

# Youth Athletic League Protocols & Guidelines



The virus that causes COVID-19 can be spread to others by infected persons who have few or no symptoms. Even if an infected person is only mildly ill, the people they spread it to may become seriously ill or even die, especially if that person is 65 or older with pre-existing health conditions that place them at higher risk. Because of the hidden nature of this threat, everyone should rigorously follow the practices specified in these protocols, all of which facilitate a safe and measured reopening of Texas. The virus that causes COVID-19 is still circulating in our communities, and we should continue to observe practices that protect everyone, including those who are most vulnerable.

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.

**Participating in social activities and youth sports during the COVID-19 GLOBAL PANDEMIC carries the inherent risk of contracting the virus. The Colony Parks & Recreation Department strives to provide recreational athletic programs to our residents with the overall health and safety of all participants, spectators, volunteers and staff being our number one priority. Due to the current state surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic all participants/spectators must adhere to the guidelines below; failure to abide by these guidelines can result in removal from the program without a refund.**

1. Parents should monitor their health and the health of their children; anyone showing symptoms of COVID-19 or may have been in contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 should stay home and consult with a health care provider
2. Face masks are required for all participants and spectators over the age of 9. Players are encouraged to arrive to practice or games with a mask, their mask can be removed once play has begun. Spectators must wear a mask if they are not able to maintain 6 feet distance from others regardless if they are a part of your team. **Those who do not wear a mask will be given a verbal warning, if addressed a second time they will be asked to leave the facility. Violation of this guideline on more than one occasion will result in your removal from the program without a refund**
3. Coaches are encouraged to wear a mask during all team activities
4. Parents should provide hand sanitizer or wipes for their child. Please sanitize their hands before and after all practices and games

5. Equipment, snacks, and water are not to be shared, parents should sanitize personal flags, footballs, and other equipment before and after practices and games
6. Please do not arrive more than 30 minutes before your practice or game time
7. Spectators should remain in their cars when possible
8. Teams will sit on opposite sides of the field, members of the same team should utilize the entire length of the field to maintain social distancing from one another and officials
9. Public seating and benches will be off limits; spectators should bring personal chairs and seating for all schedule activities
10. Players and teams should avoid all contact when possible, this includes high fives, fist bumps, elbow bumps, and team huddles. At the end of the game teams should line up across the field and wave to the other team
11. All individuals should avoid being in groups of more than 10
12. All individuals should minimize contact with individuals not in the same household
13. All teams should leave the field and exit the facility immediately after their practice or game
14. All participants and spectators should minimize in-person contact with any person 65 years of age or older especially with pre-existing conditions, for a period of 14 days