



Many parents and players have asked what rules Riverdale Soccer Club (RSC) will use to ensure the safety of our programs during this time of COVID-19. This document lays out a set of **requirements** for participation in our recreation program and/or on one of the Club's travel teams. Please know that we hope you and your family are well during these times and invite you to reach out to either Damian McShane, Michael Holosyzc, Andrew Belton, or your team's coach should you have any questions.

Riverdale Soccer Club is committed to providing a safe environment for all of its players, coaches, referees, and spectators. While returning to play is a personal choice, and you should feel comfortable determining for yourself if you would like to resume activities, our guiding philosophy is to allow participation by as many children in our neighborhood as possible. We also want to have a safe, successful, and uninterrupted season. During this time of COVID-19, being safe and adhering to the requirements outlined in this document – using face coverings, practicing social distancing, and following safe hygiene practices – will allow *more* of our community to participate. Not doing so creates danger for everyone and may result in players and families being excluded.

Requirements for all participants:

- **Face Coverings are required to participate in Riverdale Soccer Club programs:**
 - **Players must wear a face covering, covering the player's mouth and nose,** when getting to and from practices and games.
 - As you are purchasing masks, please note that bandanas, neck fleeces, knitted masks, gaiters, single ply, and fleece masks do not provide as high levels of protection as a two-ply face mask
 - **Players must wear a mask, over a player's mouth and nose, during team conversations and while on the sideline of a scrimmage.**
 - While it is not a recommendation, under current CDC guidelines, to wear a face covering during a scrimmage, warm-ups, or while undertaking practice drills, we encourage participants to wear face coverings at these times if they can tolerate it during strenuous activity
 - **Parents and coaches must wear face coverings,** ideally a two-ply mask, covering their mouth and nose, on arrival at the practice or game location and at all times during practice and games.
 - **Referees** must wear a face covering, ideally a two-ply mask, over his/her mouth and nose, when getting to and from games and when not officiating a game
 - **Parents, coaches, referees, and players, must take with them any face covering or PPE equipment they have used and not discard those in field litter receptacles.**
 - **Individuals not following these requirements for face covering may be asked to leave** the location where the activity is taking place and may be asked to leave the RSC program.

- **Social Distancing must be followed by all:**
 - Each player is limited to a **maximum of two guests** (parents or relatives). Please try to limit guests to one per player if possible.
 - Guests must maintain a social distance from other players' guests of a **minimum of 6 feet**, while watching practices and games.
 - Participants must not engage in activities, outside of game play, that involve physical interaction, e.g., high-fives, group huddles, post-game handshakes.
 - Any individual not following these requirements for social distancing may be asked to leave the location where the activity is taking place.

- **Safety, hygiene, and COVID-19 notification requirements**
 - Equipment
 - **Riverdale Soccer Club will provide** coaches in the recreation and travel programs with **hand sanitizer** to be available for participants use
 - **Players in the travel program must bring their own ball** to practice or games. No ball, no play. **For the recreation programs**, coaches will generally distribute the balls at practices and collect them at the end of practice, not using them again until the next practice or game day.
 - Each player should have his/her **own water bottle, clearly labeled with the participant's name.**
 - **No sharing of water or food** between players or players & guests is allowed.
 - **No post game snacks for the team** to share.
 - **In the travel program, each player will receive two different colored pinnies.** Players should write their name in the pinnies, bring them to each practice or game and wash these pinnies between each practice or game
 - Notifying the club of a COVID-19 occurrence
 - No player, parent, coach, or referee can participate if they have **travelled from a restricted State or from overseas and have not quarantined.** RSC adheres to the guidelines regarding international travel as outlined by the CDC [here](#) and the guidelines regarding restricted State travel from NYS as outlined [here](#).
 - If a player feels ill, has a temperature, or might have been in contact with someone recently who is positive for Corona **do not come to practice/game.**
 - If possible, please take the player's temperature before each session
 - **Notify the player's coach and a Riverdale Soccer Club Board member if a player is diagnosed with COVID-19** (the entire team may have to quarantine). Any individual's information will be handled confidentially.
 - **Coaches will maintain a register** of which players attend each practice/game. Before running EACH program session, **coaches and any other volunteer must inform, by email, the site safety coordinator (see below) that they do not have COVID-19** symptoms and that they have not knowingly come into contact with a suspected COVID-19 case in the past 14 days.
 - **Michael Holosyzc will be the club's site safety monitor** for activities at Seton Park, **Damian McShane** for activities at **Van Cortlandt Park** and **Andrew Belton** for activities at **Van Cortlandt Stadium**
 - Please remember that things could change very quickly. You should have an emergency pickup plan for your child in case your child needs to leave a practice or game.

We recommend that all participants read the US Soccer Federation Grassroots guidance (available online at Westchester Youth Soccer League Website <https://www.wyslsoccer.org/>) along with federal state and local guidance to better understand the safety policies in place and work together to protect against the spread of COVID-19. **Perhaps most importantly....**much of the success of our season depends on all of us. In order to stay healthy, it is critical that **every family** follow these guidelines during practices and games, and act responsibly using social distancing and face coverings when outside at all times.

As always, please feel free to reach out with any questions or concerns you may have as we continue to move forward to the Fall soccer season.

Have a safe rest of the summer.
Riverdale Soccer Club Board