



## **COVID-19 - Youth Leagues – Best Practice Guidelines**

This document has been created by Surrey FA and the Youth Leagues to provide you with our best practice guidelines for managing youth football in Surrey.

### **7 Keys things**

#### **Do a risk Assessment**

You should update your current risk assessment so that it includes COVID-19 and the how you are trying to reduce the risk.

#### **Have a plan**

You should have a plan on how you will operate and implement the practices you identified in your risk assessment.

#### **Name your COVID Officer**

You should name your COVID Officer and make their name and contact details easy to find.

#### **Self-Assess**

Everyone should complete a self-assessment before attending training or playing matches. Do not attend if you have symptoms of COVID-19.

#### **Collect Data**

You should continue to collect data of all your participants (players, parents, coaches, managers, officials and volunteers). This should be a name and contact number. This could be your registration details for all players and for those U16 you will have their parents details as well. You should then keep attendance records so you know who attended and when. Share this data if you are contacted by another club as part of NHS Test and Trace.

#### **Support the NHS Test & Trace**

To help to avoid the reintroduction of lockdown measures and support the country to return to, and maintain, a more normal way of life, you should display an official NHS QR code poster from 24 September 2020. The NHS COVID-19 App has a feature that allows users to quickly and easily 'check in' to your venue by scanning the code. If there is an outbreak associated with a venue, a message will be sent to the relevant app users with the necessary public health advice.

**Continue to follow Government Guidance**

You must also continue to follow other government guidance to minimise the transmission of COVID-19. This includes maintaining a safe working environment and following social distancing guidelines.

## COVID-19 - Youth Leagues – Best Practice Guidelines – More Information

The below offers more detail and has been created by Surrey FA and the Youth Leagues to provide you with additional information on our best practice guidelines for managing youth football in Surrey.

### Collecting data

Clubs and facility providers should collect data of their own participants and be able to share this with NHS test and trace should this be required.

Clubs do not need to share data with other clubs for this to happen but should identify a named contact at the club that will have this information.

Facility providers should work with clubs to make sure that contact details of all participants using their site are being collected and if not should do so.

You should collect the following data:

- The names of your participants (Players, coaches, parents, ref etc)
- A contact phone number for each participant
- Attendance record at training or match

### NHS Test and Trace

By maintaining records of staff, customers and visitors, and sharing these with NHS Test and Trace where requested, you can help the NHS to identify people who may have been exposed to the virus.

If you play at a venue that is visited by members of the public and has a space where people congregate, then we encourage you to create a QR code poster for that venue if not already in place.

Display your NHS QR posters at your venue to offer a quick, simple and secure way for visitors to register that they've been to your venue. It should be displayed at entrances to your venue, in places that are easy for visitors to see and access such as your car park and entrances to your pitches and clubhouse. The same poster should be printed and displayed multiple times to avoid queuing and congestion when visitors are registering.

Official NHS QR posters can be [generated online](#).

A full set of FAQ's from the NHS can be found [here](#).

This applies to all football facility types including pitch only sites, however if not practical to use the QR code, information can be captured manually (see collecting data above).

Anyone over the age of 16 should register their visit. Parents/guardians can do this on behalf of their children. Individuals are encouraged to register (instead of a group representative).

For pitches and outdoor areas, downloading and using the NHS COVID-19 app is currently voluntary. Facility providers should encourage all visitors to use this service but should not stop visitor access if they have not used the check in feature.

However, in hospitality areas, Government guidance states that visitors should be refused entry if they do not provide their name and contact details, is not in a group (for which one other member has provided name and contact details), or who has not scanned the NHS QR code.

***The more people that use the NHS app, the better the information across the country helping to SAVE LIVES!***

### **COVID Officer**

Club COVID-19 Officers must share their details (by all means possible) with all their team managers, coaches, parents, players and then at training or matches to any/all spectators – This will enable the COVID-19 Officer's contact detail to be passed on to NHS Test & Trace in the event of someone testing positive for the COVID-19 virus

### **Matches, Friendlies and Training sessions**

Ideally at least one parent/guardian/person from the household support bubble per child should, (if possible), be present for the duration of all games and training sessions and be responsible for their child, including (if appropriate) acting as the first responder in the event of an on pitch injury to their child

Where it is not possible for a parent guardian to be present it does not mean that player cannot participate in the game. It will be down to each club to make sure that they have a safe procedure in place. This can be agreed with the parents/guardian in advance of the child being dropped off.

### **Rule of 6**

This has now been made law that groups of 6 cannot meet up socially. Therefore, we would remind clubs that groups of 6 at a distance of 2m apart should still be maintained as the guidance suggested previously. We would ask clubs to remind parents to be mindful of groups quickly increasing to numbers over 6 due to participants joining them. I.e. if participants finish the game and look to meet their parents group numbers of groups can quickly rise.

### **Changing rooms**

Changing rooms are an area of increased risk of transmission, where possible, should remain closed. Players and officials should arrive changed and shower at home. Exceptions may be made where safety and safeguarding measures require their use e.g. supporting disability athletes, a child needs a change of clothing etc. If you choose to use your changing and shower facilities, you must follow government advice

### **Full guidance**

There are a number of considerations that should be taken before, during and after a game. The full guidance [here](#) provides an overview of these.

## **FAQ's**

We have included a set of FAQ's which we hope covers all your questions. If not, please email [info@surreyfa.com](mailto:info@surreyfa.com) with the subject line of COVID-19 Question

## **Checklists**

A number of checklists have also been created which we hope you will find useful.