

Waukesha North Youth Football COVID-19 Safety Procedures

8/27/2020

The health and safety of our players, coaches, officials and volunteers remains our highest priority. The guidelines set forth by the Wisconsin All-American Youth Football League and the Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association (WIAA) will be followed and the below safety procedures highlight significant parts of these guidelines. Links to these guidelines will be found on the Waukesha North Football web page.

1. **Each team will have 2-4 Safety Coaches/Volunteers in attendance to ensure compliance with this policy and procedures at each practice and game.**
2. **Participants (players, coaches and other volunteers) with signs and symptoms of communicable disease will not be able to participate in practices and games.**
 - a. It is the responsibility of coaches, parents and players to assess how they are feeling before practice/games and not attend if ill. The head coach or team Safety Coach should be contacted if any player develops new (above their baseline) or unexpected signs and symptoms of communicable disease which include:
 - a.i. Fever (≥ 100.4)
 - a.ii. Cough or Shortness of Breath
 - a.iii. Nausea, Vomiting or Diarrhea
 - a.iv. Sore Throat
 - a.v. Abdominal Pain
 - a.vi. Chills/Shakes
 - a.vii. Muscle/Joint Pain
 - a.viii. Severe Headache
 - a.ix. Weakness or Fatigue
 - a.x. Loss of Smell or Taste
 - a.xi. Runny Nose/Congestion
 - b. COVID exposure screening & symptom screening will occur at each practice and game. An attendance roster will be developed for each game/practice.
 - c. Players/coaches/volunteers who exhibit any new or unexpected signs or symptoms (above their baseline) listed above will be provided a mask to wear and be isolated away from players until parent arrives.
 - c.i. Players/coaches/volunteers who exhibit any new or unexpected signs or symptoms (above their baseline) are suspected to have COVID-19 or have a positive test without symptoms will not be able to participate until:
 - c.i.1. At least 10 days have passed since positive test; AND
 - c.i.2. No fever (fever is temp of 100.4°F or more) without the use of fever-reducing medicine for at least 24 hours; AND
 - c.i.3. No COVID symptoms (for example, cough, shortness of breath, etc.);
 - c.ii. Written medical clearance from a health care provider (MD, DO, APNP, PA) allowing return must be provided to the Safety Medical Director. This form is available through the WIAA.

- d. Players/Coaches/Volunteers who have been in contact with a confirmed COVID-19 case will need to self-monitor under the direction of their local public health department and follow CDC guidelines.
 - e. The Safety Director will assist as the liaison for COVID-19 related exposures, reporting and other notification.
 - f. Players that miss practices and games will not be impacted punitively (less playing time).
3. **All participants will practice good personal hygiene while participating in Waukesha North Youth Football activities.**

a. **Hand Hygiene**

- Hand hygiene will be accomplished through the use of hand sanitizer and will be done at scheduled intervals, including:
 - Before and after practice
 - After coming off the field and prior to using personal water bottle
 - After removing mouthguard.
 - Other times at the discretion of Safety Coach.
- Hand sanitizer will be provided during practice and games; however, participants are encouraged to bring his/her own hand sanitizer. It's preferred that the sanitizer is secured to water jug if possible.
- Hand sanitizer should not be used on football gloves. Football gloves should be removed on sidelines prior to hand sanitizer use.

b.

c. **Respiratory Etiquette/Mouthguards**

- Respiratory etiquette will be followed at all times.
 - All participants should be encouraged to cough/sneeze into a tissue or elbow if tissue not available.
 - There should be no spitting or blowing one's nose onto the field.
 - Masks are not required when events occur outdoors, but may be used by players, coaches or volunteers.
 - Mouthguards should be handled minimally and only be removed after coming off of field on sidelines. Mouthguards must be secured to helmet and should be washed/rinsed at home after each use.

d.

e. **Water Jugs/Bottles**

- Players must bring individual water jugs, clearly labeled with the player's name.
- NO water bottles will be shared or provided by Waukesha North Youth Football.
- We encourage parents to send the player with plenty of water to last the entire practice or game.

f.

g. **General Hygiene & Laundering**

- Disposable equipment (disposable towels, cups, disinfectant wipes) to support hygiene will be provided by Waukesha North Youth Football for use during practices and games.
- All players should shower after practices and games.
- Jerseys and player equipment (including football gloves) should be labeled with the players name and cleaned at home on a regular basis. Football gloves should be wiped down after each practice. Normal laundering steps are sufficient for uniforms.

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4. **Social distancing should be maintained whenever possible**

- Social distancing will be maintained to the greatest extent possible on and off of the field.
- All player equipment should be placed along sideline and should be separated by 6 feet.
- Players should return to their areas when not on the field and maintain 6 feet distancing to the fullest extent possible.
- Spectators and parents will not be allowed at practices.

a.

5. **Clean and disinfect the environment and equipment**

- a. Cleaning and disinfectant supplies will be provided to each team and equipment should be disinfected after every practice or game. Equipment should be allowed to air dry after disinfection.
- b. All practice equipment will be kept by the team coaches between games/practices.

c.

6. **Concession Stands:**

- a. Volunteers inside of concession stands and apparel stands should wear face coverings in compliance with [Governor Evers' Face Covering Order](#).
- b. Money will be handled by a dedicated volunteer or vendor employee.
- c. Gloves will be worn for food handling and frequent hand hygiene will be performed as needed and after the removal of gloves.

d.

7. **Practice or Game Exposure Follow-up:**

- a. The Safety Director will be the primary contact for COVID-19 exposures that occur during the youth football season. The Safety Director will coordinate exposure and reporting with local public health & AAYFL if the need arises..

b. **References:**

1. WIAA Return to Fall Sports Guidelines-
<https://www.wiaawi.org/Portals/0/PDF/Health/Covid/WIAA-Return-to-Fall-Sports.pdf>
2. AAYFL Return to Play Guidelines as stated

C.