



# COVID-19 PROTOCOL

BARÇA ACADEMY AUSTIN

2020-2021

# COVID-19 PROTOCOL

The purpose of this document is to provide all **BARÇA** Academy Austin agents involved in the daily operations of the Academy with the guidelines that should lead our way back to the fields while prioritizing the safety and health of all the players, their family members, and the BAA Staff.

*Players, families, coaches and other staff participating in any BARÇA Academy Austin activities must read carefully this protocol with the objective of understanding the new rules set up in order to coexist with the “new reality” we all will be experiencing with the COVID-19 protocol.*

From **BARÇA** Academy Austin we would like to remind everyone that this exceptional situation has not ended, we want to encourage everyone to take responsibilities and work together towards the resolution of this pandemic. Because together we are stronger, and everyone’s actions will be accounted.

During this unprecedented times, BA Austin has been continuously monitoring the guidelines designed by the local federations, the CDC and the government in order to be aligned with them.

Is for this reason that we would like to remind you the need of continuing to follow the generic CDC guidelines for all phases:

✓ [CDC Guidelines](#)

# COVID-19 PROTOCOL

Additionally, we would like to share with you the STYSA specifications about the latest updated regarding COVID-19 Return to play protocol:

- ✓ [South Texas Soccer latest update](#)
- ✓ [South Texas Soccer COVID-19 HANDBOOK resource](#)

In this communicate you will also find the [Minimum Standard Health Protocols for Youth Sports Operators](#).

We'd like to highlight the following information:

***"Every adult who is responsible for providing care for youth in these settings must be aware of these facts and be willing to comply with the infection control measures that will be in place in these settings. Parents should monitor the health of their children and not send them to participate in sporting activities if they exhibit any symptom of COVID-19. They should seek COVID-19 testing promptly and report results to the program given the implications for other children, families, and staff. Individuals aged 65 or older are at a higher risk of COVID-19. Parents should protect any vulnerable persons who are members of the same household or come into frequent, close contact with individuals who participate in youth sports."***



**STY SOCCER**  
WHAT TO CONSIDER WHEN RETURNING TO PLAY

**DISTANCING**

STY Soccer encourages Local Government practices when it comes to the ability for large gatherings in public training areas. Please reference these distancing practices which apply to everyone present: **AREA, TRAINING, PARENTS & CONTACT**

- Maximum of 4 persons per designated training area
- Avoid contact with high-risk areas & individuals at times of high activity
- 10' of distance area while training area or between teams

**SAFETY PROTOCOLS**

- Have accurate record of team during training sessions
- Follow CDC recommendations if a COVID-19 outbreak is suspected by training session
- Eliminate training site, no spectators for players on stage
- Reduce number of players participating in training equipment

**VIRTUAL**

Official STY Soccer training sessions done in a virtual environment under a coach's direction and with a parent present will be covered through insurance. (Do your own training or events with training materials may be performed on players own staff)

**HYGIENE PRACTICES**

- Players and Area coverage on field or grounds
- Proper hand washing technique (20 seconds with water and soap)
- Properly designated hand sanitizer stations
- Avoid sharing drink containers, training equipment (balls, bats, gloves and hygiene products)

**SOUTH TEXAS**

South Texas Youth Soccer endorses following positions recommended by the CDC, State & Local Government and will continue to monitor and communicate the best practices in regard to member safety and recovery to date.

FOLLOW US @STYSOCCER FOR ALL ADDITIONAL UPDATES

# COVID-19 PROTOCOL

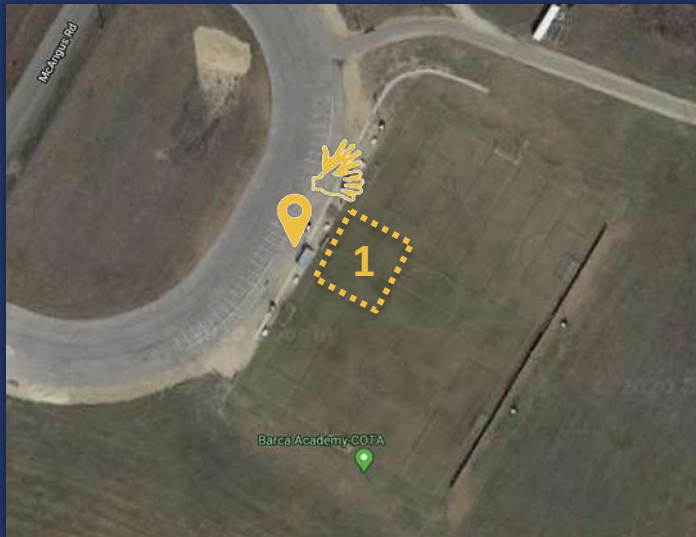


# COVID-19 COMMITTEE

- ✓ BAA and the OWS Board take COVID-19 and the return to play protocol very seriously. For this reason, we have established the COVID-19 Compliance committee and have worked diligently to put in place a protocol and policies that can ensure adequate monitoring and minimize risk of exposure, so we can protect our players, families and coaches.
- ✓ **CLUB SAFETY COORDINATOR:** Dr. Netsanet Hopkins
- ✓ **EMAIL:** covid19baa@gmail.com

# FACILITY PROCEDURES - COTA

- ✓ New procedures for players reception and delivery will take place in order to ensure the social distancing policies and to minimize highly densified areas. Parents will be encouraged to remain inside their vehicles at all times during the practice until further notice.



