

Practice

Football:

Optimist Youth Football will continue the exception to the existing rules and allow all OYF Coaching staffs to add up to two (2) parent volunteers to their staffs. These two additional staff positions would be designated as Sanitation Staff. They would have access to the team during practice. They would have to pass an OYF background check and would be required to have OYF ID Badges. Duties would include, but not be limited to:

- conduct daily health checks; symptoms and taking of temperature, of all the coaching staff, and players safely and respectfully, and in accordance with any applicable privacy and confidentiality laws and regulations, daily before each practice
- Making sure there are extra masks on hand for parents and other spectators
- Ensuring there are enough individual water bottles for each player or if they are bringing their own, having extra on hand for anyone who forgets or needs a refill.
- Enforcing social distancing throughout the practice including all areas where players might mingle, especially during downtime and water breaks.
- Be in-charge of cleaning all equipment, balls, and any shared objects
- Make sure the equipment, supplies and materials needed to accomplish all-of-the above are on hand at every team gathering.

Coaches will be expected to:

- Sanitize their hands before and after each session
- Monitor that their “sanitation staff” take temperatures of all players and coaches as they arrive for each practice
- Report any symptoms immediately
- Avoid high-fives, fist bumps, or any form of physical contact with children and families
- Carry hand sanitizer in your pocket to discreetly sanitize before and after any contact may occur
- Use rings, spots or orange cones as “home base” to keep children spread out
- Keep players together in small groups with dedicated coaches or staff, and make sure that each group of players and coaches avoid mixing with other groups as much as possible. Consider having the same group of players rotate among coaches.
- playing scrimmage games with other teams during the week is **not** allowed, in order to minimize exposure among players and teams.
- “Live”, full contact between players, either by one-on-one, half-line, or intra-squad scrimmage will be limited to a maximum of (30) thirty minutes per practice, for a maximum of (3) three practices per week.
- Immediately after the conclusion of the “live” period, players will be separated, and hand hygiene will be required.
- Minimize equipment sharing, limit use of equipment to one group at a time and clean and disinfect shared equipment between each use by sanitation staff to reduce the risk of COVID-19 spread
- Change out footballs every 15 minutes and have them cleaned and disinfected before using again
- Request that equipment be cleaned up and put away only by either a coach or member of their sanitation staff.
- Continue to remind children the importance of keeping safe distances when practicing skills, by mentioning to, “keep your distance so you don’t bump into your friends”
- Do not allow spitting and encourage everyone to cover their coughs and sneezes with the inside of their elbow
- Do not let players share towels, clothing, or other items they use to wipe their faces or hands
- Keep each player’s belongings separated from others’ and in individually labeled containers, bags, or areas.
- Do not use pennies or scrimmage vests
- Use a modified cheer at the end of the session; no contact between players and coaches
- Only teach the USA Football “Heads Up” and the OYF coaching curriculums

**PARENT INFORMATION SHEETS
FOOTBALL**

4/2/2021

**Game Day
Football:**

- Game starting times will be staggered to allow for more time between groups arriving and leaving the facilities.
- Fields will be separated as much as feasible and spectators will be required to either wear a facemask or social distance on the sidelines. OYF field personal will monitor for compliance and violators will be asked to leave the facility.
- Teams are asked to try and limit any nonessential visitors and/or spectators to a maximum of two (2) per player, cheerleader and coach, excluding siblings
- Players and parents are requested to arrive for pre-game warm-ups NO more than (40) forty minutes prior to their game time. Players who arrive sooner than the (40) forty minutes are requested to wait in their car until the appropriate time - to minimize the gathering of players in groups
- When teams arrive at the fields for their game, they will meet as a team and a member of the OYF Sanitation staff will conduct a health check including symptoms and taking of temperature, of all the coaching staff, and players, safely and respectfully, and in accordance with any applicable privacy and confidentiality laws and regulations.
- All Coaches will wear a face covering during the game if required by local public health orders.
- Immediately after players come off the field, hand hygiene will be required.
- Footballs will be changed out at every change of possession and be cleaned and disinfected before using again
- Players are encouraged to not spit and encouraged to cover their coughs and sneezes with the inside of their elbow
- Players are not to share towels, clothing, or other items they use to wipe their faces or hands
- Player's belongings are to be separated from others' and in individually labeled containers, bags, or areas
- There will be no sideline benches, to allow for social distancing by players on the sideline.
- Teams will use a modified cheer at the end of the game; **no** contact between players and coaches of either team
- If after-game treats are offered, only pre-packaged boxes or bags are allowed for each person
- Players, parents, and coaches are asked to leave the facilities as soon after their game as possible to reduce contact with players and parents arriving for the next game.

Dispute Resolution

- The Head coach of the team who's parent/spectator is the one deemed to be in violation, will, along with the OYF leadership and Security personal, endeavor to get said fan to either comply or leave.
- In the event that the parent/spectator in question will not comply or will not leave, and in accordance with existing Optimist Youth Football rules, the game in question will be stopped immediately, and all participants sent home. The offending team will receive a loss and the parent/spectator in question will be banned from attending any future Optimist Youth Football events for one-year.