coaches: All players and coaches should avoid "high fives," handshakes, or other types of physical touching. We understand that this may be difficult as players enjoy celebrating with their teammates (or even give them a hug after being apart for so long), but we need to be diligent enforcing this protocol for the health & safety of our players and their families.

Staff and coaches will wear masks during training sessions, practices and games: Staff, coaches and other team volunteers who may come in close contact with players are required to wear appropriate face masks during training sessions, practices and games. Players will also be allowed to wear masks, but this will be a personal choice of the player’s parent or guardian, and must be provided by the parent. Any other adults interacting with the players or coaches during a training session, practice or game are required to wear appropriate face masks.
Parents and observers must wear masks during Indoor training sessions, practices and games: Parents and other observers must wear masks during indoor training sessions, practices and games if the activity is an indoor activity. Masks are optional outdoors for parents and observers.

Parents and observers must social distance during training sessions, practices and games: Parents and other observers must social distance from any person not living in their household during training sessions, practices and games – whether indoor or outdoor. There will be times when parents and other observers will be asked to remain in their vehicle (or in another designated location outside of the YMCA or activity room) due to space limitations in a YMCA gymnasium or other multi-purpose room inside of a YMCA. Each YMCA will communicate to coaches, parents and staff what is allowed regarding spectating for each specific program.

Avoid "shared" equipment like pinnies: Players should have their own alternate color training top or pinny – Pinnies should not be shared. Players should have their own ball whenever possible, water bottle, towel, etc.

Reduce players touching practice equipment: The handling of all training items, i.e., cones, flags, goals, etc. will be limited to coaches.

Avoid large gatherings or lines of players: Coaches will avoid having players stand or assemble in lines or small groups. Coaches will alter their training methods to incorporate appropriate social distancing (maintaining 6’ distancing between players when providing instruction, etc.). Player and referee benches will be removed when possible, and players/referees will need to provide their own.

Facility structures cleaning and use: Any facilities that are accessible during training, practices and games will be cleaned and disinfected regularly. Railing, door-handles and other surfaces that are touched frequently will also be cleaned and disinfected regularly.

Increased signage throughout facilities and fields: YMCAs will post signage throughout facilities and fields wherever possible to remind all players, coaches and spectators to maintain social distancing.

Safety oversight: YMCAs will have staff present at all facilities (indoor & outdoor) while there is training, practices or games occurring. The YMCA staff, in partnership with coaches and volunteers, will monitor fields and facilities to help maintain appropriate social distancing and enforcement of the protocols included in this guideline.

Staff and coaches should monitor for symptoms: Any coach, player, parent, referee and or spectator who is sick, has a persistent cough, is running a temperature or is displaying any symptoms suggesting that the individual may be ill, (from any contagious malady, including cold, flu, or suspected corona virus) will be prohibited from attending training or games. Any coach or administrator who sees any adult attendee who displays any of these symptoms will be asked to leave. A minor who is displaying any of these symptoms will be safely isolated until an adult responsible for the minor can remove the minor.
EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATION

Training regarding adjustments to training sessions for coaches: Ys will educate coaches on how to safely implement appropriate training sessions, practices and games by sport.

Training regarding all required safety protocols for coaches: Ys will educate coaches on all required safety protocols.

Communication for parents and guardians: Ys will send communication to parents and guardians prior to the first session regarding all safety requirements and protocols for the YMCA and for the sport in which their child is participating.

WHAT IF SOMEONE GETS SICK

If a player/coach is confirmed with having COVID-19, the following protocol is in place:

- At least 10 days since symptoms first appeared and
- At least 24 hours with no fever without fever-reducing medication and
- Symptoms have improved

Depending on your healthcare provider’s advice and availability of testing, you might get tested to see if you still have COVID-19. If you are tested, you can be around others when you have no fever, respiratory symptoms have improved, and you receive two negative test results in a row, at least 24 hours apart.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

The YMCA will continue to monitor the changing climate and adjust the return to play plan as necessary. This will involve following the guidance of our local and national governing bodies. We also understand that each family is dealing with varying circumstances, and we will be flexible and allow families to return to play as they feel comfortable. We will communicate any changes to our return to play guidelines as they occur.

For more information about guidance from the CDC, please visit the following links: