



MASSACHUSETTS YOUTH SOCCER ASSOCIATION



Protective Equipment and Face Coverings

Massachusetts Youth Soccer is requiring all players to wear a face covering in accordance with the EEA Safety standards for Youth and Adult Amateur Sports activities, amended on October 4, 2020.

Only face coverings that secure with loops around a player's ears are acceptable. Masks with exhalation valves or vents (including mesh masks) are not acceptable for players and should NOT be worn.

Face coverings must be worn when a player steps onto the playing field. During play when spacing is greater than 6 feet from another player a "mask break" to catch their breath may be taken. The default expectation is that face coverings will be worn.

Players must properly wear their face covering at all times when on the sidelines and in any huddles except when 6 or more feet from another player for a "mask break" to catch their breath, drink or eat. If conditions are so severe as to warrant masks too dangerous to wear, the competition must be delayed, postponed or cancelled.

Coaches, staff referees, umpires, and other officials are required to wear facial coverings and maintain a social distance of 6 feet from players, coaches, spectators and other persons at all times.

It is the responsibility of Parents and Players to ensure that players have the correct protective equipment to play soccer and that players are wearing face coverings on arrival and departure to Mass Youth Soccer sanctioned soccer activities.

During training and games, it is the responsibility of Coaches to ensure that players are following the Mass Youth Soccer guidelines. Referees are not responsible for enforcing guidelines for facemasks. Mass Youth Soccer sanctioned and affiliated leagues and local departments of health may implement additional requirements regarding facemasks for member organizations, please ensure you are familiar with any additional local requirements.