



Return to Play



We understand the benefits that outdoor recreation and youth sports can provide, especially during this time when so many activities are understandably restricted. For this reason, we have decided as a club that we will continue to practice and play to the extent that we are permitted and to the extent that we can do so safely.

Our first priority is for the health and safety of our community and that will not be compromised. The following are important elements of our return to play:

- In each phase of reopening, Sockers FC Chicago will be complying with all guidelines from our state and local governments, local health authorities, and the governing bodies of our sport. We will attempt to coordinate with our leagues and neighboring clubs whenever possible, and we are regularly engaged with others throughout our community. Our guidelines will be updated as necessary.
- Sockers FC Chicago has established additional **Club Protocols** for our players, parents, and coaches. Elements of these protocols apply to our Travel and House leagues as well as all programs.
- Sockers FC Chicago has established a [COVID-19 Reporting and Communications Policy](#) which specifically states our staff and membership requirements for reporting, communication and return to play.
 - Sockers FC Chicago has established additional guidelines to govern appropriate communications with members in the event of [COVID-19 Reporting](#).
- Members must comply with the requirements for [COVID-19 Reporting](#).

The Club takes the health and safety of its members very seriously. Any failure to adhere to any portion of these policies may result in removal from the program without a refund of any fees paid.

The Fall 2020 Season will not be as any of us had expected. While we have planned our Fall programming as best we can today, we remain prepared to accommodate as necessary in order to comply with any future restrictions or operational protocols that are required. Our coaches and staff are committed to providing as many opportunities as possible to those that choose to participate.

We thank our membership for all their support and flexibility in 2020.



Sockers FC Chicago Protocols



PARENT/GUARDIAN RESPONSIBILITIES

- Before training, check your child's temperature and refrain from participation if he or she has a fever (e 100.4 degrees F).
- **Ensure that your child stays home if they are sick.**
- Comply with all elements of the [Sockets FC Chicago Covid-19 Reporting and Communications Policy](#)
- Limit carpooling.
- In the case of inclement weather, we will dismiss all to their parent/guardian immediately.
- Ensure your child's training gear is washed after every training session.
- Ensure your child's equipment (cleats, ball, shin guards, etc.) are sanitized before and after every training.
- Supply your child with hand sanitizer for each training session.
- Should social distance (6 feet) and wear a mask at all Sockers FC Chicago practices and games. Additional guidelines may apply depending on location.

PLAYER RESPONSIBILITIES

- All porta johns are currently being maintained by the Park District and not Sockers FC Chicago. We recommend that players use the restroom prior to coming to the field.
- Wash hands thoroughly before and after training.
- Bring and use hand sanitizer at every training.
- Follow all guidelines for dropoff and pickup.
- Do not touch or share anyone else's equipment.
- Practice social distancing (6 feet) from others before and after training.
- Wear a mask when entering and exiting a field.
- Mask may be required on the sideline when social distance guidelines cannot be met.
- Players should follow their coach's instructions on when and where to enter and exit the field for both training and games.

COACH RESPONSIBILITIES

- Before training, check your temperature and refrain from participation if you have a fever (e 100.4 degrees F).
- **Stay home if you are sick.**
- Wear a mask. The mask may be pulled down when instructing players while social distancing.
- Ensure only players and coaches are on the field.
- As players enter the training field - organize players immediately to maintain social distancing protocol.
- Ensure all players have their equipment at least 6 ft from each other.
- Encourage social distance protocols are followed whenever possible.
- The Coach is the only person to handle cones.



COVID-19 Reporting & Communications Policy



Our [COVID-19 Reporting](#) and Communications Policy was created to ensure our players can continue to play and train in a safe environment and to allow our families to make informed decisions.

We will collect and share only information that is necessary, and your privacy will be respected. Upon receipt of a [Covid-19 Report](#), Sockers FC Chicago Staff will contact you to ensure your understanding of our procedures for communications and return to play.

A coach or player must report any and all of the following to the Club within 48 hours of identification:

Known Exposure:

- Known Exposure to someone who has tested positive for COVID-19. Per CDC guidelines, Exposure is defined as being within six feet of a person confirmed with COVID-19 for a duration of 15 minutes or longer. If Known Exposure becomes a Suspected or Confirmed Case, this must also be reported using the form.

Suspected Case of COVID-19:

- A Suspected Case is anyone who has a Known Exposure as defined above AND symptoms consistent with COVID-19.

Confirmed Case of COVID-19:

- A confirmed case is anyone who has tested positive for COVID-19 or been diagnosed as positive by a health professional.

Covid-19 Communication and Return-to-Play Protocols

COMMUNICATION PROTOCOLS

The Club will report those that came in contact with the individual based on the following protocols:

Known Exposure.

- If a player or coach has a Known Exposure, the Club will work with the player or coach to ensure all the Return to Play protocols have been met. The individual cannot return until the guidelines below have been met. If a coach is affected, every effort will be made by the Club to ensure the team can continue to train and compete. No additional notification to club membership is required.

Suspected/Confirmed Case of COVID-19.

- All the players and coaches who have practiced or played with the individual within the last two weeks will be informed. This will include any players or coaches that train on the same field at the same time with the individual even if there is limited to no interaction. Due to the ADA and Privacy laws, the team will be identified but the individual will not be revealed. The individual cannot return until the guidelines below have been met. If a coach is affected, every effort will be made by the Club to ensure the team can continue to train and compete.

RETURN-TO-PLAY PROTOCOLS

The player or coach can resume in-person training and games based on the following protocols:

Known Exposure.

- After 14 days of self-isolation, the individual may return if no symptoms of COVID-19 are present. If Known Exposure has become a Suspected/Confirmed Case, the [reporting form](#) must be updated, and protocol below must also be followed.

Suspected/Confirmed Case of COVID-19.

- An individual may return after 14 days have passed since exposure (if suspected) or 14 days since the positive test result (if confirmed) AND ALL the following conditions have been met:
 1. At least 72 hours symptom free without the assistance of fever-reducing medications, and
 2. A negative test result.
 3. Note from licensed physician that member is cleared to participate
 4. Report and upload "cleared to participate note" at the following link <https://sockersfcchicago.com/covid-19/index.html>