

# COVINGTON YOUTH SPORTS RETURN TO PLAY COVID-19 PROTOCOLS

1. Minimize physical touching between players and coaches.

We have instructed our coaches that all players should avoid “high fives,” handshakes, or other types of physical touching. We understand that this may be difficult as players enjoy celebrating with their teammates (or even give them a hug after being apart for so long!), but we need to be diligent at enforcing this protocol for health and safety of our players.

2. Coaches to wear masks during training sessions.

We will require all coaches to wear CDC-recommended appropriate face coverings during training sessions. Players will also be allowed to wear masks while training, but this will be a personal choice of the player.

3. Hand sanitizer.

We are working to ensure there is access to hand sanitizer, including near the entrance to each field 2 and near the entrances. We also encourage you to send your player with hand sanitizer for personal use.

4. Avoid “shared” equipment like pinnies

In the past coaches have carried with them a bag of “pinnies” that are distributed to players in order to distinguish teams during scrimmages and drills. At the end of each practice session coaches have traditionally collected all pinnies and laundered them at home. To reduce any chance of infection, this practice will no longer be allowed a coach may “assign”

each player their own pinnie, and players will be responsible to bring them to each practice session if the coach chooses to do continue the use of pinnies.

5. Reduce players touching practice equipment.

We have traditionally asked our players to assist with collecting training equipment (small goals, marking poles, discs, ball bags, etc.) after each practice session and returning it to the coach or clubhouse. In order to avoid unnecessary touching by players on this equipment, we will be temporarily asking our coaches or our staff to handle all of the retrieval and storage of equipment.

6. Avoid large gatherings or lines of players.

At some of age groups (especially younger age groups) we will typically bring the entire age group together to learn a skill or drill, and then smaller groups will disperse to work on it. We will ask that you be temporarily suspend this practice of assembling large groups, and we have instructed all coaches to ensure that any lines of players during drills must maintain appropriate social distancing (6 feet a part).

7. Clubhouse/Dugout Cleaning and Use.

The clubhouse and dugouts will be cleaned and disinfected daily, as will the railings leading down the stairs outside of the clubhouse. To limit traffic in the clubhouse we ask that members enter the clubhouse only for official business with our staff.

8. Increased signage throughout the fields.

We are working to post reminder signage throughout our fields to remind all players and spectators to maintain social distancing.

9. Introduction of “crowd busters” during peak practice hours.

For the first several weeks after resuming regular on-field practice sessions, we will be using volunteers who will serve as “crowd busters.” These volunteers will be walking around and will politely but firmly ask any groups of parents or players to disperse and maintain appropriate distancing.

For more information about guidance from the CDC, please visit the following links:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/prevention.html>

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/community-mitigation-strategy.pdf>

