



COVID Safety and Action Plan Draft (11/05/20)

Exeter United Football Club will return to play with this safety and action plan in accordance with guidelines set by the Centers for Disease Control and Eastern Pennsylvania Youth Soccer Association. This plan is based on current directives as of November 5th and is subject to change as guidance and the situation evolves. Our approach to adjusting for these changes will be reflected in this document. **Changes from previous version(s) are highlighted.**

a. Points of Contact

EUFC has appointed two COVID Response Directors.

Brandon Putt – EUFC President

email: president@eysasoccer.com

mobile: 484-269-6523

Tom McAuliffe – EUFC 2nd VP/Fields

email: fields@eysasoccer.com

mobile: 610-551-3377

b. Communication & Education

- EUFC will share safety recommendations and guidance via email, social media and on our website.
- All players, coaches, and parents/guardians will receive communication of our safety plan before return to play begins.
- Information from the CDC regarding hand hygiene, sanitization, and other best practices will be shared with all participants (coaches, players, and parents) to reduce the spread of covid-19.
- Each team will have a new volunteer role, Team Safety Rep, which will be kept up to date with any procedural changes in addition to the coaches.

c. Steps to Reduce the Spread

1. Club Level

- Share information and guidelines as they become available.
- Train and educate coaches and Team Safety Reps.
- Minimize body contact, maintain social distancing when possible during training and games.
- Follow state and local restrictions.

2. General Hygiene and Personal Safety Protocols

- EUFC will provide coaches with hand sanitizer. Players are also encouraged to bring their own. Hand sanitizer should be used regularly before, during, and after training and games including before and after water breaks.
- No sharing of water, snacks, or equipment. Parents must send extra water with their children. A child who does not have water will not be able to participate.
- No spitting.
- Anyone who must sneeze or cough should cover their mouth/nose and do so into his/her elbow.
- No shaking hands, high fives, fist bumps, or unnecessary contact
- Maintain social distancing of 6 feet apart. Gear and bags should be placed at least 6 feet apart and players should keep this distance on the sidelines.
- Keep spectators to a minimum. Spectators shall maintain 6 feet distance between non-household members and are encouraged to wear face coverings.
- Parents/Guardians, players, coaches, or spectators who do not feel well should not attend training or a game.

3. Equipment

- EUFC will provide coaches with disinfectant spray, wipes, face coverings, gloves, and hand sanitizer.
- Coaches must disinfect all club equipment including goals, cones, balls, and benches after each use.
- Players will be given a pinnie to keep for the entire season. The player's name should be written on the pinnie in permanent marker and be kept in his/her bag when not being worn. The pinnies will be used to identify goalkeepers in match play and should not be shared. Parents are responsible for cleaning player uniforms, gear, and pinnies after each use.
- Goalkeeper gloves will not be kept by the coach. Players will have to bring their own gloves if they wish to use them.
- Only coaches can move club equipment such as goals or benches.
- Players will be given a disinfectant wipe at check-in to sanitize their balls. Club balls should be used when hands are involved including throw-ins, goalkeepers, and in general for scrimmage/match play.

4. Coach Responsibilities

- Do not attend a soccer activity if you feel ill.

- Coaches should not drive players from outside their household to or from soccer activities.
- Coaches must comply with CDC, PA DOH, EPYSA and EUFC directives or requirements.
- Consult EUFC COVID Response Directors for information or clarity on protocols.
- In conjunction with the Team Safety Rep, ensure that any players who appear to be ill are sent home. Notify the Covid Response Directors of this and advise other parents from the team that a player was ill. The COVID Response Directors will advise if any further action is required.
- Must wear masks on field, with participants, or on sidelines.
- Maintain adequate supplies of disinfectant solution, gloves, masks, first aid kits, and hand sanitizer. Contact Todd via email to equipment@eysasoccer.com for additional quantities.
- Disinfect all club equipment after each use including goal frames, balls, cones, and benches. Assist TSR as needed at check-in as players sanitize balls.
- Plan practices to reduce gathering and standing in lines.
- Enforce distancing and best hygiene practices. Do not allow players on the field without being screened. Communicate often with parents.
- Minimize interactions with players and other teams that play before or after your session. Do not approach the field while other sessions are in progress and suggest your players move to their cars following sessions.
- Identify the Team Safety Rep and introduce him/her to players. Select a spot (shaded if possible) at practice fields for players and parents to meet for screening prior to entering the field. Ask the opposing coach if there is a suggested area for this if playing an away game.
- Be positive, fun, and encouraging. Raise the players' spirit in an effective way.

