



COVID PROTOCOL FOR ASA MANAGED LEAGUES AND EVENTS

Updated 10/1/2020

Game Protocol:

- Warm ups on the field and sidelines are not permitted until further notice while players, team, or others are still on the field prior to your schedule game slot. Teams should look to schedule pregame warmups in an area away from the field and in a safe or isolated location.
- No group celebrations, high fives, post game handshakes, etc.
- There will be no coin toss. Home team will select the side to defend and Away team will kickoff.
- 18 Players for the match only. For those teams that have more than 18 players, your game roster and those allowed to be dressed and on the field must be determined prior to the match.
- **There will be a player pass and Game Card Check in Process. Teams must bring their player passes. All Team officials must wear their player pass visibly displayed while on the field.**
- **Referee will return the player passes to the Head Coach or Team official once check in is completed. The player passes must be immediately available by a Coach or Team Official should there be a Head Injury, Red Card, or upon request by a Referee or ASA representative.**
- There will be no equipment check at pregame for players to line up. Referees will ask coaches the following:
 - "If roster on game card provided by team is accurate". Coaches will be responsible for making sure that players are scratched from the game and all players are on the game card. Failure to accurately do and having a player play that is not on the roster will result in a forfeit by the team and fine issued by the League Commissioner.
 - "If players are properly equipped" (which means NO shin guards, proper cleats, no jewelry, watches, wristbands, necklaces, bracelets, etc.): If a player is found to have any of the above during the game and it requires a stop in play, the coach will be issued a yellow card on the first offense. Second offense will result in a 2nd yellow card and subsequent violations to be presented to the next coach (if present).

Hydration Breaks:

- Players may come off the field because players cannot share bottles. Coaches and referees are responsible for the management of their players to ensure that no improper substitutions are made without permission from the referees. **Event may have stipulations about unlimited substitutions. For example the Arizona Advanced Leagues will be unlimited substitutions upon referee discretion until further notice.**
- Hydration breaks will be done quickly no more than 2 minutes with a running clock.
- Communication on the number or frequency of hydration breaks will be communicated by the event or league coordinator if mandatory. During the months of August-September, water breaks should also be implemented if the coaches agree and notify the referee prior to the start of the game.

Masks:

- All must wear masks when not on the playing field.
- Referees must follow their protocols in addition to wearing a mask.
- Players and coaches on the sidelines must wear masks
- Players in warm up do not need to wear mask.
- If a player chooses to wear a mask on the field, they are allowed to do so. It must not contain metal or sharp objects.

Hydration and Food:

- ASA will not be providing “community hydration”. Each individual should bring their own hydration and do not share hydration receptacles.
- Teams should bring extra water for their players.
- If food is available from vendors or if teams or players bring food to the field, it should not be shared.
- All trash must be disposed of before leaving the field by that team.

Equipment:

- Home teams should prepare to provide more than 3 game balls.
- Both teams should bring a sanitization method for balls, benches, canopies, and any other “common equipment” they bring. [CLICK LINK](#) for approved products per the CDC.
- Spare balls should be located at half-line to be available to put into play by the referee’s instructions unless directed differently by the referee.
- Balls that exit play (for example a missed shot on goal) should be sanitized and placed at the designated half-line location ready for play.
- All balls should be sanitized prior to play by teams and when out of play prior to being put in play.

Sanitization:

- Players and teams should bring their own products for themselves and common property.
- All trash from your team or players **MUST BE PICKED UP** prior to leaving the field. We need to reduce the opportunity of a different person picking up another person’s trash.
- ASA will have a hand sanitizer station.

Injuries:

- Referees, players, team officials, athletic trainers, and anybody on the field should maintain social distancing (6 feet from the injured player) unless wearing a mask.

Facility Rules:

- ASA will work with all facilities and any specific procedures they have to balance social distancing rules, spectator rules, sanitation requirements, bathroom usage, etc.
- ASA will look to create facility maps customized to determine if any spectators are allowed.
- Some facilities have rules that prevent teams from warming up or entering the field prior to the game participants exiting.

In Summary:

- Collective responsibility
 - Team officials and Coaches carry all responsibility for adherence of all guidelines including the oversight of their spectators.
 - Referees have the authority to help in responsibility and terminate a game should clubs not follow responsibilities.
 - ASA has the responsibility when present to support club team officials and referees.
- Fields or facilities may have additional rules or protocols that must be followed.
- Refer to the ASA website and COVID INFORMATION pages for additional information or real time updates.