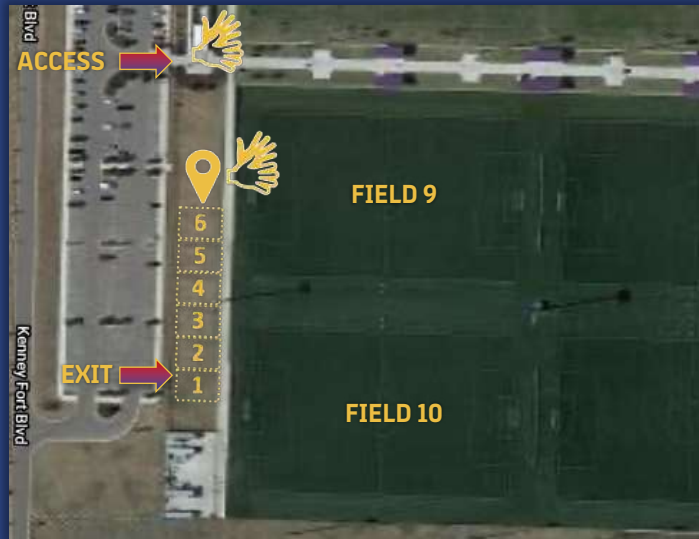
**MEETING-DELIVERING POINTS:** There will be one meeting-delivering points. Every team will be assigned to an area and each player will have his own cone. Coach Jordi and Coach Alex will be with the players.



**HAND SANITIZER STATION:** There will be two hand sanitizer stations located at the tent, all players will have to use the hand sanitizer before the session.

# FACILITY PROCEDURES - RRMC

- ✓ New procedures for players reception and delivery will take place in order to ensure the social distancing policies and to minimize highly densified areas. Parents will be encouraged to remain inside their vehicles at all times during the practice until further notice. The players will be assigned an Access to enter and exit the facilities. Every coach will be assigned to a different meeting-delivery point and will always be in the same one.



**ENTRANCE - EXIT:** There will be one way to enter in the facility and a different way to exit. Look at the picture.



**MEETING-DELIVERING POINTS:** There will be one meeting-delivering point per team. Every team will be assigned to one of the points where the coach of the team will be waiting the players in order to help them stay at the appropriate cone.



**HAND SANITIZER STATION:** There will be hand sanitizer stations located inside the facilities.

# SCHEDULES

✓ **TEAMS DISTRIBUTION:**

- The schedules might be readjusted if we move to a different phase.





# MANDATORY RULES

✓ Our coaches will also be ready to be with the players, complying with their safety rules:



## COACHES:

			
<p>Face masks will be mandatory.</p>	<p>All the coaches will pass through a Temperature Check before the Training Session.</p>	<p>Coaches will always maintain a safety social distance of at least 6 feet with players.</p>	<p>Know and take care about all the training protocol and methodological guidelines in order to guarantee a safe environment.</p>

# MANDATORY RULES

- ✓ To comply with the necessary safety standards and create the healthiest environment possible, we have established the following regulations to which we must abide:

## PLAYERS:

			
<p>Players will have their temperature checked before every training session.</p>	<p>In case a player or his/her relatives notices any symptoms or feels sick, you should not attend to practice and visit a health care professional.</p>	<p>Players will have to fill the health questionnaires before the training sessions.</p>	<p>Players must arrive 10 minutes before practice and leave the facility when it ends, otherwise they must wait in their car.</p>

# MANDATORY RULES

## PLAYERS:

			
<p>The entrance and exit to the field will be through the already established areas as Meeting and Delivery Point.</p>	<p>Before practice, on arrival, players must wash their hands at the established Hand Sanitizer Point.</p>	<p>We discourage physical contact with others; therefore we will avoid shaking hands, HI-5s and affection gestures towards other players or coaches (we know that we have not seen each other for a long time but we must be aware of the reality of the situation).</p>	<p>Players will have their own water bottle and it is strictly forbidden to share it. Avoid common plastic bottles to avoid confusion.</p>

# MANDATORY RULES

## PLAYERS:

			
<p>During Water Breaks, players will maintain a safe distance between them of 6 feet.</p>	<p>The use of a mask and gloves, before and after the session, will be encouraged. Players will not be allowed to touch the ball with hands.</p>	<p>Breathing etiquette is required. Spitting will be completely prohibited.</p>	<p>In case a player or a close relative has been infected during this period, a medical certificate will be requested as to whether the player is fit for sports practice.</p>

# MANDATORY RULES

## PLAYERS:



Players are required to clean and disinfect their soccer cleats and other equipment after every practice.