5. Team Safety Representative (TSR)

- Each team will identify a Team Safety Rep. This volunteer will work closely with coaches and the EUFC board and be responsible for record keeping and implementation of safety procedures. Team Safety Reps should be a third official for a team and can be an Assistant Coach but should not be the Head Coach.
- Team Safety Reps must register online and complete background checks and clearances as a club volunteer.

- Team Safety Reps will verbally screen and temperature screen each participating player and coach before every soccer event. They will identify a consistent location at the practice field – at least 30 ft away from the field – for players and parents to be screened. Verbal screening will include the following questions for participants:
 - Does the participant have a new shortness of breath or worsened cough?
 - Has the participant been in contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID 19 or is being evaluated for Covid 19 in the past 14 days or are themselves?
 - Has the participant traveled outside of the country in the last 14 days?
- The TSR will utilize a pre-built template in Google Sheets to record yes/no answers as well as if the participant has a temperature of 100.4 or higher. The Covid Response Directors will have access to these records. Coaches will be given paper forms to use as a backup plan to Google Sheets which must be submitted to the Covid Response Directors after each use.
- Participants who present a temperature of 100.4 or higher may sit in the shade for 5 minutes and re-test. If they register a second reading of 100.4 or higher, they cannot participate for the remainder of that day. Parents of players on that team along with EUFC Covid Response Directors will be notified if a player was ill and present at the field but did not participate. EUFC encourages players to seek medical attention if they have a fever of 100.4 or higher.
- Each child will need to wear a mask and be accompanied by a parent/guardian listed on their registration for check-in at each soccer event. The parent/guardian must wear masks while verbally screened. They will also be given a disinfectant wipe to sanitize their soccer ball. This information will be recorded by the Team Safety Rep and turned in to EUFC's COVID Response Directors weekly.

6. Parents and Guardians

- Pack extra water for your child regardless of how hot/cool it is.
- Comply with CDC, DOH, EPYSA, and EUFC directives and requirements. Share information regarding their player.
- Each child will need to wear a mask and be accompanied by a parent/guardian listed on their registration for check-in at each soccer event. The parent/guardian must wear masks while verbally screened.

- Keep sick players home and do not attend if they feel sick themselves. Notify the coach.
- Determine if you want your player to wear a face mask during training. Make sure they have one in their bag.
- Keep player's ball inflated so coaches do not need to touch it.
- Pack extra hand sanitizer and masks and send them in a bag with your child.
- Spectators are not recommended to stay for training sessions.
- Do not fetch out of play balls. Let the players or coaches retrieve them.
- Comply with social distancing and mask directives. Maintain 6 feet from non-household members. Mask wearing is recommended.
- Notify your coach and Team Safety Rep if your child becomes ill.
- Sanitize and wash all player equipment after each use.
- EUFC and ETSD are following the state's recommendations for quarantine after travel to states on the following link. Please adhere to these recommendations prior to returning to soccer activities.
<https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/disease/coronavirus/Pages/Travelers.aspx>
[x](#)

d. Identification of COVID Exposure

Parents/guardians, coaches, and players must notify the EUFC COVID Response Directors if a participant or someone in the participant's home has a presumptive positive case or tests positive for COVID.

Coaches will communicate any positive or presumptive positive cases to opposing coaches prior to competition with as much advance notice as possible. The coaches will also notify each other and league officials immediately if a positive case is detected within 14 days after their competition. League officials will also report similar news if involving a referee.

The full board will be notified of a positive case or potential contact with a positive case, but the identity of the individual will be limited to the COVID Response Directors. The COVID Response Directors will report information to and consult health officials. EUFC will notify the parents of the players who were in contact with this individual following CDC quarantine guidelines and HIPAA regulations on confidentiality. EUFC will suspend further play for the impacted player, team or teams and club as needed and as directed by quarantine guidelines. The individual will need clearance from a medical professional to resume play. ~~If a sibling of an EUFC player is suggested to quarantine, then family members including EUFC players and coaches must do the same.~~ *This was removed as PA DOH deemed it an unnecessary step.

e. Summary

Soccer is a contact sport, and by its nature, we cannot eliminate all risk or potential for spread of a contagious disease. We have adopted a set of procedures and policies intended to minimize this risk. Each family will need to make their own decision whether they want to participate or not and will assume risks involved with a decision to play.

We will update this policy and communicate any changes as deemed necessary by our governing bodies. We plan to get the players on the fields but do not have full control of that. What we can control is that we will conduct ourselves safely and responsibly within our club.

EUFC Board of Directors

Resources

EPYSA - <https://www.epysa.org/covid-19-resources/>

CDC - <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/youth-sports.html>

PA DOH - <https://www.governor.pa.gov/covid-19/sports-guidance/>