

# Pennsylvania Classics AC

## Protocol for COVID-19 Response

(Adopted by Board of Directors 8/17/2020)

The COVID-19 pandemic continues to impact competitive and recreational youth sports across the nation and in Eastern Pennsylvania. Guidance and protocols regarding mitigation and response to the virus continue to evolve. The leadership of PA Classics is regularly in contact with officials at the EPYSA and responding to directives and recommendations from the PA Department of Health, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and other state and local government agencies.

Communication from all parties remains a key aspect of responding to the crisis. It is critical that parents and guardians of our players inform their team's coach immediately of their player's changing health status or their player's close contact with those individuals who have tested positive and/or become symptomatic. While it is challenging to identify each scenario and the subsequent steps for each scenario in this protocol, it is vital that each case is addressed individually as it arises in the club. The following guidelines were adopted to the PAC Board of Directors to address emerging situations.

### 1. Player Illness

If your player feels ill for any reason, please keep them at home and do not bring them to any training session or game event. Please notify your coach immediately of the reason for the absence. The club strongly encourages you to follow the advice of your primary care physician for next steps as it pertains to appropriate testing and return to play.

### 2. Player Positive Covid-19 Test

If your player tests positive for Covid-19, please notify your coach immediately and follow the steps recommended by your medical provider. The coach immediately notify the appropriate club administrator to record the test result and take further action. The coach will notify team parents only if the infected player has come into contact with team members within the previous 2 weeks. The coach will not identify which player tested positive for privacy reasons. Should it be determined that the infected player has come into contact with team members during their infectious stage, the team will suspend training and ask all players to self-quarantine for 5-7 days, get tested if appropriate. The team may resume training after 14 days. Each player returning to play must have a Covid-19 test that is negative or remain away from the team for an additional 5-7 days.

### 3. Close Contact

If your player comes in close contact with an individual who has tested positive and/or become symptomatic, please keep them at home and do not bring them to any training session or game event. A close contact is defined as any individual who was within 6 feet of an infected person for at least 15 minutes. Again, please notify your coach of the situation, and self-quarantine for 5-7 days. After 5-7 days of quarantine, no symptoms appear, and a Covid-19 test comes back negative, the player may return to team events. If a test is not administered by a health care provider or testing center, please quarantine the player for 14 days and if no symptoms arise, the player may return to team events.

### 4. Coaches, Assistant Coach and other team officials

Coaches, assistant coaches and other team officials that come in contact with players at training sessions, games or other soccer events are asked to adhere to the same protocols as outlined above for players. Again, this applies to coaches or other team officials that become ill, receive a positive COVID-19 test result, or come in close contact with a known positive individual. Coaches must immediately report any of these situations to the appropriate club administrator and take necessary steps for self-quarantine as outlined above in Items 1-3.

Coaches should contact the appropriate club administrator to report suspected or known cases as outlined above. Each PA Classics program has an identified program contact and their contact information.

#### Reporting Structure:

1. Travel players report to...
  - a. Head Coach
  - b. Steve Klein - [steve@paclassics.org](mailto:steve@paclassics.org)
2. Rec and Rugby Players report to...
  - a. Victor DeSantis, [vdesantis@comcast.net](mailto:vdesantis@comcast.net)
  - b. Jim Dreyer, [jim.dreyer@comcast.net](mailto:jim.dreyer@comcast.net)
  - c. Steve Klein, [steve@paclassics.org](mailto:steve@paclassics.org)
3. Tournament inquiries report to...
  - a. Mike Henning, [mikehenning@paclassics.org](mailto:mikehenning@paclassics.org)
  - b. Steve Klein, [steve@paclassics.org](mailto:steve@paclassics.org)
4. Futures and Futures Academy report to...
  - a. Gary Ross, [rossi@pennlegacy.org](mailto:rossi@pennlegacy.org)
  - b. Steve Klein, [steve@paclassics.org](mailto:steve@paclassics.org)
5. Adult League report to...
  - a. Joel Rice, [jrice@paclassics.org](mailto:jrice@paclassics.org)
  - b. Steve Klein, [steve@paclassics.org](mailto:steve@paclassics.org)

## Penn Legacy Rec Program – Additional Guidelines

In addition to the PA Classics AC/Penn Legacy Rec Protocol outlined above, the PAC Board of Directors have also endorsed the protocols for training and games outlined by the Lancaster Area Recreational Soccer League (LARS) board of directors. LARS has required that all clubs be on the same page to make sure parents have the same understanding of the procedures. By participating in the LARS League, our club has agreed to abide by these procedures as outlined below.

