



## **MATCH DAY PROTOCOLS DURING COVID-19**

**Let us all work together to reduce the possible spread of Covid-19 ensuring our players continue to play the game they love this fall.**

**The following guidelines are very similar to the SOCA Return to Play Protocols that our players/teams have followed as we have returned to play this summer. These protocols are to be followed for all games and scrimmages to be played at South Fork Soccer Park for the Fall 2020 season or until deemed otherwise.**

### **Game Day Safety**

All players, coaches and staff members must perform a temperature check and conduct a health screening prior to attending any SOCA hosted games, related events, or activities. The temperature check and health screening can be performed by parents of minors and may be reinforced by a coach or staff member to look for signs of infection. This includes:

1. **Temperature Check** – all players, staff or family members with a temperature of 100.4 or greater are prohibited from attending any event.
2. **Health Screening** – The following are to be asked by a parent of a minor prior to attending any SOCA activities or events:
  - a. Is your current temperature 100.4F or greater?
  - b. Have you been diagnosed with COVID-19 within the last fourteen (14) days?
  - c. Have you exhibited any signs or symptoms of COVID-19 in the last fourteen (14) days?
  - d. Have you been in close contact (within 6 feet for at least 15 minutes) of anyone that has been diagnosed with or has symptoms of COVID-19 in the last fourteen (14) days?

**If the answer to any of the above questions is “yes,” you are not allowed to attend any SOCA event until cleared.**

1685 Polo Grounds Road  
Charlottesville, VA 22911  
[www.socasport.org](http://www.socasport.org)



### General Match Day Procedures/Guidelines:

- Facemasks/Face coverings:
  - Players are required to wear masks to the fields and to wear masks on the substitutes bench. Players are not required to wear masks while playing, warming-up or preparing to enter the field.
  - Coaches are also asked to wear masks to the fields and in the bench area but can remove masks to give instruction while following social distance guidelines with players on the bench.
  - Parents can be on the sidelines (opposite of player benches) however they are required to wear facemasks while on the sidelines and must follow social distancing recommendations on the sidelines as well.
  - Referees will also be required to wear face coverings when not actually refereeing games.
- Social Distancing:
  - Players are asked to social distance themselves as much as possible. Prior to games, walking to and from game fields, while not actually in games, and after games. Maintain 6 feet of distance.
  - During games, substitutes in the bench area should maintain 10 feet of distance.
  - There will be no player handshakes with opponents before or after games. Same applies to coaches.
  - Players should also refrain from handshakes, hugging or other celebratory and social contact with their own teammates and coaches.
  - Players / Coaches are asked to refrain from sharing equipment including pennies. Only coaches should touch cones during warm-ups, etc.
  - Parents on the sidelines must follow social distance guidelines, keeping safe distances apart and limiting social contact even amongst your own team. Family members of the same household do not need to follow social distancing measures of 6 feet.
  - Parents are asked not to gather around fields until **10 minutes prior** to game time to allow previous game spectators to leave.
- Hand sanitizer Use:
  - Hand sanitizer will be provided at South Fork Soccer Park in various locations.
  - It is recommended, however, that all players/coaches/club staff also bring their own hand sanitizer and use regularly.



- Additional Procedures:
  - Game Balls should be cleaned appropriately before each game by the home team.
  - Additional time has been built in between games to minimize interaction with other groups. We ask teams do not come down to the fields until 30 minutes prior to kick off to begin warm ups.
  - We ask all post game talks be kept to 5 minutes to ensure prompt clearing of the fields.
  - All players, coaches, and family members are asked to depart from the park upon completion of your game as soon as reasonably possible.