



Dear Parents,

First and foremost, we hope that you and your loved ones are safe and healthy. We have received questions from the community about if and how COVID-19 will change this year's athletic season. We know this outbreak has been stressful to many and recognize that exercising and participating in activities like sports can be a healthy way to cope with stress and connect with our community.

Many of you have already been contacted by your individual coaches/staff as to your interest in attending a summer training program. After careful consideration of both the WYSA Phased Return to Play, and CDC Guidelines, MSC is excited to announce that we will be offering summer training opportunities following WYSA Phase 1 and CDC guidelines designed with those guidelines in mind. The optional training sessions will take place from **June 22-July 10th**. The specific schedule of dates and times will be provided by team coaches/managers.

The health and safety of our athletes, staff, and volunteers remain our highest priority. Below, you will find a summary of actions MSC is taking to help ensure we are lowering COVID-19 risk as much as possible while also allowing our athletes to practice. We are:

- Intensifying cleaning, disinfection within our facilities and premises by removing benches from fields, cleaning and disinfecting any shared objects or equipment, and **keeping the bathrooms/locker rooms closed during this time.**
- Reducing physical closeness or contact between players by focusing on individual technical work with the soccer ball, keeping players in small groups, staggering arrival and drop off times, putting markers on the field to create well-spaced individual seating areas (for water breaks,, instruction time, pack up) ensuring coaches, volunteers and players stay 6 feet apart, discouraging unnecessary physical contact, such as high-fives, handshakes, fist bumps, and hugs removing benches
- Promoting healthy hygiene practices such as providing hand sanitizer before and after practices and encouraging children to cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or to use the inside of their elbow, and reminding them to not spit.
- Wearing cloth face coverings. Mandatory for coaches (while not exerting themselves), Speiler and U7/U8 parent volunteers (worn at all times while on the premises) and players (when arriving and departing training). As a reminder, cloth face coverings should not be placed on children younger than 2 years of age, anyone who has trouble breathing, or is unconscious, incapacitated or otherwise unable to remove the cover without assistance.

- Limiting the sharing of equipment. Players will be encouraged to only use their feet on the ball (no throw-ins, headers etc.) The goalie may only touch their own ball. Players use and bring their own equipment and store it within a bag/backpack.
- Anyone who is sick or has been in contact with someone who has COVID-19— including players, family members, coaches, volunteers — should not attend practices. Be on the lookout for symptoms of COVID-19, which include fever, cough, or shortness of breath. Call your doctor if you think you or a family member is sick.

MSC has developed some additional protocols to ensure we are complying with national and state requirements for safe Return to Play Phase standards. We have copies of our updated policies and waivers available on our website www.milwaukeeportclub.com as well.

Parents & Guardians: Return to play is a family decision. Please be respectful of accommodating the varying levels of concern regarding COVID-19 within your community and the precautions and protocols MSC has put in place to ensure we all can come back to the field to play soccer safely.

- Check your child's health status prior to attending any activities
- Ensure your child has plenty of water
- Supply your child with individual hand sanitizer and cloth face covering for arrival and departure
- Ensure players are fully dressed prior to arriving at the field (shin guards & cleats on)
- No one other than players, staff and volunteers are allowed onto the fields at any time
- Player and volunteer Check-in and Check-out required
- **Drop off location:** Field 1 (Major's Field) entrance ONLY. Only the player(s) (and the pre-assigned parent volunteer)) may exit the vehicle.
- **Pick up location:** Field 4 parking lot (behind the Schwabenhof restaurant) **ONLY.** To expedite the pick up process, please have a sign indicating the name(s) of the player(s) you are picking up in your front window. Again, please stay in your vehicle, a volunteer or coach will log your player out of the facility. ** For parents that attend the Schwabenhof beer garden nights - you are still required to pick up your player in your vehicle at the mandatory pick-up station.
- Notify MSC's COVID-19 Point of Contact designee Derek Hathaway, or Coach if your child becomes ill for any reason

Players: Players play a huge part in ensuring we all remain safe and healthy. As such they must agree to participate in safe practices as outlined by the current Phase of play.

- Wash hands thoroughly before and after training activities
- Wear cloth face covering during arrival and departure
- Do not share water, food or equipment (including wearables like shin guards, jerseys and/or pinnies)
- Place equipment, bags etc. at spots designated by coaches
- Follow all social distancing guidelines and safety measures required
- No high fives, handshakes, fist bumps, group celebrations

If someone does get sick during practice, MSC will contact the parent to pick up their player immediately. If you have a specific question about this plan or COVID-19, please contact Derek Hathaway, VP of Youth Soccer, derek.hathaway@milwaukeesportclub.com for more information. You can also find more information about COVID-19 at <https://www.cdc.gov>

Participating families are required to sign the **WAIVER, RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND ASSUMPTION OF RISK AGREEMENT (THE “AGREEMENT” WITH MILWAUKEE SPORT CLUB)** which acknowledges their understanding of MSC’s COVID-19 policies and procedures for the soccer training session running from June 22-July 10.

We look forward to seeing you. Now, let’s play!

Thank you and stay healthy,
Brett Reich - Club President - Milwaukee Sport Club

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US Soccer Return to Play Phases- adopted by WYSA 6/2020 found here:

<https://www.ussoccer.com/playon3/phases>

MSC will adhere to the Phases and timelines enacted by the WYSA unless local authorities deem a locale to revert to an earlier phase.