### **Covid-19 Symptoms and Symptom Checker:**

The CDC has excellent resources on the symptoms of COVID-19 and what to look for in youth and adults alike. The link to CDC symptom checker can be found at:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>

### **Coach Protocols:**

- Coaches must supply their medical kit or bag with gloves, extra masks, sanitizer/disinfectant wipes for hands/equipment, and facial tissues. Lysol spray if directed to spray outhouses.
- Attempt to keep 6' from players.
- Wearing a mask from the time they exit the car until reentering car. Face shields are permitted if heat should be an issue.
- Equipment: Sanitize all equipment prior to and after training sessions
- Only coaches may touch or move equipment. Players and parents do not touch or move equipment.
- Keeper gloves must be sanitized before and after play and not shared.
- Scrimmage vests are not recommended but if used, wash after every training session or game and not to be shared.
- If a player is injured, only one coach is to attend to that player while wearing mask and gloves.

### **Parent Protocols:**

- Refrain from carpooling unless necessary.
- Only parents/guardians are to inform the coach of an illness or exposure, not the player.
- Parent should contact the coach with any player health issues or concerns as outlined on Page 1. Please use CDC Symptom Checker as a useful tool.
- Reporting for outside the season:
  - If a player has contact with a Covid-19 positive person within the first two weeks before practice starts, they must quarantine until two weeks have elapsed. Return to the team will be up to the club's discretion.
  - If a player falls ill within a week of the season ending, parents should contact the club Covid-19 contact. Club shall notify team.

### **Specific to Equipment:**

- Players and parents are not permitted to touch or move equipment.
- Keeper gloves must be sanitized before and after play and not shared.
- Players are to bring a sanitized soccer ball, sufficient amount of bottled water clearly marked with their name, hand sanitizer, and 2 masks.
- If a player is a goalie and has their own gloves, it is recommended they bring them and are not permitted to share.
- Players equipment must stay with the player at their spot on the sideline.

### **Hygiene**

- Spitting is not permitted and everyone is encouraged to cover their coughs and sneezes with a tissue or use the inside of their elbow.
- Upon completion of the game, players should sanitize their hands and exterior of water bottles.

### **Specific to Practices**

- Players are to have their temperatures checked by parents 30 minutes prior. If player temperature exceeds 100.4° please see Club's Covid19 Plan for reporting procedures.
- Spectators are not permitted at practices but may remain at their vehicles while practicing safe social distancing.
- Players are to be dropped off/picked up at the parking lot wearing a mask.
- Players are only allowed to go onto the field once the coach arrives on the field to make sure players follow protocol.
- Players will be separated 6' apart during practice exercises when not in active play.
- Players are permitted to remove their mask before entering the field of play and place mask in their bag.
- It is up to the parent/player if they chose to wear during games.

### **Specific to Competitive Games**

- Players are to have their temperatures checked by parents 30 minutes prior. If player temperature exceeds 100.4° please see Club's Covid19 Plan for reporting procedures.
- Masks are to be worn by spectators and players when exiting their cars until re-entering cars end of game.
- Clubs coaches will provide a separate place for players that need to 'cool down' when coming off the field when needing to breathe without a mask for a few minutes. Players in this area must be 6' apart.
- At the end of games, clubs are to utilize touchless forms of after game good sportsmanship appreciation between the two teams.
- Throw-ins are permitted as they are part of the game. When the player returns to the sideline, either the coach is to provide a squirt of hand sanitizer or the player can get their own from their bag.

### **Specific to Spectators:**

- All spectators are to be wearing a mask when they exit their cars until they reenter their car. Face shields are acceptable if heat should be an issue.
- Spectators are not permitted to assist coaches, be in the bench area, or go out onto the field at any time including if a player is injured.
- There is a new seating arrangement for the Fall Season. Home club will be on one side of the field with their spectators. The other side of the field will be for the away team with their spectators. The half way mark will divide the team from the spectators.
- Team will be stationed close to the goal area to allow for sufficient space away from spectators at the half way mark. It is strongly requested spectators do not engage the coach or the players. Spectators are urged to resist temptation to “help the coach” coach because you will be on the same side of the field.
- To allow for appropriate spacing between families, the league is limiting 2 spectators per player be allowed to sit at the sideline. Spectators are to sit 6’ apart from next family and back 6’ from the sideline. Additional spectators are to sit in the next row 6’ back.
- If for health reasons a spectator cannot safely wear a mask, they are not permitted at the sideline. They must sit in a row behind all other rows sufficiently distanced from other spectators for their safety.
- Spectators are not to touch any ball that goes out of bounds, let a player or coach retrieve it.
- Spectators must expediently leave the field directly after the game concludes so as to minimize cross traffic with the next game. League will provide additional time between games.
- Parents are asked to not engage another parent about following protocols. If a protocol is not being adhered to, rather than creating a distraction, it is recommended you move to a safe distance from them and they will be addressed as the coach sees appropriate which may be via email. If protocols are not followed, the parents may not be able to return, failure to follow again, the player may not be able to return.