



RETURN TO PLAY PHASE VII

Effective 8/20/2021

Criteria for Participation in Competition

- Soccer Maine strongly recommends that spectators make every attempt to socially distance by a minimum of 6 feet between family units while outside **and mask if not vaccinated.**
- **We also strongly recommend that players on the sideline physically distance unless all are vaccinated.**
- **Coaches on the sidelines who are vaccinated are not required to be masked. If you are not vaccinated, we strongly recommend that you mask.**
- Participants should use their own equipment and not share equipment. This includes water bottles, towels, shin guards, etc. Game ball is the only shared piece of equipment.

Clubs

- Distribute protocols to its members and parents.
- Have a communication plan in place for notification of venue requirements if there are any. Teams/Clubs should notify opposing teams/clubs a minimum of one week prior of any restrictions to spectator attendance. Some school facilities may have restrictions in place.
- Have an effective communication plan in place should a team member, coach or manager contract COVID-19. Notify adult leaders, youth and their families if the organization learns of a case that may result in exposure and potential infection to others while at training or a game, while maintaining confidentiality.
- Train and educate all staff to protocols and requirements, including state and local regulations, CDC recommendations and other necessary information. It is the Club's responsibility to see that all coaches, and other staff adhere to these protocols.

Coaches

- Ensure the health and safety of the Athletes - inquire how the athletes are feeling, and send them home should you believe they act or look ill. Follow all State and Local Health Protocols.
- Ensure all athletes have their individual equipment (ball, water, bag, shin guards, etc.)
- Coach is the only person to handle coach equipment - cones, disk etc.
- We strongly recommend that you **mask if not fully vaccinated.**
- The use of scrimmage vest or pinnies is not recommended at this time.

Parents

- Ensure child is healthy, check your child's temperature before attending a training session.
- Notify club immediately if your child becomes ill for any reason. This is a requirement.
- Do not assist coach with equipment before or after training.

Players

- **Players are not required to wear a mask for training or competitions outdoors. If participating in training or games indoors, the venue requirements take precedence, but our recommendation is that you mask.**
- Do not touch or share anyone else's equipment, water, snack or bag.
- No group celebrations, no high 5's, hugs, handshakes etc.

Follow all Maine State and CDC guidelines:

- [Home | Covid-19 \(maine.gov\)](#)
- [Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\) | Airborne Disease Surveillance Epidemiology Program | MeCDC | Maine DHHS](#)
- [Maine Center for Disease Control & Prevention | Maine DHHS](#)