

## **Massachusetts Youth Soccer**

### **Out-of State Travel Q&A**

#### **What determines if a program/team is Massachusetts-based?**

If the team registers and rosters players with Massachusetts Youth Soccer, or operates under a Massachusetts business license they are considered a Massachusetts based program, regardless of where their field facilities may be located.

#### **Can my team play a game in Massachusetts against a team from out of state in Massachusetts?**

No. Any Massachusetts based team/program or facility owner that hosts an out of state team at a Massachusetts facility may be ordered to close its facility or face suspension of the program's league practices and/or games.

#### **Can a player who resides outside of Massachusetts play for a Massachusetts based team?**

Any player who resides outside of Massachusetts and who is registered and rostered with a Massachusetts based program is subject to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts COVID-19 Travel Order that is in place at the time of travel.

If the state in which the player resides is **ON** the Restricted Travel list, the player may participate with the Massachusetts based program **ONLY** if they are compliant with all aspects of the Massachusetts COVID-19 Travel Order. (i.e. testing requirements, travel form and or quarantine period). It is expected that the Massachusetts based program keep a formal record of all occasions that an out-of-state player participates with their program. It is required that this information be provided upon request by any state authority. Failure to comply with this record keeping requirement could result in fines and/or suspension of the operation by the state.

If the state in which the player resides is considered a Lower risk state (per Massachusetts COVID-19 travel order) the player **MAY** participate with the Massachusetts based program without restriction under the current Travel Order. It is the responsibility of the Massachusetts based program to stay updated on the list of states that are on this list. If at any time, the player's home state is added to the Restricted travel list, the rules under Massachusetts COVID-19 travel order (above), will apply.

#### **What is my program required to do if we have an out of state player participating on a team?**

Massachusetts based programs must ensure full compliance of the Travel Order. The program must ensure that every player, or coach complies with the travel order and keep detailed

records of each occasion the player enters the state to play with their team. If they do not, the program risks fines and/or suspension of the operation by the state.

**A player lives out of state and travels to Massachusetts for school, are they subject to the travel order guidance?**

A student from another state being educated in Massachusetts can participate in school affiliated sports in Massachusetts and is not subject to the travel order but only for school related athletics. They are **NOT** exempt from the travel order to play with any non-school related programs.

**Can a Massachusetts player or coach travel to another state to play in an Competition /Sporting event?**

Out of state travel for recreational play, competitive training sessions, practices, competitions or any other type of sporting event, is strongly discouraged as traveling may increase the chances of exposing players, coaches and others to COVID-19 or unknowingly spreading it to others

However, any Massachusetts based player or coach who chooses to leave Massachusetts to participate in a Sport event must comply with the Commonwealth's travel Order (COVID-19 Order No.45) upon returning to Massachusetts from the event and before returning to sports activity, work, school or attending public events.

Massachusetts based teams are required to ensure that all team members and coaches comply with the COVID-19 travel order. Any Massachusetts based athlete that travels to another state and does not comply with the COVID-19 Travel Order, and any Massachusetts based team that does not ensure compliance with the Travel Order, by all of its members, may risk suspension of team or league practice and or games.

Guidelines set forth in the Massachusetts Youth Soccer COVID-19 Out of State Travel Policy remain in effect for Massachusetts Youth Soccer Members.

[Commonwealth of MA COVID-19 Travel Order \(Order 45\)](#)

[Massachusetts Youth Soccer Travel Policy](#)