Players must come to practice dressed in the red uniform. And bring the **game jerseys** to minimize the use of pennies.



# MANDATORY RULES

✓ Parents or guardians bringing the players to practice must also comply with the following rules:

## PARENTS:

			
<p>Players drop off and pick up will be through the already established points.</p>	<p>We are so happy to see all of you, but we will say hi in the distance, avoiding shaking hands.</p>	<p>Once you bring the player you <b>CAN NOT</b> stay in the field. You are able to follow the Training Session from the car.</p>	<p>If you want to talk or have a meeting with the Technical Director or any other staff member you should request it by mail before.</p>

# PRACTICES

## SESSION PROPOSAL:

Being aware of the importance that it has in creating a safe environment, South Texas Soccer has shared some guidelines to set up the practices.

It is important to understand that the dates of the phases are marked by the federation, and we will be following at all times their recommendations.

## IMPLEMENT A PROGRESSIVE RETURN TO PLAY

Phase 0	Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3	Phase 4
No in Person training or competitions  Virtual training only	Individual skill training and individual physical conditioning with a ball <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- One player per ball</li> <li>- Distances between players</li> </ul> Small Group training <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Passing patterns</li> <li>- No contact</li> <li>- Avoid lines (use markers)</li> <li>- No catching or use of hands</li> </ul>	Introduction to defensive pressure and contact in training.  Use of small-sided within the cohort.  Intrasquad scrimmages acceptable within the cohort.	No restrictions on training activities for players.  Teams can return to scrimmaging within their own club and playing games outside their club following recommended guidelines.  Local and same-day travel for scrimmages or games with teams outside the same club is recommended.	No restrictions on training, games, or travel for players, coaches or spectators.  COVID-19 recommendations no longer apply



# PRACTICES

## ✓ METHODOLOGICAL GUIDELINES:

Along with the session, the coaches will follow some methodological advice to ensure a safe environment during practice time:

- Not to shake hands with players.
- Games explanations with players already placed in the field maintaining a safety social distance.
- Coach is the only responsible of moving and setting up the material, players should avoid touching cones, goals,...
- Do not share bibs between players. We will minimize the use of them, but in case we need bibs, those ones used will go back directly to the bag and washed before reusing them.
- No throw ins allowed during the activities. We will resume the game either with a coach's pass or with a players kick in.

## ✓ MATERIAL CARE:

We will take care of the material, disinfecting it before every practice.

- Pennies will be washed in order to have them clean and disinfected.
- Cones and balls will be disinfected in order to have them ready for the next day.



# GAMES

## ✓ GAME PROTOCOL:

The day before the game, all the players will have to respond to a health questionnaire. The questionnaire will be distributed by the team managers twenty four hours before the games. IT IS MANDATORY TO FILL OUT THE FORM IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE IN GAMES.

We have elected to refrain from tournaments during Phase 3 as it is more challenging to control potential risk. Instead, we will participate in friendlies with quality local teams. Our expectation is that those team meet the requirements of our protocol or exceed them. In the event that their protocol exceeds our, we will abide by their protocol. In the event that a team refuses to abide by our protocol or provide one of their own that is equivalent or higher, we will elect to not schedule or cancel the game in the best interest of our players, coaches, referees, and families.

Please, review the Game Day protocol HERE: [Game day protocol](#)

# REPORTING

## ✓ IF SOMEONE TEST POSITIVE

- Any individual with a suspected case of COVID-19 should notify their respective team coach immediately.
- Any team with a suspected case of COVID-19 should notify their club safety coordinator immediately.
- Any team that has more than 3 positive cases of COVID-19 is considered to have an outbreak within their team and should pause team activity until all participants have completed a self-quarantine according to CDC and local health guidelines.

## ✓ RETURN TO PLAY AFTER TESTED POSITIVE

- Prior to the return, the family of the player will need to get in contact with the COVID Compliance Committee.
- Player will need to take the COVID-19 test again to confirm that he/she is clear.
  - Urgent care for kids (Round Rock and Cedar Park), does the test for free.

# COVID-19 PROTOCOL

The “COVID-19 protocol” has been thoroughly thought to keep all **BARÇA** Academy Austin family safe in the process of getting back on the field. That’s why all actions detailed on this document are mandatory to observe.

Any action against what this document shows may have its consequences and it could impact a player’s permission to practice or play games.

Finally, the **BARÇA** Academy Austin following the US Government Guidelines recommends that ***ALL VULNERABLE INDIVIDUALS should continue to shelter in place. Members of households with vulnerable residents should be aware that by returning to work or other environments where distancing is not practical, they could carry the virus back home. Precautions should be taken to isolate from vulnerable residents***”.

***THANKS IN ADVANCE FOR YOUR PATIENCE AND SUPPORT***



**BARÇA**  
Academy